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ALEX BITTELMAN, Editor

EDITOR'S NOTES

By ALEX BITTELMAN



HIGHLY ruinous effects of the flood disaster in the Mississippi Valley, and the immediate need of large scale governmental action for the relief of the flood victims, are becoming a political issue of first class importance. The only people who do not see it yet are the flood victims themselves and their real friends all over the country. The Coolidge administration, as well as all capitalist politicians, are fully conscious of the political meaning of the flood situation, and are acting in strict accord with the "best" interests of the big banker, merchants and industrialists.

Why does Coolidge refuse the demand of the flood victims for an extra session of congress? For a while it looked as if the political opponents of the Coolidge administration in the capitalist camp would, upon this occasion continue to "embarrass" the president and support the demand for an extra session of congress. But this did not happen. As the days went by, the following fact became clearly established, namely, that all capitalist politicians, regardless of party, and all big capitalists, are irreconcilably opposed to the calling of an extra session of congress and to any kind of governmental "interference" in the relief and rehabilitation of the flood area.

The meaning of this opposition to congressional action became still more obvious, when upon the initiative of Hoover big business began to speak on the matter. It then developed that our big bankers, merchants and industrialists have very definite ideas of their own as to how the flood sufferers should be "helped." These ideas are, first, that congress and the government keep their hands off the whole matter; second, that whatever funds may be necessary for flood rehabilitation, these be supplied by bankers and other capitalists in the form of loans to those capable of being rehabilitated; and, third, that the big bankers be given full liberty to handle the whole matter in a "regular business way" extracting as much profit from the situation as will be possible.

As a matter of fact, the United States Chamber of Commerce is already proceeding to act on this theory. According to press reports, the executive committee of the United States Chamber of Commerce held a meeting at which plans were laid out for the raising of several million dollars (from two to fourteen millions) to be advanced to certain groups in the flood area as loans.

President Coolidge refuses to appeal to congress, but he willingly makes his appeal to Louis E. Pierson, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce; and Mr. Pierson is quite willing and agreeable. Why, not? Here is a "swell" opportunity for enterprising big business. Large sums of capital are needed for rehabilitation. Tens of thousands of people are in urgent need of funds to rebuild their homes. If congress were to come forward with large appropriations assisting the homeless in their present hour of need, there would be small opportunity left for business sharks to enrich themselves at the expense of the flood victims. But as matters stand now, the road is clear for the big capitalists to step in and take charge of the situation.

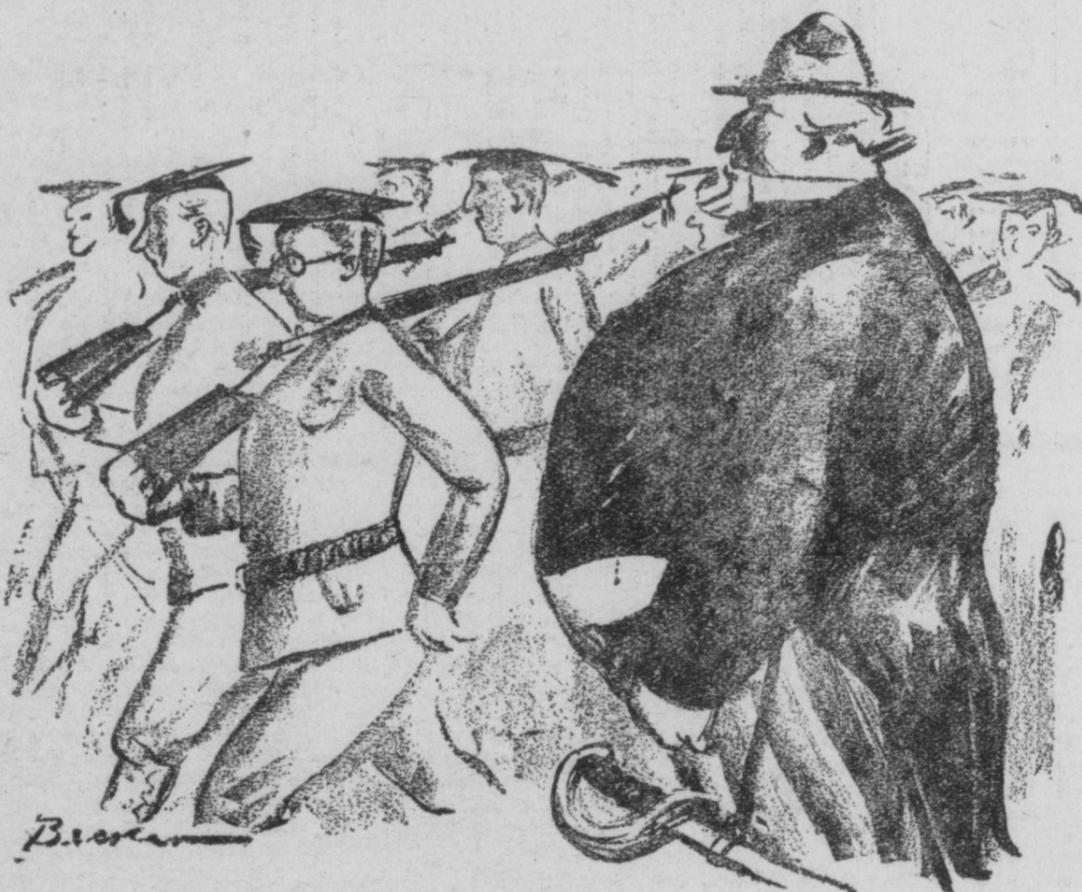
This they are proceeding to do. The voices of the flood victims are stifled and ignored. The demands of the farmers, workers and small business men are dismissed as of no consequence. All capitalists and all capitalist politicians are united on this point: exploit the flood disaster and the consequent misery of nearly a million people for the greater glory of American capitalism.

As to the Flood Control Conference held in Chicago, June 2-3-4, some very interesting developments took place there. Mayor Thompson of Chicago had a good deal to do with the calling of the conference. In point of attendance, and the volume of publicity that it called forth, the conference was undoubtedly a great success. The Chicago press reported the arrival of 12,000 delegates from 27 states. But what did it produce in terms of effective relief action? Nothing. Absolutely nothing.

Here is the essence of the decisions adopted by the Flood Control Conference:

Be it resolved that we urge immediate and effective relief be extended to all present suf-

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THE GRADUATION CLASS

By MAURICE BECKER

Wages and Working Conditions in China

Exploitation That Breeds Revolution

CHINA'S first modern factory was established at Shanghai in 1890. In 1925 there were 122 cotton factories, employing about 200,000 workers.

Other lines of Chinese factory industry are growing with like rapidity, and the pressure of Chinese competition is being felt on the international market. China, with her vast stores of natural resources and her population of about 440 millions is becoming a factor with which the entire industrial world must reckon.

What are the labor conditions under which these Chinese goods are being produced? According to all of the evidence they are frightful.

Powers Hapgood, returning from a recent visit to China, reported that he found workers striking to have the workday cut down to 12 hours! He also found children of eight and ten at work in the factories, and children of ten and twelve, inside the mines, pulling baskets filled with coal, because children were cheaper than mules.

Now comes an English observer, C. L. Malone, who has just completed an exhaustive study of working conditions in China. His findings have been published by the Independent Labor Party of Great Britain. They are so detailed and so well presented that they are well worth a careful study by American wage-workers, who will sooner or later be forced to compete with Chinese industrial enterprise.



Factory Work.
As has been said, modern industrialism, spreading outwards from the small foreign self-governing communities, known as Concessions or Settlements, is growing up side by side with the local industries run on primitive lines and to some extent displacing them. A very rough estimate, made some years ago, leads one to believe that there may be 1,500 modern factories in China, besides thousands of semi-modern ones, many of which are simply extensions of home industry, the so-called factory being really an overgrown workroom or shop. How many persons are at present employed in modernized industry in China it is difficult to say. 153,918 workers are said to be employed in factories in Shanghai, by far the largest industrial centre. It is said that all over China the cotton mills employ 209,759 "laborers"—though what exactly this term includes, I do not know; and that there are 300,000 persons employed in silk factories, making rather more than half-a-million in these two predominant factory industries. Beyond this, there do not seem to be even rough figures. Possibly there are 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 persons employed in modern factories, a tiny percentage of the whole population. It must, however, be remembered that forty years ago there were practically none and that industrialism may spread at an immense speed; as witness the emergence of Japan, in about half-a-century, from a state of mediaeval feudalism to the position which she now holds—ranking amongst the foremost industrial nations of the world. Although there are but few what we should call industrial cities in China, machine-run factories, since their first introduction some forty years ago, have sprung up like mushrooms, and it is said that modern industrial enterprises of one kind or another, either Chinese or foreign, are now to be found in more than fifty different centres. While, therefore, in considering the factory areas of China, we are looking at what are at the moment, as it were, only small spots in this great continent of agricultural and handicraft workers, they are tremendously important spots, because of their tendency to spread, because of the growing industrialization of China. Especially important are they to the workers in the west, whose livelihood has been cut away from under their feet by the erection of factories in China, to do the work hitherto done by mills in Lancashire and elsewhere. This, however, is not perhaps the whole story, certainly not in this gen-

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By HARRY GANNES

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ferers; that the measures which may be recommended by existing federal agencies for relief to the lower valley, so as to protect it against a recurrence of the present disaster, be carried out promptly, and that the necessary appropriation therefore be made.

