

## TARVATION, SLAVERY, SPEED-UP, SPY SYSTEM, WAGE CUTS AND THE BLACKLIST IN PASSAIC MILLS

By LOUIS KOEBS.

### ARTICLE I.

PASSAIC, N. J., Oct. 28.—A few months ago the textile barons decided to make a country-wide wage-cutting offensive.

The attack started in the New England states, and since then the waves have rolled westward from east to west. The tolling slaves of the mills trade have now come to a crossroad where they have to choose, either fight against wage reductions, or surrender and allow more present and future wage cuts.

#### The Passaic Situation.

The Botany Worsted Mills and Gardil Worsted Mills under the control of the Botany Consolidated Mills, approved a ten percent wage reduction starting October 5, 1923. The 25 percent overtime bonus was reduced to 10 percent. With this order the wages 6,200 workers were cut down.

In the mills of this corporation the normal week is 48 hours, but at present an average is only 28 hours a week. Before the wage reduction the new employees received 45 cents an hour and the old employees received \$6.52 per hour, which meant a very big wage.

The Pitkin Worsted Company on Oct. 10 announced a 10 percent wage cut for 300 workers.

The Passaic Spinning Company also reduced the wages of 1,200 workers percent.

#### Gera's Bright Trick.

The Gera Mills lays off its old employees for 45-48 hours control per hour and then takes them back to work for 38 cents per hour. Besides this, the company makes such progress in its shift system, by which the profits of the company are increased and the exploitation of the workers is intensified. The following speakers, Foreman & Huffman and Jersey Worsted Spinning Co., and Samuel Hird & Sons for the time being deny their preparations for the wage wage reductions.

But the signs undoubtedly show that the wage reduction will be carried out in every mill, but not at one time, for the reason that the united front of the Passaic knitters would do that much harder.

**Starvation Campaign.**  
This series of wage cutting was preceded by a starvation campaign in the fullest sense of the word. One company after another reduced its work, so that the army of those out of work should scarce those yet at work.

On October 11 after another started the overtime work system and without exception the time and earnings of the workers was reduced to one-half of their regular earnings.

The representatives of the Passaic mills was prepared by the textile barons that the workers being

## PHILIPPINES ARE WITH CHINA AGAINST POWERS OF WEST, SAYS QUEZON

MANILA, Oct. 28.—Manuel Quezon, president of the Philippine senate, in a discussion of the Chinese immigration bill being considered by that body today, urged the elimination of anything antagonistic to the friendliness of China. "The treatment being accorded the Chinese by western people is offensive to us," Quezon said. "We, too, are orientals."

## Legion Bill Demands Universal Draft for Next Natl. Emergency

WASHINGTON.—Universal draft of the man-power of material resources and industrial organizations of the United States, in time of national emergency, is proposed in a bill which the American legion, thru its national legislative committee, announces it will offer in congress in December.

"The bill gives to the president the authority to take the necessary steps to assure control of the country during the legion days. It will draft into the service of the United States all persons between the age of 21 and 30 or such other limits as may be fixed, without exception on account of industrial occupation, and will proclaim the material resources and industrial organizations of the country under government control during the period of the emergency.

"During the last session of congress such a bill was introduced in the house by Rep. Royal Johnson of South Dakota and in the senate by Sen. Capper of Kansas. These bills will be again introduced and every effort made to secure their enactment into law."

#### Debt Settlement Wrecked

LONDON, Oct. 28.—The tentative Anglo-French debt settlement plan being wrecked by the fall of the Painleve cabinet, according to official opinion here. It is not believed that the status of the Locarno pacts will be affected.

# Pan Wage Cut for Teachers in Chicago

SUPERINTENDENT WILLIAM McANDREW has drawn up a new salary schedule for teachers which he has presented to the board of education.

The schedule has not as yet been adopted by the school board because of the greater financial burden it would place on its already depleted treasury. Consequently deductions were formed and stories began to circulate that the schedule calls for an increase in teachers' salaries. In that role it is being exploited by McAndrew and his whole retinue of boosters from the Chicago Tribune, the mouthpiece of big business, to the credit clubs with their representatives of big business, the very same business interests which imported McAndrew to Chicago to do their bidding on the school board.

The hypocritical arguments advanced by McAndrew and echoed by this group is that teachers' salaries must be raised to meet the higher cost of living. McAndrew takes on the role of champion of the teachers' cause. McAndrew, who has robbed the teachers of their councils, who has denied them the right to receive notices of their federation meetings, who has burdened them with rules that harass them at every turn, dons the cloak of teachers' benefactor and goes forth to beg for more humane consideration of the teachers.

**Will He Get Away With It?**  
Already McAndrew has succeeded in causing the division in the teachers' ranks which is working for, and the principals take the position of boosting the schedule disregarding entirely the fact that by this move they are placing themselves on record as favoring a cut in wages for the large bulk of teachers. He has used to work upon the mayor of Chicago and upon various organizations, and getting them to write letters and make personal calls to talk up the schedule.

