

OCT 1923

SOVIET RUSSIA PICTORIAL

OCT.
1923

A GRAPHIC MONTHLY
REVIEW OF
RUSSIAN AFFAIRS

20¢



LATEST PICTURE OF LENIN IN A GOOD RUSSIAN CROWD

THE RED AIR FLEET  RUSSIAN AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION  REVOLUTIONARY OCTOBER
DAYS  TROTSKY'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY  FORTY-TWO PICTURES

Their Arguments Against Recognition

IT is remarkable to what arguments people sometimes resort to when they make up their minds to prove that the Russian Government should not be recognized. Here is Congressman Carroll L. Beedy from Maine. He went to Russia "to secure first-hand evidence". He returned with the proposal that the United States should "enter upon negotiations for a trade agreement and the establishment of a trade commission in Russia". But at the same time he was emphatic in his demand that "the present Government in Russia should not yet be recognized by the United States".

His first argument is the old "propaganda" bogey. Our American politician has probably not recovered yet from the anti-Bolshevik neurosis of the glorious days of Palmer. For otherwise he would not accuse the Soviet Government of the subversive propaganda, which it conducted three years ago, at the time of international intervention. Considering the fact that all powers, including America, had unprovoked landed their troops on Russia's shores—that propaganda was at that time a legitimate weapon of defense. A weapon which, we may venture to assert, was certainly more humanitarian than the use of dum-dum bullets and poison gases which all "civilized powers" so persistently refuse to give up. This hysterical pounding on "Bolshevik propaganda" almost reminds one of the mental disease with which Lord Northcliffe was stricken shortly before his death when three years after the war was over, he still heard cannon rumblings on the Rhine during his visit in Belgium. . . .

His second argument is more tangible. It deals with Russia's alleged refusal to "recognize those property rights of American citizens which were violated in the Russian Revolution of 1917", and with the "indebtedness of the former Russian Government to America".

Mr. Beedy's sense of justice and fair play does him honor, but is his memory so shaky that he should have forgotten the treatment accorded German property-owners residing in America after this country joined the Allies and the German submarines

THE November issue will contain an interesting article on "Why lie about Russia?" by Norman Hapgood, formerly U. S. Ambassador in Denmark, in favor of recognition of Soviet Russia, written especially for our magazine.

began to destroy American vessels? Or does Mr. Beedy claim that the landing of American soldiers with machine guns and cannons in Archangelsk, Murmansk and Vladivostok was not an unfriendly act justifying the regular reprisals and claims for indemnification—for the simple reason that the Wilson administration never officially declared war on Soviet Russia? And does he think it is very "gentlemanlike" on the part of Uncle Sam to insist upon the "indebtedness of the former Russian Government to America"—this "former Russian Government" being the "Ambassador" of the non-existent Kerensky government

who spent the 187 million dollars in the many unsuccessful crusades against the Soviet Government? And does he not know that the present Russian government has declared at the conferences of Genoa and The Hague its readiness to recognize all these dubious obligations under certain conditions?

But most delicious is his final argument where he invokes the "penalty of political ostracism" on a most curious plea. He says literally: "The present Russian regime apparently has not made the mistake of practicing religious discrimination, endorsing one religious order and prosecuting another. Worse than that. They deny all religions."