This is all the conference had to say ON IMMEDIATE ADEQUATE RELIEF for the 70,000 homeless, foodless and ruined people in the Mississippi Valley. No concrete demands upon the federal government or the Coolidge administration. No concrete proposals as to how relief funds should be secured and distributed. Only a pious wish that "the measures which may be recommended by existing federal agencies for relief... be carried out promptly."

Undoubtedly, large numbers of delegates left the conference very much disappointed and disillusioned. There was a strong feeling in the flooded area that the Chicago conference might actually undertake a fight for immediate relief by the federal government. But the big capitalists and their political henchmen, which dominated the conference from the start, had made it clear from the very first day there would be no forcing of the government's hands on this matter. And so the thing stands.

There was quite a sprinkling of delegates at the conference who undertook to speak the minds of the farmers, the workers and the small business men from the area affected by the flood. And the demands of these people were that the conference concern itself mainly with the problem of immediate relief. The Chicago Evening American was forced to report that:

"The problem of immediate relief and rehabilitation of the flood-swept Mississippi Valley cropped up in the Flood Control Conference DESPITE LEADERS' EFFORTS TO GIVE THE RIGHT OF WAY TO PERMANENT FLOOD CONTROL PLANS." (Caps ours)

Randle T. Moore, speaking for the small business men of Louisiana, made the following remarks:

"In our state easily 300,000 persons and, probably, half a million in the entire flood area, are homeless. I have talked to many of these people, and every single one of them has expressed the desire to go back and start all over. These people have paper in the banks that they cannot meet and the banks will have to carry them along. I am disappointed that the Federal Reserve Bank did not have a representative at this meeting, and also I am disappointed THAT IT IS NOT PROPOSED TO PLAN FINANCIAL RELIEF AT THIS CONFERENCE (Caps Ours). FLOOD CONTROL LEGISLATION CAN WAIT, WHAT WE NEED NOW IS FINANCIAL AID."

The opposite point of view, representing the interests of big business, was expressed by William J. Rathje, president of the Mid-City Trust and Savings Bank and chairman of the bankers' division of the conference. His opinion was:

That the purpose of the conference is flood control and not relief, and that they were in attendance not as bankers but as delegates on flood control.

William J. Rathje has nothing to worry about. He is perfectly satisfied to leave the 300,000 homeless people to their own fate, unless they come to him AS A BANKER and negotiate loans on his own terms. This is the point of view of Coolidge, Hoover and Mellon. This is the point of view of the United States Chamber of Commerce. This is the point of view that eventually prevailed at the Chicago Conference for Flood Control.

The hundreds of thousands of the flood victims can expect exactly nothing from the capitalist politicians and big business men that engineered and dominated the Chicago conference.

What is necessary is immediate large scale relief and financial aid. This is necessary not only in order to save a million people "of the richest country in the world" from starvation, epidemics and death, but also to save them from the merciless clutches of big business. Hence, the demand for an immediate extra session of congress. Hence, the demand for an immediate federal appropriation of sufficient funds for adequate relief and rehabilitation of the flood victims. Hence, the demands that the relief funds be administered by people who can be trusted with the protection of the interests of the farmers, workers and small business men in the flood area.

Matthew Woll, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, is admittedly a very busy individual, always on the lookout to do something big. True, Woll's concern is not much, if any, with the interests of the unions and the workers. Such a "trifle" as almost a million ruined people in the Mississippi Valley, exposed to the additional menace of being skinned to death by big business, is not important enough to claim his attention. He has got other things in his mind. One of them is the cancellation of the war debts.

It is a well established fact that big capital in the United States is in favor of war debt cancellation. Big capital proposes thereby to open for it-

FROM the wet, swampy flood lands along the Mississippi, and from the adjacent territory a crop of politicians with a new slogan is the first fruit of the disaster. Mayor William Hale Thompson realizing the tremendous impetus to his mid-west republican machine that would come from a gathering of these politicians very cleverly arranged for the Flood Control Conference which was held in Chicago June 2, 3 and 4.

The Flood Conference expressed a revolt against the Coolidge machine and its treatment of the western, middle west and southern farmers. Of course, the avowed object of the conference was to devise means and ways of controlling future floods and rehabilitating the present devastated area.

The Red Cross got a lot of praise but Coolidge's army engineers got a lot of left handed compliments. So important did the president consider the conference that he sent Secretary of War Davis to report to it officially. Major-General Jadwin, chief engineer of the United States Army was also among the administration representatives who got the cold shoulder.

The several thousand delegates present represented the rich farming and banking interests in the inundated area. They evinced disgust with the penurious aid given by the federal government; and there were references to the vast sums spent by Coolidge in projects outside the country — it was not plain whether the Nicaraguan intervention or the shipment of troops to China was meant—when the Mississippi valley needed the money so much more.

One thing was indelible. The flood sufferers are not satisfied with the present administration treatment of the situation. It was claimed that the engineers were incompetent. The government did not pay sufficient attention to the problem of controlling the waters of the Mississippi. Wanton deforestation, without government interference; lack of a comprehensive plan for flood defense, and inadequate attention paid to the problem of the constantly increasing volume of water discharged into the Mississippi were put forward in blame of the present flood.

The conference was a subtle, extra-legal mass demonstration of the southern bourgeoisie under the incongruous leadership of Big Bill Thompson to force government aid in a greater measure. Big

self the way to fresh investments and imperialist conquests, to acquire in the transaction new colonies for robbery and exploitation, shifting the burden of such cancellation to the farmers, workers and the poorer middle classes generally.

That the cancellation of war debts as advocated by big capital, will not in the least help the toiling masses of Europe goes without saying. That such cancellation will saddle the toiling masses of the United States with additional taxation and other

Bill, shrewd opportunist that he is, saw in the new slogan evolved "More Efficient Flood Control," with its pretentious backing by disgruntled small southern bankers and politicians a wedge with which to make his niche in national politics. The whole affair was suavely managed and scores of congressmen, more than a dozen United States senators, and a handful or two of governors and mayors hopped onto the Thompson band wagon.

There was Brookhart, Senator Jim Watson, Senator Pat Harrison, ex-Governor Pinchot, Congressman Madden and a host of others. None of the delegates looked as if they had suffered very much from the flood. They were well-dressed; most of them with the proverbial "alderman" prominent on their anatomy—all well fed and unusually happy and content with the swell conference being held. There was a lot of talk about misery and a lot of moving pictures showing scenes of disaster and devastation—but, it was a swell conference.

Here was an unusual gathering of law-makers and politicians who had gathered in a sort of caucus against the administration policy on flood relief and flood control. It was a mass demonstration in its way—of a type Thompson shines in concocting. There was plenty of flag waving, bands playing, hand-clapping and hurrahs; and above it all, in the midst of the distinguished senators, congressmen and other handshakers beamed the classic, America-First visage of Big Bill—without his sombrero, it being held indoors. What's a flood amongst friends except as a new political platform to aid in getting office?

Strange as it may seem there were a few Negro delegates in the conference from the southern states, but they remained conspicuously silent. There was no report from them of the peonage conditions imposed on Negro labor in the flood areas; no protest at the race discrimination in flood relief.

What Bill Thompson's ultimate aim in this bid for national prestige is was not announced. Perhaps he has his eye on the presidency and expects to float to Washington on the flood waters of the Mississippi.

There is, however, a strong nucleus of opposition within the ranks of the republican party in the middle west and the flood problem seems to be a point of rallying.

burdens, is also obvious. Who will gain from such a transaction? Big capital. Hence, Matthew Woll undertakes to pave the way for Wall Street which itself does not dare to press the matter too openly. Says Matthew Woll in the current edition of the American Photo-Engraver:

Our industrialists, in charge of an evergrowing productive machine that must obtain ever more and greater outlets for surplus production, are fearful of an invasion of our home markets and a consequent disruption, if not destruction, of our gigantic production machine.