**Story Told by Figures.**  
The figures of this schedule are given in full in the latest number of the Teachers' Bulletin and they carry an entirely different message to the teachers of Chicago. Instead of the

we cut over a year ago.

But the apparent gain in these rates compared with last year indicate steadier employment rather than more employment. More employment and higher wages would have been secured at the cost of employment in the winter. This appears in the following figures showing average employment in the first nine months of 1922 and 1923 expressed as a percentage of the average number employed in 1922:

266 Elementary Principals		2,466 High School Teachers	
Year	Proposed Schedule	Cumulative Salary	Present Salary
1	\$1500	\$1500	\$1500
2	1550	3050	3125
3	1600	4650	4875
4	1800	6450	6750
5	2000	8450	9000

Comparative Size of the Three Main Groups of Teachers in the Chicago Schools Comprising 11,334 of the Total 12,102 Members of the Education Department.

ELEMANTARY TEACHERS						ELEMANTARY PRINCIPALS					
Lower Group			Upper Group			Lower Group			Upper Group		
Year	Proposed Schedule	Cumulative Salary	Present Salary	Year	Proposed Schedule	Cumulative Salary	Present Salary	Year	Proposed Schedule	Cumulative Salary	Present Salary
1	\$1500	\$1500	\$1500	1	\$4000	\$4000	\$4000	1	\$1800	\$1800	\$1800
2	1550	3050	3125	2	4250	8250	8200	2	1900	3700	3650
3	1600	4650	4875	3	4500	12750	12400	3	2000	5700	5550
4	1800	6450	6750	4	4750	17500	16800	4	2100	7800	7500
5	2000	8450	9000	5	5000	22500	21800	5	2200	10000	9500

promises of later envelopes at the end of each month, the teachers will be greeted with the direct opposite, a cut in wages. These figures show that the various divisions of teachers will be given a direct cut in wages until the seventh year of teaching when there are recommendations for an increase. In other words the money will be taken from one division to be given to another. For this increase other changes in the school system will be affected. For instance the size of classes will be increased and that change will affect all teachers, those receiving a cut in wages even more than those who are to be favored with an increase. These economies will help increase the salaries of a small minority of the staff, thus creating a division of interests.

There are 11,334 teachers in the Chicago schools. Out of this group there are 8,602 elementary teachers, 266 elementary principals, and 2,466 high school teachers. If the proposed McAndrew schedule is adopted by the board of education it means that the large bulk of teachers will have their wages docked and in many cases a very serious cut in wages as will be seen from only a glance at the tables which we reprint at the end of this

article. The Chicago Teachers' Federation has gone on record as being opposed to this salary schedule. Their protest should, however, carry with it definite recommendations for an increase in wages which would include all the

## HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS—GENERAL CERTIFICATE

LOWER GROUP					
Year	Proposed Schedule	Cumulative Salary	Present Salary	Year	Proposed Schedule
1	\$2000	\$2000	\$2000	1	\$2000
2	2100	4100	4200	2	2100
3	2200	6300	6400	3	2200
4	2350	8650	8800	4	2350
5	2500	11150	11300	5	2500

## JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

LOWER GROUP					
Year	Proposed Schedule	Cumulative Salary	Present Salary	Year	Proposed Schedule
1	\$1800	\$1800	\$1800	1	\$1800
2	1900	3700	3800	2	1900
3	2000	5700	5800	3	2000
4	2100	7800	7900	4	2100
5	2400	10200	10300	5	2400

teachers so that they would be able to meet the increased cost of living. And this recommendation should also carry a demand for decrease in the size of classes to enable the teachers to give more attention to the children individually.

## GENTLE JEWELERS' REWARD FOR DEAD ROBBER A SUBSIDY GIVEN TO POLICE FOR USELESS MURDER

By CARL HAESSLER (Federated Press Editor).  
CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—(AP)—It's four times more profitable to kill a man outright under certain Chicago circumstances than to have him arrested and tried by the courts. It will be net you \$1,000 to choke or club or shoot a man to death under these circumstances. It will net you only \$250 if you inform

## LONDON POLICE MAKE A DISCOVERY; COMMUNISTS OVERTHROW CAPITALISM!

LONDON, Oct. 28.—"Our task is to expose the real capitalist class nature of the state, to undermine the state and its authority, and to eventually overthrow it." This is the

## GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT TEN PER CENT BELOW 1923; BUT TWO PER CENT OVER A YEAR AGO

By LELAND OLDS  
(Federated Press Industrial Editor).  
Employment gains between August and September meant a return to work for upwards of 75,000 factory workers in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, according to reports from the state labor departments. As these states employ over a quarter of all factory workers in the country,