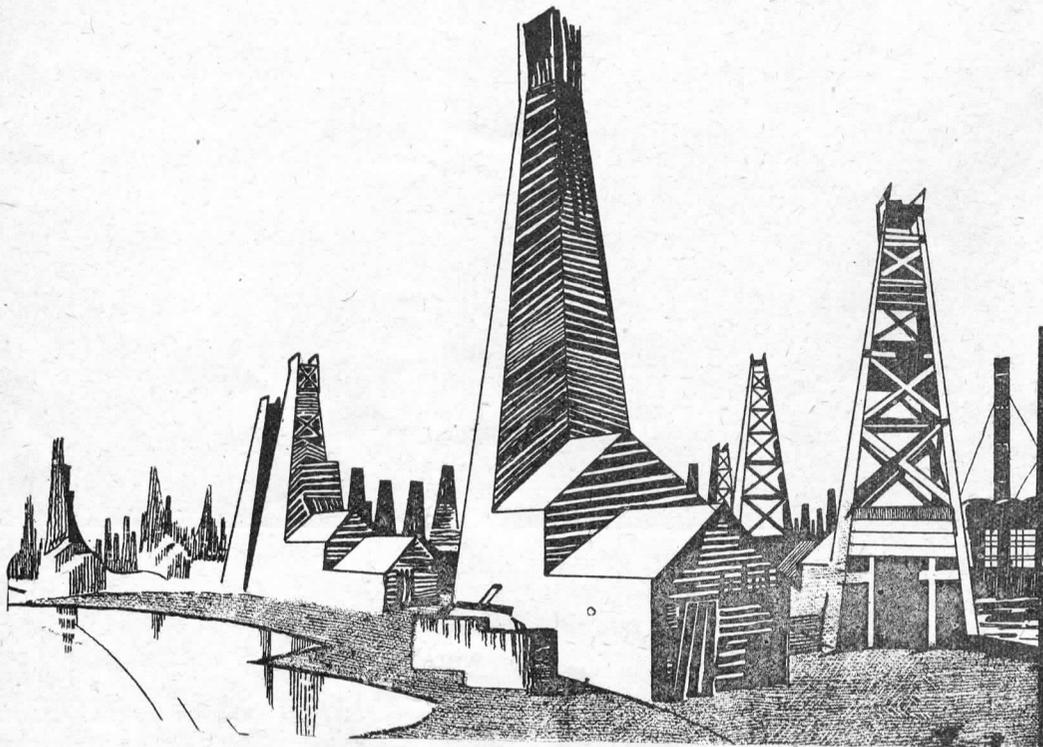
Russia's crime is thus not religious intolerance but on the contrary its religious tolerance—its indifference towards the various religious beliefs, in a word, an attitude similar to that of the French government of about twenty years ago, after breaking up the political power of the Catholic Church. At that time Viviani—later the famous war premier—boldly declared in the name of the government that the French Republic had thrown down the kings from their thrones and the gods from their heavens. But we never heard that on that score a move was ever made to withdraw American recognition from the French government.

This plea for non-recognition on account of religious tolerance and non-partisanship recalls to our memory another plea for non-recognition made in 1919 before the Convention of the American Federation of Labor, by the Secretary of the Committee on Resolutions who declared that "in our Committee's opinion the Soviet government is not a representative body; neither does it officially claim to represent the people of Russia. The official claim of that government is that they represent the workers and *only the workers*, and for that reason your committee recommends that such a form of Government should not receive the endorsement of the Convention" . . . (page 333 of Proceedings).

How long are the American working masses going to stand for such "arguments" against the recognition of Soviet Russia?

THE September issue of Soviet Russia Pictorial has met with great success. The whole edition was practically sold out and we received many orders which we were unable to fill. For this reason we appeal to all our friends and comrades to send in their orders before the 15th of the month.

IS THIS TO BE THE PRICE OF RECOGNITION?



OIL WELLS

October Days of the Russian Revolution

THE Russians call the proletarian revolution of November 7, 1917, the "October Revolution". At the time when that historical upheaval occurred, Russia had not yet done away with the remainders of the Greek Orthodox past, and the old Russian calendar—which was thirteen days behind—marked the day as "October 25". And so it remained.



VERA FIGNER

But the Russian revolutionary past is replete with other memorable dates that were crowded into the month of October—dates that are connected practically with all the stages of the revolutionary struggle of the last century.

It was on October 3, 1829—almost a hundred years ago, that the workers in the factories of the Ural district revolted against inhuman conditions—and twenty of them were executed for that first attempt to protest against capitalist "efficiency". It was the period when industrial capitalism all over Europe had just begun its "civilizing" mission with its ethics of profit.