To allay the fears of "our" industrialists. Matthew Woll advocates reduction and if possible flat cancellation of the war debts. Matthew Woll is very little concerned with the fears of the workers and farmers. The needs of the masses that toil and are being exploited by "our" industrialists don't worry Matthew a bit. If in order to secure an outlet for the surplus products of "our" growing industrial machine it will become "necessary" to go to war, Matthew Woll will be ready for that, too. In fact, he is helping the war business along as best he knows how. His motto is: STAND BY BIG BUSINESS. And stand he does.

The only question is: Why should he be permitted to be a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor?



Canny Cal—Dark Angel of the Flood.



Historical Sketch of the Chinese Labor Movement

A Decade of Progress In Eight Years



DUe to the widespread interest in the great revolutionary upheaval of the Chinese masses, this sketch of the history of events, is particularly of interest to every worker. The tremendous growth of the Labor movement in China should serve as inspiration.—Editor.

The following sketch of the history of the Chinese Labor Movement is the result of notes made in an interview with the Chairman of the All-China Labor Federation, Sou Cheu-tsen, who is also the new minister of labor in the Nationalist government, and with the secretary of the All-China Labor Federation, Li Li-san.

The Chinese trade union movement dates from 1919. It arose during the great anti-Japanese movement, protesting against the "21 points," known as the "Fourth of May Movement." This began as a students' movement. Some embryonic organizations of workers had existed previously among the railway workers on the Peking-Mukden line, and the Peking-Hankow line, but had not yet become properly a trade union movement. These embryonic groups were transformed into trade unions during 1919.

At the same time in Shanghai there broke out the strikes of textile workers and dockers, who were in Japanese employ, 20,000 in all; while in Hongkong occurred a large metal workers' strike. These were successful, and imparted a great impetus at the Labor Movement elsewhere. During this time the trade unions in Kwantung Province made especial progress, in Canton alone their number increasing from 20 to 100 during 1919. This year may therefore be called the real beginning of the Chinese Labor Movement.

Among the most important influences affecting the course of development of the Labor Movement, were the following:

1.—The Russian revolution, which was made known to the Chinese masses through several weekly propaganda papers.

2.—The rising Chinese Nationalist movement, which began to absorb masses into its ranks. A seamen's union was organized at that time by the Kuomintang; there existed the Social-Republican party, and also many anarchist groups. The political movement was especially strong in Canton.

3.—The workers had lived through several insurrections which had failed; from these, the lesson of the necessity of strong, centralized organization had penetrated large masses.

4.—Organization of the Chinese Communist Party, which furnished a central direction for the movement; this was done through a special organ, called the "Secretariat of the Chinese Labor Movement," with branches in Shanghai, Canton and Hankow.

After 1919, the trade unions grew steadily. But it was not until 1922, when another national wave of struggles broke out, that the First All-China Congress was held. First among the battles of 1922, was the great Hongkong Seamen's strike, which was declared on January 12th, and lasted 56 days. Before it ended in the granting of the workers' demands, all Hongkong labor had been drawn into the struggle, in a General Strike which included the railwaymen. The successful outcome of this struggle stimulated the workers of the entire country.

The centre of the 1922 movement was the Railwaymen's organization particularly that of the Peking-Hankow line, which had 16 branches with 18,000 members. A successful strike on this line was quickly followed by railway strikes throughout Central and Northern China; Peking-Mukden line, Shanchou-Haichow line, etc. Through this movement 50,000 railwaymen were organized in the union.

In the Province of Hupeh, a General Trade Union (Provincial Federation) was established with 23 trade unions, and 35,000 members.

In Honan Province, after a long strike of 13,000 miners of An-yuen, the movement was established, with 25 trade unions in which were 40,000 members.

The Shanghai movement was very active, with strikes of seamen, silk filature workers, postmen, and others. All these strikes, except that of the

By EARL R. BROWDER

seamen, were, however, unsuccessful, and the movement there received a setback, only 20,000 members being organized as a result of the 1922 movement.

On May 1, 1922, the First All-China Labor Congress was held in Canton, on the initiative of the "Secretariat of the Chinese Labor Movement." A membership of 230,000 was represented. The most important resolution at this congress was that providing for the industrial form of organization.

It had been decided at the First Congress to convene the Second Congress at Hankow on May 1st, 1923. But on February 7th, occurred the massacre in Hankow of the railway union leaders and others by Wu Pei-fu, and white terror reigned throughout China. This massacre and repression was planned and ordered by British imperialists, who were financing Wu Pei-fu. The immediate occasion for it was the creation of the General Union of Railwaymen on the Peking-Hankow line; Wu Pei-fu dissolved the union, whereupon a general strike broke out,

which was joined by all Hankow workers. An All-China strike was imminent. But the movement was crushed by the army of Wu Pei-fu, who executed 43 leaders, imprisoned unknown hundreds, and dissolved all trade unions. Even sympathizing schools were closed, and active unionists were driven from the factories and railroads, when not imprisoned and shot. During this reign of terror the entire movement was crushed, except at Canton, where the trade unions remained intact.

Until September, 1924, there was a period of reaction. Then the movement began to revive again. On January 18, 1925, occurred the beginning of a series of strikes in Shanghai, Tsintao, and other cities. These were all successful, and regained some of the losses of hours, wages, and conditions which had been lost in the year and a half of reaction.

The period of inaction after the defeat of 1923, had been made use of by the workers to assimilate the lessons of the past experiences. There also occurred during this period a great change among the leaders of the Kuomintang, who finally had come to realize the vastly important role of the working class in the Chinese National revolution. The masses themselves had achieved political consciousness, and learned the necessity of strong trade unions. International relations had been established during the struggle, when the Russian and Japanese trade unions sent telegrams of solidarity, and the Chinese trade unions had addressed themselves to the trade union movement of the world.

On May 1, 1925, the Second All-China Labor Congress was held at Canton, in an atmosphere of a rising movement. More than 600,000 members were represented. At this congress, the All-China Labor Federation was definitely formed; theory, tactics, and organizational methods firmly established, and a recognized central leadership set up.

Quickly thereafter followed the massacre of 30th of May at Shanghai, and the Shankee massacre at Canton, on June 23. These occurrences were the signal for a national upheaval. Strikes broke out everywhere. The most notable of these was the glorious strike of the Hongkong and Canton workers against the British, and the blockade of Hongkong for more than a year. In Shanghai, more than 300,000 workers came into the trade unions. Great movement sprang up at Dairen, Tientsin, Tsintao, Nanking, Kiukiang, Hankow. Living and working conditions were everywhere improved. In Shanghai a general wage increase of 15% was secured. Not only the industrial workers, but also the artisans throughout China, flocked into the movement.

The Third All-China Labor Congress was held on May 1, 1926, in Canton. Already there were 1,200,000 members. Concrete resolutions were adopted on all problems of the movement. The movement after May 30th had raised the level of the entire working class. Previously, the political side of the trade unions had not been firm; now the trade unions were deep in the political struggle and leading it. Active and permanent contact had been established with the International Labor Movement. The movement had become mature.

Militarist agents of imperialism still tried to crush the rising trade union movement, especially at Tientsin, Tsintao, Shanghai and Mukden. But steady and rapid progress continued and continues up to day. The masses of all China had been won to the trade unions and for the revolution.

The Northern Expedition of the Revolutionary Armies was prepared by the great national strike movement following May 30. This was the basis of the military victories, which resulted in the occupation of the Yangtse Valley, the capture of Nanking and Shanghai, and the present drive toward Peking. When the revolutionary army entered Shanghai, for example, they found the city already policed by the Workers' Guards, and an administration jointly established by the trade unions, commercial associations, and students' unions, already functioning.

This is a general and very brief review of the history of the Chinese labor movement results, which in Europe or America would have taken decades to accomplish, have been accomplished in China in a few years. The demands of the trade unions have gone through the whole scale, from the most elementary economic demands up to participation in government and management of industry. And these highest demands are now being realized, with Comrade Sou Cheu-tsen in charge of the labor ministry, and the trade unions already participating in the administration of the railways.



A Chinese Anti-British Poster.



Maurice Becker

The True Seat of Government

Wages and Working Conditions in China

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eration. In another generation, when the Chinese have gained in industrial skill, things may be otherwise. For the moment, the west is probably feeling the results of Japanese competition more than the industrialization of China.

Industries which are carried on under the factory system are: cotton spinning and weaving, silk reeling and spinning, silk weaving, cigarette making, match making, printing, engineering, electricity, distilling, brewing and aerated water manufacture, tanning, flour milling, rice milling, oil refining, bean pressing for oil and cake, sugar refining, fruit, fish and meat canning, egg preparing, saw-milling, tea curing, hosiery knitting, hair net examining, wool cleaning and press packing, ice and cold storage works; and the manufacture of soap and candles, cement and bricks, carpets and rugs, towels, biscuits, glass, porcelain and earthenware, paper, cloisonné, lacquer and enamelware.

Cotton Mills: General Conditions.

As regards the actual structure of the factories and the arrangements for lighting, ventilation, cleanliness and sanitation, there is little to choose anywhere in China between Chinese, Japanese and British mills. A Chinese mill built in 1924 is better than a British mill built in 1910 and a British mill built in 1924 is better than a Chinese mill built in 1910. The same applies to Japanese. Date is more or less the governing factor, as far as I could see from visiting a number of mills of different nationalities. The textile machinery is either supplied from England, from such well-known firms as Asa Lees of Oldham, or from America; and the layout is not very different from the lay-out of mills in Lancashire, except that the rows of spindles are very much lower, so as to suit the height of the small children who so often tend them. I have heard it said that when New England introduced law abolishing child labor, the low child-size machinery which did not go to the Southern States of America was exported to China. It is said that one of the mills of Naigai Wata Kaisha Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co. in Shanghai is the most up-to-date cotton mill in China and I do not think that anyone has ever disputed this claim.

The cotton-spinning and weaving industry is carried on largely by the labor of women and children. I have seen it estimated that of all the cotton workers 40 per cent are women, 40 per cent children, and 20 per cent men. I can scarcely, however, recall seeing any men employed in the mills which I visited, except as foremen and as engine-men in the power house. My general impression was that this is a women's and children's industry.

Standard of Life.

At the present time the life of the mass of the Chinese is extraordinarily poor. The peasant farming families who constitute nearly three-quarters of the population of China are said to spend 55 per cent of their earnings on food; the coolies in the towns about 75 per cent. I have seen the workers in the cotton mills partaking of their midday meal, a small bowl of rice or bean or millet. And the industrial workers are in general not worse paid than the coolies. Yet this is all that they can afford; and the cost of this food is so great that it runs away with anything up to nearly three-quarters of their earnings, and leaves little over for anything else—so little, indeed, that quite clearly their wives and children are forced to work if the family is to live at all, even at their low standard.

It is generally admitted that the wage of the father of the family is not sufficient to keep the family. Both foreign and Chinese factory owners represent that, because of this, the employment of women and children, and especially, of children, is in the nature of a charity. It does not seem to have occurred to anyone that another solution would be to make the man's wage adequate for the maintenance of the family.

Very little attention has so far been paid to the lives of the Chinese workers and very little evidence has been collected. Some slender information, however, exists regarding Shanghai, the commercial and industrial capital of China, which is at the same time an International Settlement, in the government of which Great Britain overwhelmingly predominates.

Housing.

Nothing could be more miserable than the housing conditions of the factory workers in China. I visited a number of workers' dwellings in proximity to the cotton mills at Shanghai, Hankow and Wuchang. Many of the two-storeyed houses front on dark streets, so narrow that hardly a ricksha could pass, even if the piles of garbage were cleared away.

In Shanghai the rent of a four-roomed house was \$13 to \$20 per month. This is frequently paid by the man who owns the front room on the ground floor and probably works in it. The other "rooms," which often consist of rough wooden partitions made out of old packing cases—and if there is any wall-paper, it is just Chinese newspapers pasted on—are sub-let at about \$5 per month. A room, 10-ft. by 12-ft. which I saw, housed two families. But a back partition with two more families only cost \$4 per month, as there was no window. In the rooms were two wooden beds—crude home-made affairs, little more than raised planks, about 5-ft. wide, covered with a torn and dirty piece of matting. In one I did see a real bed. The only other furniture was an open brick brazier—there was no fire-place—and some old clothes hung on a nail. These dwellings were just outside two cotton mills, where the average wage of the cotton mill hands who inhabited them is given as \$12 per month. Probably the wife and children were also wage-earners, otherwise one-sixth of the wage would go in rent, even if the workers shared with another family the worst kind of room with no window.

There was generally a water supply from a tap in each street, similar to the village pump in our old-fashioned villages, but no evidence of any sanitary arrangements, and refuse was just thrown into the street. In Shanghai, I was told that some workers pay a rental of 10 cents per month for a plank in a room with thirty other workers.

IN WALL STREET

Here empires rise and fall, here wars are made,
And in their chairs the bankers, gray and staid,
Here daily plan, as calmly as can be,
The destinies of man, from ten to three!

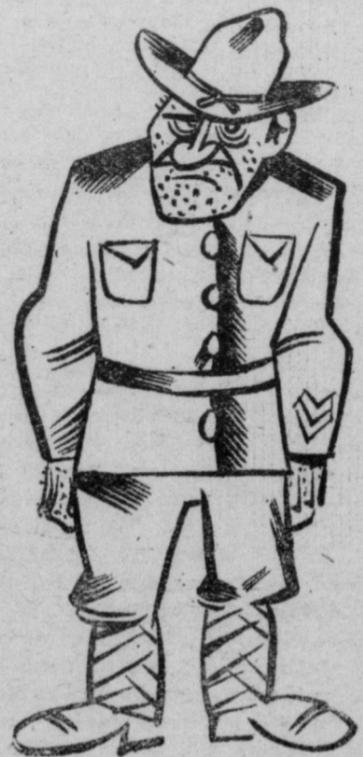
—HENRY REICH, JR.

It is possible that replicas of some of these filthy grimy brick or stone dwellings could be found in parts of East London or Glasgow. But a great number of workers in China live in mere huts, grouped near the mills or factories on any waste ground available. This I saw both at Shanghai and Hankow. Some that I saw at Shanghai were just outside the Ewo Cotton Mills, owned by one of the two largest British firms out East. They consist of low huts with not more than 5-ft. head room, made of bamboo poles stuck into the ground and covered with mud plaster. The police frequently come and bury these houses down, as being too insanitary; but they are soon rebuilt. At other times, except in periods of drought, winds and heavy rains often carry off the roof or wash away the whole house. These huts consist of just one room, containing a bare mat or two to sleep on, a brick oven, bowls and sometimes a broken chair or table. The surrounding stench was almost overpowering. There was stagnant water and, of course, no drainage system or sanitation. Skin diseases appeared to be very prevalent. The following is another description furnished by a Chinese Y. M. C. A. investigator, of one of these huts, of which there are now apparently many thousands in various parts of Shanghai, built of bamboo, mud, lime and straw:

"The house with six inmates, father, mother and four children, occupied a space of about 10-ft. by 14-ft. The roof, built of bamboo matting and straw, now in a dilapidated state, lined underneath with soot and cobwebs, lets in water even in a shower. The walls, riddled with holes, are caving in and afford no privacy and no protection against cold and storm. There is no flooring, everything rests on an uneven mud floor. There is no drainage and no lavatory. The house is surrounded by garbage heaps and cesspools. One's throat becomes inflamed in this neighborhood in ten minutes. On rainy days water contaminated by refuse and manure enters and floods the house to a depth of several inches. After a storm the author has seen the inmates moving about in water and mud up to the knees and little children covered with filth confined to the spaces on beds and chairs. In this place which they called home is to be found their living room, bedroom, kitchen and bathroom all in one. In this particular working community there are nearly 400 such 'homes'."

Some of the mill owners, notably the Japanese Naigai Wata Kaisha Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd., have built special quarters to be rented by their workers and their families at a low rental. This is, of course, an immense advance on a mud hut; but from what I have seen elsewhere, I doubt whether employes in Japanese mills and other factories are not practically prisoners housed in a compound.

I will conclude this section on housing in the modernized industrial cities of China, by quoting Mr. Thomen Tchou, Director of the Shanghai Benevolent Industrial Institution. Mr. Tchou has recently conducted an enquiry, a report of which is published by the International Labor Office, into the problem of China's modern slums, the slums into which are crowded the Chinese workers, drawn into the great industrialized foreign Treaty Ports, as our own workers were drawn into the factory towns of Lancashire at the time of the Industrial Revolution. Mr. Tchou says that these slums, which have grown up recently around Shanghai's great new Western factories, are so horrible that "their equal has never been seen in the Western world, nor in China in past generations, except in abnormal times of famines, floods, and similar calamities."



Drawing by William Gropper

"Arcos" and the "Eight-Fifteen"

By ANDREW WILLMER

THE "8-15" to London Bridge was under steam. The driver's head poked out of the cab of the panting engine and looked down the platform to where the guard stood with one eye on the station clock and the other eye on the station entrance for late-comers. Inside the train well-dressed and well-fed gentlemen settled down comfortably into corner seats with their newspapers before them.

The "8-15" starts every morning from Hampton Court and carries a very select load into town. There is always plenty of room, for the train only fills up later on. In the meantime the comfortable citizens of Hampton Court and the near-by stations have always bagged the best seats.