Reduced to literal starvation and worked for sixteen and more hours, the human "robots" of that time began to shake their chains and in a number of bloody revolts in England, France and Germany gave their masters the first foreboding of the coming settling of accounts. And the memory of those twenty victims, executed in the most eastern corner of Russia, at a time when there was no national or international organization of workers to rescue, or at least to comfort them with hope, will in the future be even more cherished by the Russian workers than that of many of the later revolutionists who fought not for the cause of the workers but for the cause

of "democracy", that is, for the cause of the educated bourgeoisie.

Twenty years after the revolt of the Ural workers, on October 13, 1849, we behold the trial of the "Petrashevtsy" group. Named after its leader, Petrashevsky, this group, under the influence of the events of 1848 in Western Europe, began the propaganda of socialist ideas. The members were soon arrested and most of them condemned to death. Their pardon came on the last moment when they were already on the scaffold. They were sent to hard labor in Siberia. One of the condemned men was Fedor Dostoyevsky, who later achieved immortal fame as a novelist. He spent four years in a Siberian prison after the commutation of the death sentence—but returned a changed man. With all his genius a weakling and degenerate—he turned his hatred not against the oppressors of his people, but against those whose company got him into trouble. And he became a glorifier of holy Russia of Oriental despotism as against the "decaying" West. . . .

With the condemnation of the Petrashevtsy, socialist and revolutionary propaganda came to an end in Russia for a long period—to be partly filled by purely philosophical revolt and literary criticism directed against all time-honored conceptions and prejudices. With the flaring up of the revolutionary movement in the West, in the early sixties, we see again revolutionary, underground groups in Russia. One of them organized a terrorist attempt against the life of Tsar Alexander II. The attempt did not succeed and Karakozov, the leader of the group, was condemned to death on October 16, 1866, and executed. Of the participants in Karakozov's conspiracy, one man is still alive—the octogenarian Anarchist Vladimir Cherkezov, who, like many other ven-



FEDOR DOSTOYEVSKY

erable mummies, became a "bitter-ender" during the war and an implacable enemy of the November Revolution. . . .

If the trial of October, 1866, disposed of a small terrorist group, the trial of October, 1884, meant practically the end of a great party whose terrorist tactics, developed on an enormous scale, had shaken the self-



NICOLAI ROGACHEV

confidence of Russian despotism and had almost forced it to capitulate. But the treason of one of its important members, Sergey Degayev, greatly contributed to the destruction of this powerful organization. The most important members of the "Narodnaya Volia" were arrested, and the foremost of them, Vera Figner, buried alive in the terrible dungeons of Schlüsselburg fortress. Two of the indicted men, Stromberg and the former officer Rogachev, who, together with Stepniak, had "gone to the people" during the seventies spreading propaganda as a lumberjack, were executed in the same month. Vera Figner, who entered her prison as a blooming and charming young woman, left it after more than twenty years—aged, but unbroken in her spirit. She lives now—an old woman—in Russia, venerated by the young generation; for although her sympathies were with the Social Revolutionists, the inheritors of the revolutionary-democratic tradition of the "Narodnaya Volia"—she nevertheless never lent her hand to help counter-revolutionary intrigues.

Twenty-one years later, in October, 1905, Russia presented quite a different picture. Revolutionary activities were no longer restricted to a small group of self-sacrificing heroes. The masses of the workers had entered

(Continued on page 226.)

SOVIET RUSSIA PICTORIAL

(Formerly Soviet Russia)

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE FRIENDS OF SOVIET RUSSIA
Published Monthly

32 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.



Devoted to spreading information about Russia with the specific purpose of informing American readers on the institutions and conditions in that country, so that they may feel the necessity of bending every effort to fight the famine and its consequences, which threaten to destroy the Revolution and its achievements.