The last stragglers scurried along the platform and wrenched open the carriage doors. The green flag of the guard waved in the air and a sharp blast sounded on his whistle. 8.15 a. m. and the train slowly slid out of the station gathering speed and rushing through the beautiful countryside fresh in the morning sun. Hampton Court is a very select residential quarter. It has been since the sixteenth century when Cardinal Wolsey built a palace there and presented it to the English Bluebird, Henry VIII. No factory smoke ever sullies its skies. Industry is banished from its breast and the smell of jam and pickle factories never offends its delicate nostrils. The only smoke that curls around under its placid skies is the peaceful, friendly smoke of the English fireside or the long romantic trailing smoke from the funnels of hurrying trains.

In the roomy carriages of the "8-15" lawyers greeted better-class estate-agents whilst stockbrokers discussed the latest news with other professional and business men of all descriptions. The smoker quickly became animated.

"Good morning." "Ah, good morning, how d'you do?"

"Have you read that about 'Arcos'?"

"Why of course, splendid piece of work. Ought to have been done long ago."

"You're right sir. I have the impression that this Joynson-Hicks is a very capable person and he certainly has very fine men under him. There is nothing to beat our police sir."

"No, you're right, finest body of men in the world. High time they kicked those damned Russians out, bag and baggage!"

"I can't understand what the government was thinking about to let it go so far. Seven tons of documents, and all in Russian! Just think of that!"

"Yes, and secret safes let into the walls and hidden with wall-paper. Something fishy about that, what?"

"Arms have also been found."

"What? Arms! You don't say so?"

"Yes sir, there it stands in black and white."

"And that's only the so-called trading establishment. What do you think a search of the embassy would reveal!"

"That's right. I don't know what the government are about I'm sure. The murderous rabble ignore all the normal rules of civilized conduct, it's far too decent of us to treat them with kid gloves."

"What do you think of that suggestion as seen from the legal point of view Mr. Cholmondeley?"

The pompous gentleman in the corner thus deferentially addressed looked up from his scrutiny of a bundle of papers tied with red tape and the strain on his row of double chins relaxed a little. He peered over his gold-rimmed pince-nez at his fellow travellers, cleared his throat with a little cough and declared ponderously:

"In my opinion one may reason from the present case of the trade institution to the embassy, ab uno disce omnes. The law officers of the crown are undoubtedly in possession of a mass of evidence showing that the representatives and institutions of a so-called friendly nation are systematically violating all the laws of nations, jus gentium. We are aware of the habits of these individuals in their own countries, why then should we suppose that they will act differently here, coelum non animum mutant qui trans mare curunt. Under these circumstances I am convinced that there is, to say the least of it, an argumentum ad judicium for declaring the diplomatic immunity of the Bolsheviks null and void."

His hearers were deeply impressed and gratified to hear their own opinion confirmed in such dignified language and by such a famous legal luminary. And all the way from Hampton Court through Thames Ditton, Surbiton, Coombe and Malden and Raynes Park, the new arrivals swelled the anti-Soviet chorus. Unanimity complete and absolute prevailed. If anyone didn't quite agree, they didn't say so.

At Wimbledon the lesser fry began to fill up the carriages. Their neatly brushed and carefully pressed clothes, their stiff high collars and the shamefaced way in which they tried to hide their sandwiches marked them out as clerks. Clerks to lawyers, estate-agents, banks, stockbrokers, to business men of all sorts. They listened approvingly for the most part to the conversation of their betters, occasionally offering respectful comments of their own.

At Hampton Court, cigars and the "Times" with eggs and bacon and coffee for breakfast had held undisputed sway. At Wimbledon, however, cigarettes and the "Daily Mail" with tea, bread and butter, marmelade, Quaker Oats, etc., for breakfast, began to get the upper hand.

At Earlsfield a liberal-minded bank clerk, the secretary of his debating society clambered into the smoker and actually began to cast mild doubts upon the advisability of the government's action. He was instantly bombarded with reproaches from the ring of excited gentlemen.

"No," he declared, "I really must maintain the opinion that diplomatic rights are infrangible. I do this all the more because I am no Bolshevik. I consider that it is just such blunders as the present one which adds fuel to the unrest which is at present disturbing the laboring classes."

The inspiring example of the idealistic bank clerk caused one or two other gentlemen who had not previously dared to express any opinion, to air mild doubts also and up to Clapham Junction the dissentient Liberals wriggled under the attacks of their more pugnacious conservative brethren.

But at Clapham Junction a change came o'er the spirit of the scene. New arrivals came in considerable force and occupied most of the still vacant seats. A big broad-shouldered man bore the first pipe into the smoker like a standard of battle. He was followed by others. Having taken a seat he bent over sideways to drag a doubled-up newspaper from his side pocket. In doing so he tipped the top hat of a fat stockbroker over his eyes.

"Sorry Mister. Couldn't be helped."

And with a final wrench the newspaper came out. Its owner straightened it out. The first "Daily Herald"! There were others.

A fat Conservative encouraged by the previous weight of opinion on his side, leaned forward.

"Well, and what do you think of that my man?" he asked loftily. "Seven tons of documents, arms, secret safes, letters in code!"



PAVING STONES AND ASPHALT

I.

I had a dream,
And dreamed that the Revolution
Would be founded
Upon paving stones.
Fondly I viewed them,
Piled high by laborers in the cities,
Newly chisled,
Or lately torn from old streets
By strong hands,
A red flag stuck in each pile,
A red lantern by night.

Paving stones,
Each a hundredweight,
Light missiles for strong men on house-tops,
Excellent material for barricades—
And Labor temples!

II.

I had a dream,
And dreamed of wide boulevards
Built of smooth asphalt
(Polished like glass
For wheels of swift pleasure cars.)

Soft in the fierce heat—
The steel-shod feet
Of marching multitudes
Are held fast in black mire!

—HENRY REICH, JR.

The broad-shouldered man looked up and met the challenge.

"I'm not your man, guv'nor. And if you want to know what I think about it, well, I think it's the dirtiest, meanest bit of blackguardism I've seen for many a long day."

"What?" "What's that?" "The man's a Bolshevik!" "Why, what do you mean sir?" burst from the startled gentlemen from Hampton Court to Wimbledon. Sounds of agreement with the broad-shouldered one came from some of the new arrivals.

"What do I mean? Well, I mean this: the people who are always talking about honor and loyalty, the members of the gentlemanly party, the Conservative Die-hards have broken the plighted word of the British government as though it were worth less than nothing. They have raided rooms which were guaranteed immunity by themselves, smashed open doors, stolen diplomatic correspondence, ill-treated the employes, let the women be searched on the body by male police and in general conducted themselves like their Chinese bandits."

There was a moment or two's silence of sheer paralysis. The speaker went on.

"The Conservatives accused the Russians again and again of breaches of agreement, but when they were asked to prove it, they couldn't prove one single concrete instance."

By this time his listeners had recovered from their astonishment and there were almost roars of dissent from the irate Conservatives, but the broad-shouldered one stuck to his guns.

"Can anyone of you prove one concrete practical breach of the trade agreement?" he persisted. "If you can, then you can do more than Chamberlain has been able to do."

Half a dozen voices assailed him with, "But the propaganda. . . ." "Communism!" "Bolshevism!"

"That's no argument," declared the stalwart. "The propaganda doesn't come from Moorgate Street, most of it comes from King Street. And I remember just such propaganda years before ever an official representative of the Soviet government set foot on our shores, before the Soviet government existed in fact."

"That may be so," interposed an apoplectic looking old gentleman, "but we have certain proof now that the Russians have subsidized and encouraged this anti-constitutional propaganda."

"Ho! Ho! Ho!" laughed the man with the pipe, "you are jolly fine ones to talk about the constitution, when your party has just proved that it is ready to fling all the laws of the land into the sea to get it's own way!"

"But the seven tons of documents, the arms, the secret safes!" they bombarded him.

"Seven tons of fiddlesticks!" said another man near the door, speaking for the first time. He also was broad-shouldered with big red hands and heavy hob-nailed boots. Between his feet there was a tin can which obviously contained his dinner. "Fiddlesticks!" he repeated energetically whilst his friends laughed. "If you went into any big business concern and pinched all the papers you could lay hands on, I dare say you'd get seven tons of 'documents' too if you weighed 'em!"

There was renewed laughter and one or two of the well-dressed passengers looked a little foolish.

"I suppose you think the Russians have been carefully writing down all their conspiracies and savin' 'em up until they got seven tons of documents all ready for the narks in nice little 'eaps."

There were roars of laughter. No one made any attempt to answer.

"And as for the arms," said a thin young man with a union badge wedged in between a brace of stockbrokers, "they were shot guns for export to Siberia. Who thinks you can make a revolution with shot guns?"

At the next station, Vauxhall, matters got still worse. More men with smelly pipes and caps on their heads got into the smoker. They all had their food in billy cans which they deposited on the floor of the carriage. There was not a pair of spats to be seen amongst the lot of them, and some of them even wore chokers instead of decent collars and ties. In consequence the relation of class forces, as the Marxists call it, changed still further to the disadvantage of the citizens from Hampton Court to Wimbledon.

"The fact of the matter is," snapped a hooked-nose solicitor from Raynes Park, "that these foreign spies have captured British state documents of paramount importance, and the government is entitled in sheer self-defense, to use every possible means to recover them." And his little beady eyes glittered angrily at the broad-shouldered man who had first taken up the cudgels. But the latter was not in the least put out.

"Tell that to the horse marines, Mister. This seven tons of documents the police have taken were all in Russian. You said that yourself just now. You even seemed to think it was particularly deceitful for Russians to write in Russian. But British state documents are written in English which means that the dullest bluebottle would be able to find 'em in a jiffy if they were really there."

(Continued on Page Six)

ARCOS AND THE EIGHT-FIFTEEN

(Continued from page 4)

He paused. His argument had made a great impression.

"Or perhaps they were Russian state documents pinched by the British Secret Service and now the Russians have got 'em back again?"

Sensation!

"No Guvnor, the fact of the matter is that the excuse is all bunkum. The fact of the matter is that the die-hards of your party hate workers' Russia so much that they just hit out blindly and damn the consequences!"

"Hear, Hear!" sounded approving voices from the owners of the pipes and the billy cans who were leaning forward following the debate with the greatest interest.

One of the inhabitants of Hampton Court lost his temper and exploded:

"Well, what about it? Let them get out, bag and baggage! They are nothing but a lot of deceitful dirty foreigners violating our hospitality. Let them clear out, we don't want them here!"

The broad-shouldered man and his friends roared with triumph.

"There you are!" "There you are!" "That's the spirit that made the raid!" "Don't talk about breaches of agreement and tons of documents and all the rest of it!" "There you have it!" "Real good old damn the consequences Torysim!"

"Who's 'we' Mister? Who doesn't want 'em? You're not the only slug in the cabbage patch you know."

There was laughter. The leader of the Plebs, the broad-shouldered man proceeded more calmly:

"But I wouldn't be at all surprised if you've succeeded though, and the Russians really do go. But mark my words, they won't go alone. They'll take their trade with them."

His listeners were attentive.

"Uhg!" snorted a bald-headed man in the corner contemptuously, "their trade! Let them take it. We can do without it."

The broad-shouldered one turned to the little man.

"Once again Mister, who is this 'we'? Who can get along so well without Russian trade? May I ask your profession?"

"I am an estate-agent. 'Pike and Barrymore' sir. One of the biggest."

"Yes, yes," said his opponent cutting him short, "much what I thought. Of course, you" (accent on the "you") "can do without Russian trade. What are you all here anyway? Lawyers, jobbers, sharks on 'change, landgrabbers and what not. Of course, you can afford to do without it. But what about Manchester and Birmingham, eh? I suppose they're so loaded up with orders from abroad that they can afford to sneer at Russian trade too?"

The pugnacious pleb paused for a reply, but none followed.

"I tell you, this freak policy of the die-hards is cutting off our noses to spite the Russians' faces."

"Ever heard of Germany guvnor? Can you name me one single thing the Russians can get here that they couldn't order in Germany? And in the meantime we've got skilled workmen walking about the streets wearing out their boot-leather looking for a job; instead of standing at the bench and making machinery for their fellow-workers in Russia. And all because the die-hards won't let 'em!"

There was a nasty growl from the men with the dinner-cans. The relation of class forces had changed completely, for it's a long way from bourgeois Hampton Court to the city, and the journey goes over petty bourgeois Wimbledon and Wandsworth and then through proletarian Battersea, Lambeth and Southwark.

And so the battle raged. By the time the train pulled up at London Bridge the carriage showed as clear cut a class division as the most exacting theorist could ever desire. The two parties drew off in separate groups. The workers laughing and triumphant, their opponents furious and defeated, a state divided against itself. And thus it was proved once again, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that Hampton Court and Battersea do not hold the same views on the same subjects, that "East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet!"



Hail Caesar, Napoleon, Mussolini—the Conqueror!

Drawing by William Gropper

The Changes in the Egyptian Government

By J. B. (Jerusalem)

THE ten months of the government of Adly Pasha, which came into office in June 1926 as a result of the compromise between the Zaglulist majority in the Egyptian parliament and the British government, has not brought any benefit to Egypt. In the sphere of politics, not one of the questions vitally important for Egypt — evacuation of the British troops, union of Egypt with the Sudan, abolition of the capitulations—have been solved or brought nearer to a solution. In the economic sphere, the outbreak of the cotton crisis led to the impoverishment of broad sections of the population; and the government did not succeed in doing anything to reduce the high food prices. On the other hand there were a great number of inner political difficulties; disturbances in the religious university of El-Ashad, labor conflicts and unsuccessful attempts to carry out reforms.

The government was in a constant state of embarrassment: Parliament with its Zaglulist majority, which in general is much more radically inclined than the leaders of the Party, and in particular of those moderate elements who were sent as representatives of the party into the Adly Ministry, insisted in every question on definite decisions, and overwhelmed Adly and his ministers with awkward questions, which the government in most cases answered evasively or were unable to answer at all. The reason for this humiliating position of the government is that the independence of Egypt is, in the last resort, only a fiction. Without the sanction of the British no minister is able to carry out any measure. While, however, Adly Pasha and also the Zaglulists in his cabinet always tacitly yielded to the desires of the British, the parliamentary deputies would hear nothing of this.

Conflicts between parliament and the government became more and more frequent: The question of the discharge of British officials, which parliament demanded to be carried out thoroughly while the government, responding to British pressure, sabotaged; the question of the British Supreme Command in the Egyptian army on the liquidation of which parliament insisted; the constitutional problem, whether local authorities shall be elected or appointed (parliament demanded that they be elected, while the British adviser insisted on the retention of the system of appointment)—all these provided material for conflict which rendered the position of the government impossible.

Finally, it came about that the constant intervention of parliament hindered the government in its work. The Liberal Constitutional Party, whose program demanded that cooperation with Great Britain which the Prime Minister Adly Pasha carried out, wished to show the Zaglulists that they are not to be regarded as a mere facade of the cabinet, behind which the Zaglulists could proceed with their attacks in order to preserve their popularity as friends of the people and consistent nationalists, but that they are just as indispensable to the Zaglulists as the Zaglulists are to them.

Precisely at the moment when the British and

a portion of the Egyptian press again published news regarding direct negotiations between Zagful Pasha and the representative of Chamberlain (the result of which would be to render the mediation of the Liberal Constitutionalists superfluous), and when the Zaglulist majority in parliament again undertook an attack in order, if possible, to bring into power a purely Zaglulist government, Adly Pasha made a clever maneuver in order to render possible the resignation of the entire cabinet: he used as a pretext the chance rejection of a vote of thanks to the government on the occasion of a financial transaction.

The fact that this action of Adly Pasha precipitated the crisis clearly shows that a ministry formed by Zagful or consisting only of Zaglulists would meet with just as much opposition on the part of the British as it would have ten months ago. There remained only the choice; open conflict with Great Britain, which would have immediately led to the dissolution of parliament and to a new period of an "unconstitutional" ministry (the "Ittehad" Party is only waiting for a "favorable moment" in order, with the aid of the British and of the king, to come to power again), or fresh compromise, acceptance of persons agreeable to the British.

Although the Nationalist Party and some radical Wafd organs recommended an open conflict (there were even hints that in view of the China adventure it would not be possible for the British Foreign Office to proceed drastically against Egypt), Zagful Pasha, with whom this time also the decision lay, again decided on a compromise: Adly Pasha was thrown overboard and his place taken by Sarvat Pasha, who was hitherto Foreign Minister in the Adly Cabinet and is even more closely connected with the British. In addition to this the Zaglulists had to give up the two most important posts in the ministry, which were the cause of frequent conflicts with the British advisers on the one side and parliament on the other, namely the finance ministry and the war ministry, to Liberal Constitutional candidates. As a result the Liberal Constitutional Party, even though numerically unchanged, emerges politically strengthened out of his cabinet crisis. The only compensation the Zaglulists received was the office of foreign minister, which is to render it possible for them to continue direct negotiations with Great Britain.

The changes in the cabinet do not in any way alter the main problems of Egypt. The cabinet was received very coldly by parliament, and the vote of confidence was granted with considerable reluctance. It is clearly perceived that it is only a question of a temporary solution in order to give Zagful Pasha the opportunity of arriving at an agreement with England. Should Zagful Pasha, in view of the obdurate line of British policy, not succeed in this, then the government of Sarvat Pasha will result in a considerable strengthening of the forces of the left wing of the Zaglul Party which are in favor of the Anglo-Egyptian differences, which are continually concealed and glossed over, being fought out in the open.

The COMRADE

Edited by the Young
A Page for Workers'



Young SECTION

Pioneers of America
and Farmers' Children

LINDBERGH — THE FIGHTER

Chas. A. Lindbergh, a young man about 25 years old, became the world's most famous and popular hero overnight, when he succeeded in flying alone across the Atlantic Ocean and into Paris in about 33 hours. Everyone must surely admit that it required great courage and daring to do what he did. But in this respect young Lindbergh had a good teacher in the elder Lindbergh, his father, who is now dead. The elder Lindbergh was a fighter, a fighter when it was dangerous to fight. Elected as a representative to congress, he refused to sell out to the bosses. For this he was hated. This was bad enough, but in 1917 when President Wilson began to force the United States into the World War, Lindbergh attacked the government, bringing down upon himself and his family the hatred not only of the bosses, but of the pay-triots as well. That is where Lindbergh, the aviator got his daring and courage. But is that all he got? Did he forget his father's fight against the bosses who called him a traitor and a spy? He must have, or he would never allow his father's enemies to use him as an advertisement to fool young men into joining the army for future wars. Lindbergh, Jr., the aviator, has deserted Lindbergh, Sr., the fighter, and has gone over to his father's enemies.

Our Letter Box

In School

Dear Comrades: In school Friday we had a geography lesson. Our teacher told us that Russia is lazy. Why? Because the Volga River is her largest river and empties into the Caspian Sea which has no outlet. The teacher said that the Russians could build a canal 100 miles to the Don River if they wanted to. She said that the Russian government would not let the people do it. One day the same teacher asked which cities are the largest. Somebody said Moscow and the teacher told him to sit down right away—MILDRED REMAIDAS.

A Most Interesting Page

Dear Comrades: I was greatly surprised when I read the article on "The Little Grey Dog." It is very interesting for we also study about slavery in school. The little story helps a great deal to renew the slavery subject in our minds. It gives a great deal more than the books do. I'm very glad to work out the riddles, puzzles and read the poems and stories which are very interesting. They also help us in our school work. I don't think I've ever read any page which was so interesting as the Young Comrade Corner.—HATTIE KARSSES.

With the Pioneers

Dear Comrades: I belong to two groups. One is the Pioneer group. Comrade Walter is my teacher. He is a nice teacher. We have a meeting every Saturday on Broadway, So. Boston, Mass. We pay ten cents a month which is not much, but I like to help the Pioneers so I took the Young Comrade, which is fifty cents a year.—BERTHA MITCHELL.

RUTHENBERG SUB BLANK

When Johnny Red got thru reading the Young Comrade Section, there was a troubled look in his eyes. Johnny Red was uneasy. He picked up the newspaper and fixed his eyes upon the left hand corner. Again he read the appeal to get subs for The Young Comrade. He became very thoughtful. Slowly but surely the troubled expression left him and his face began to beam. Johnny Red had made up his mind. Said Johnny Red, "Comrade Ruthenberg told us to 'Fight On' before he died, and it is the duty of all workers' children, including myself, to FIGHT ON by getting subs for The Young Comrade.

Do you agree with Johnny Red? Then send your subs to the Daily Worker, Young Comrade Corner, 33 First Street, New York City.

1-2 year sub 25c—1 year sub 50c.

Name
Address
City
State Age.....

(Issued Every Month)

FLIRTING WITH DEATH

BY MYWORD... I DONT LIKE YOUR LOOKS,
OLD BOY-DONTCHERKNOW.



By L. Laukkonen

British imperialism is getting the big, strong bear, which represents the Soviet Union, madder and madder. First it was the attack on the Soviet Consulate in Peking. Now it is the attack on the Soviet trading corporation, Arcos, in London. The British imperialists had better look out or the bear will shove them out of the picture altogether.

"OUR DEAR LENIN"

By HELEN BALSSES

Our dear Lenin's home in Russia, was in the land of Reds,
There he worked for the Brave Red Army, the bravest of the brave.
Oh, we should remember him wherever we may be
He bravely won a gallant name, and ruled the land of the free.

What tho our power be stronger now than it was wont to be,
But sadly our Lenin rode into his silent grave.
We still may sing his deeds of fame in thrilling harmony,
For he bravely won a gallant name
And ruled the land of the Free.

OUR CHALLENGE

The Pioneers of upper Bronx, New York City, wish to challenge any Pioneer or non-Pioneer baseball team. Our team consists of the following. Myer Brine, 2nd B.; Willie Bard, C.; M. Kaslowe, 1st B.; Lew Berner, P.; L. Friedman, 3rd B.; M. Kaplan, S. S.; L. Barbrusky, L. F.; Alex Gochfeld, R. F.; B. Kaplan, C. F. Any team accepting our challenge should come to 1347 Boston Road, on Saturday, 3 p. m.

LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

The answer to last week's puzzle No. 17 is S O V I E T. The following have answered correctly:

Mae Feurer, New York City; Frank Steinberg, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Ruth Youkelson, New York City.

More Answers to Puzzle No. 16

Philip Franks, Chicago, Ill.; Rose Szepesi, New York City; E. Vitanova, Madison, Ill.; Leo Wolin, Chicago, Ill.; Mary Gyurek, Ellwood City, Pa.; William Rosenbloom, Newark, N. J.; Stanley Olim, Hamtramck, Mich.; Florence Hayden, St. Paul, Minn.; Jennie Lukash, Utica, N. Y.; Lillian Zager, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Milka Lovrich, Bingham Canyon, Utah; Rose Novick, W. Frankfort, Ill.

THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE NO. 18

This week's puzzle is one of the good old reliable word puzzles. Each number in the puzzle stands for a letter of the alphabet. For instance, 1 stands for A, 2 for B, 3 for C, and so on. Can you get it?
1 12 12 23 15 18 11 5 18 19 3 8 9 12 4 18 5 14
19 8 15 21 12 4 7 15 20 15 20 8 5
25 15 21 14 7 16 9 15 14 5 5 18 3 1 13 16
4 15 25 15 21 23 1 14 20 20 15
7 15 ?

Send all answers to the Daily Worker, Young Comrade Corner, 33 First Street, N. Y. C., stating your name, age, address and number of the puzzle.

TOUGH LUCK

By TONY TWARYONAS.

Barney Google, Andy Gump
We threw the bosses in the dump.

THE ROSE-BUSH

(From Fairy Tales For Workers' Children).

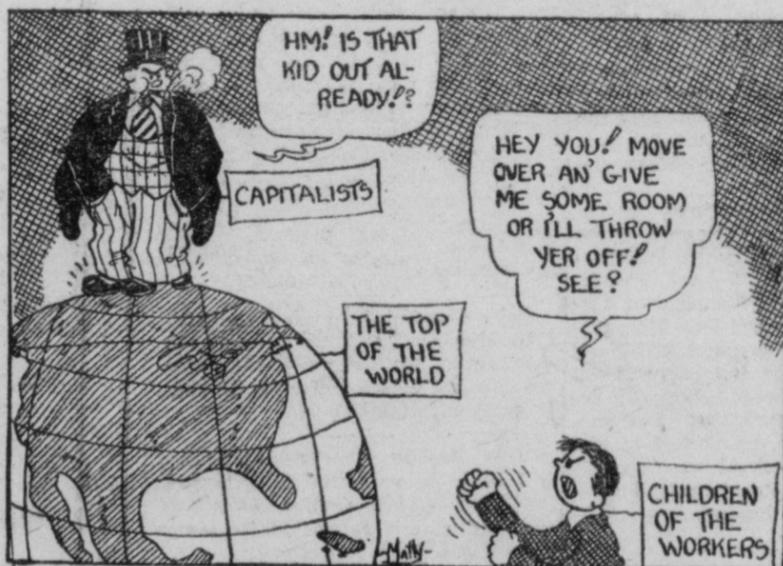
The Rose-bush did not know where she was born and where she spent her early days—it is a well known fact that flowers have a bad memory, but to make up for that they can see into the future. When she first became conscious of herself, she stood in the middle of a magnificent green lawn. To one side of her she saw a great white stone house, that gleamed thru the branches of linden trees, to the other side stood a high trellised gate thru which she could see the street.

A thin tall man carefully tended the Rose-bush; he brought manure, bound the drooping twigs of the Rose-bush together with bark, brought water for the thirsty roots of the Rose-bush to drink. The Rose-bush was grateful to the man, and as the buds she was covered with opened into dainty red roses she said to her friend, "You have taken care of me, it is because of you that I have become so beautiful. Take some of my loveliest blossoms in return."

The man shook his head. "You mean well, dear Rose-bush, and I would gladly take some of your beautiful blossoms for my sick wife. But I dare not do it. You don't belong to me."

(To be continued)

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!



The capitalists are on top of the world now in every country except the Soviet Union. They own the world, they rule it, and they get all the good things in life. But it won't be long before the workers' children, growing up into strong workers will show the capitalists where they get off, and take the whole world and its goods for the use of the workers, instead of the few capitalist shirkers.

DRAMA

The Moscow Stage

Meierhold's Theatre a Workshop of Revolutionary Expressionism

THERE is no doubt that the Russian stage today is probably the most active, not only in its tendencies towards the development of experimentation and ideas, but in the presentation of drama that is alive to the times. For that reason it is interesting to get a bourgeois outlook on what is taking place in the Soviet theatre. The following, taken from an article by the Moscow correspondent of London Observer, represents such a viewpoint.

"No where in the world," he says, "can the theatregoer exercise such a wide range of selection as in Moscow. Side by side with the old established classical Russian theatres a number of new producers representing the most modern in radical tendencies in dramatic art have appeared on the scene. And the Moscow theatres old and new alike generally enjoy the benefit of excellent acting.

"The predominant tendency on the Moscow stage at the present time is to emphasize action rather than thought. Presentation rather than substance, to exalt the actor and the producer somewhat at the expense of the playwright. The most iconoclastic and controversial of modern Russian producers is Vsevolod Meierhold, whose theatre is simultaneously a workshop of expressionism and a form for the presentation of revolutionary themes on the stage. Meierhold starts out by making a clean sweep of such conventional stage accessories as certain and footlights. (His original productions also bared distinctive costumes, but he is making concessions on this point.) His scenery is wheeled on and off the stage in full view of the audience and his productions are illuminated by the rays of large electrical projectors.

For nine-tenths of his effect Meierhold depends upon the special methods in which he has trained his actors, and upon clever and original stunts of staging. His actors are put through a strenuous course of physical training and many of them could almost qualify as trained acrobats. To express various emotions, they lunge, leap, crawl and turn somersaults with equal facility, and their athletic achievements are made easier by the introduction on the stage of ladders, platforms, staircases and similar aids to quick and lively movement.

Propaganda Plays.

"Meierhold's most popular productions during the past season were, 'Roar, China,' and 'Revizor.' The former production written by a Russian named Tretiakov lived for some time in China. The story is based on the incident of an American killed in a scuffle with Chinese boatmen and of a British naval commander demanding the lives of two boatmen as a penalty under threat of bombarding the Chinese city if the demand is not fulfilled.

"A good theme for propagandist drama—and Meierhold and Tretiakov make the most of it. Technically the production is vivid and Chinese costumes and Chinese music add an element of exotic color.

"Revizor" was a daringly unconventional version of Gogol's great comedy of that name which is known in English under the title of "Inspector General." The five acts of Gogol's play were turned into fifteen of the shorter episodes which Meierhold prefers in his production, and all sorts of liberties were taken with action and with characters. The production aroused a great deal of discussion and Meierhold was roundly attacked in some quarters for having murdered Gogol's humor.

"Sunrise," a new play by Willard Mack and which is claimed to treat with Bolshevism, will open out-of-town June 20 and maybe come here later.

GEORGIE INGRAM



One of the merry souls in the new "Merry-Go-Round" revue at the Klaw Theatre.

Broadway Briefs

Arthur Richman is adapting Paul Gerald's play, "Son Mari," for production by Edgar Selwyn.

"Love and Lightning," by Edna Earle Lindon and Ruth Langdon, has been placed in rehearsal by Chamberlain Brown and A. H. Van Buren. Hazen Dawn, Reginald Mason James Crane and Marie Curtis are in the cast.

"Caponasacchi" is in its final two weeks at the Hampden Theatre. Walter Hampden announces the closing of the Robert Browning poetic tale on Saturday, June 18—after a run of 272 performances.

Anné Shoemaker will take over Antoinette Perry's role in "The Ladder" next Monday night at the Cort Theatre. Miss Perry is going abroad for a vacation.

"Pickwick," a dramatization of the Dickens' character by Cosmo Hamilton and Frank C. Reilly is scheduled for showing by Mr. Reilly at the Empire Theatre on Labor Day. John Cumberland will play the title role.

Screen Notes

"Old San Francisco" will have its premiere Tuesday June 21st at the Warner Theatre. Dolores Costello is featured in the picture, which is a historical outline of the city with the landing of the Spaniards on the shores of the Golden Gate, along through the gold rush of '49, and coming down to the present. Warner Oland, William Demarest, Joseph Swickard, Anders Randolph and John Miljan are others in the cast. Alan Crosland directed the picture. The John Barrymore picture, "When a Man Loves," now current, will end its run Sunday night June 19th.

Syd Chaplin's starring vehicle, "The Missing Link," which has been showing at the Colony Theatre for the past six weeks, will close its stay in another fortnight.

Moss' Broadway beginning Monday will show a new film "The Sunset Derby." William Collier, Jr. plays the lead and is supported by Mary Astor, and Ralph Lewis.

The Cameo, beginning today will revive "The Three Musketeers." Douglas Fairbanks plays the hero in Dumas' famous story.

AMUSEMENTS

The Theatre Guild Acting Company in

ALL NEXT WEEK

"The Second Man"

GUILD THEATRE 52nd Street, West of Broadway. Evs at 8:30. Matinees THURSDAY and SATURDAY at 2:30.

ALL NEXT WEEK

"Mr. Pim Passes By"

GARRICK THEA. 65 W. 35th St. Evs. 8:30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat. 2:30.

Week of June 20th—NED McCOBB'S DAUGHTER

ALL NEXT WEEK

"Ned McCobb's Daughter"

JOHN GOLDEN

THEATRE, 58th St., East of B'way. Matinees THURSDAY & SATURDAY.

CIRCLE 5678

Week of June 20th—MR. PIM PASSES BY

\$500 AWARD

for the article of 200 words or less judged to be best on the play "The Ladder." Contest for tenth week closes Monday at 10 a. m. Money refunded if you do not like the play. Not necessary to see the play to win the prize.

"THE LADDER"

CORT THEATRE

48th St. E. of B'way

MATINEE WEDNESDAY

SUMMER PRICES—Best Orchestra Seats \$2.00. Balcony Seats \$1.00.—Popular Priced Mat. Wed. \$1.50 Top

The 55th Street Cinema is reviving "The Beggar on Horseback," a screen version of the famous satire on big business by Connelly and Kaufman. The picture will be shown for one week beginning today.

Little Theatre GRAND STREET FOLLIES
44th St., W. of B'way. Evenings at 8:30. MATINEES WED. AND SATURDAY, 2:30.

KLAW Thea., 45th, West of B'way. Evenings 8:30. Mats. Thurs. & Sat 2:30.

MerryGoRound

The successor to "AMERICANA."

Sam HARRIS THEA. West 42nd St. H. Twice Daily, 2:30 & 8:30

William Fox Presents 7th HEAVEN
Mats. (exc. Sat.) 50c-\$1. Evs. 50c-1.50

SYD CHAPLIN IN THE MISSING LINK

B. S. COLONY BROADWAY AT 53rd ST. MOSS' Contin. Noon to Midnight.—Pop. Prices.

Walter Damrosch has accepted the appointment of musical directorship of National Broadcasting company and will direct a series of symphony concerts on the air next season. The concerts given by the New York Symphony under Damrosch, will be relayed by the National to thirty-five stations.

The New Plays

TUESDAY

"TALK ABOUT GIRLS," a new musical by William Carey Duncan, will be presented by Harry H. Oshrin and Sam. H. Grisman Tuesday night at the Waldorf Theatre. Irving Caesar wrote the lyrics and Harold Orlob and Stephen Jones composed the music. Andrew Tombes, Russell Mack, Jane Taylor, William Frawley, Madelyn Killeen, Spencer Charters, Bernard MacOwen, and Frances Upton are the principal players.

WEDNESDAY

"A WOMAN OF BRONZE" will be revived by Murray Phillips at the Lyric Theatre next Wednesday night, with Margaret Anglin in the chief role. Pedro de Cordoba will play the leading male part.

SATURDAY

"BARE FACTS OF 1927," a revue by Stuart Hammil, with music by John Milton Hagen and lyrics by Marian Gillespie and Menlo Mayfield, is scheduled to open next Saturday at the Triangle Theatre, presented by Kathleen Kirkwood. Austin Street, Hazel Henderson and Dorothy Guy are in the cast.