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Published Monthly by Friends of Soviet Russia, at 32 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill. Editor: H. M. Wicks. Subscription Rate: \$2.00 per annum Entered as second class matter January 29, 1921, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Application made for second class privileges at Chicago September 17, 1923.

VOL. VIII. OCTOBER, 1923 No. 10

Those Debts

A REPORT appeared some time ago in the press according to which Soviet Russia was ready to buy recognition by assuming the debts of the preceding governments. This report was soon supplemented by another report according to which Krassin denied this statement declaring that Russia was at present strong enough to go on without the recognition of its debts—which of course provoked vicious comments in the capitalist press. The fact of the matter was that both reports were unfounded. The attitude of the Soviet Government is the same as one year and a half ago—during the Conferences of Genoa and The Hague where the spokesmen of Russia stated once for all the only position Russia could adopt in this matter. It was ready to recognize the claims of the capitalist world—on condition that the capitalist countries which participated in the destruction of Russia through intervention and the help given to the counter-revolutionists would assume the obligation to recompense Russia for the damages inflicted by their activities. But this demand the Allies refused even to discuss. And there the matter stands.

But while refusing to recognize the Allied claims if their own claims were not considered, the Russian delegates were ready to discuss the compensation of foreign citizens who had invested their capital in Russia, but on condition that the Allied countries should grant Russia sufficient credits that would

hasten her economic restoration and enable her to pay those claims. But again the Russian proposals were turned down. For what the Allied countries had in view was not a fair settlement of mutual claims, but the complete economic subjugation of Russia—involving the delivery of all her natural resources into the hands of the financial groups that have already succeeded in enslaving China, Mexico, Germany and practically all of Central Europe. And what they have not obtained at that time when Russia was in the throes of the most formidable famine—they will certainly not obtain now when the Workers' Republic is on the road to a slow but steady recovery.

"Principles" and Contracts

THE Russian plan of "mixed companies" in which foreign capital and the Soviet Government should have equal share, does not meet with particular favor abroad. It interferes with the principles of absolute "liberty" and unrestricted profit and control. Foreign shipping companies were foremost in the denunciation of this plan and the White Star, the Canadian Pacific and the Cunard lines had an understanding to oppose all Russian proposals tending in that direction. But now it appears that the White Star Line has joined hands in an arrangement between the Hamburg-American, North German Lloyd and Red Star Lines on the one hand, and the Russian (State) Volunteer Fleet on the other hand—with equally divided control and equal participation in profits. The Canadian Pacific and the Cunard Lines, both British, were left out of the deal and are barred from Russian traffic.

The double-crossed upholders of the lofty principle of hundred per cent profit are now "inclined to feel that the White Star has sacrificed an important principle to secure the contract"—to use the soft language of the N. Y. Times correspondent, Walter Duranty.

Well, contracts seem to be stronger with capitalists than "principles" and "honor"—and in this we see the hope of an ultimate breaking of the financial blockade still surrounding Russia.

American Standards

"UNTIL there comes into existence in Russia a government which will measure up to the American standard the chances of this government resuming diplomatic relations with Russia are remote." This, according to a special telegram to the "N. Y. Times", is the attitude of the Coolidge Administration toward Russian recognition.

Of what this "measuring up to the American standard" consists, we are not told, but we surmise that all other countries that are recognized or soon to be recognized, do "measure up to the American standard", and that the things in which they differ from Soviet Russia are obviously necessary in gaining recognition by the present administration.

There is, for instance, Spain. The romantic habit prevailing in that sunny country of killing from around the corner, or "on the fly", scores of honest union leaders every year, which probably measures up to "American standards" (or at least to American suppressed desires), has small chance of being introduced in Russia to win for that country the good graces of the financial overlords of America.

Or Italy with its savage destruction of all labor co-operatives and unions and mass assassination of militant workers; or Poland with its persecution of non-Catholic Christian denominations and educational restrictions imposed upon the Jews; or Greece that suppresses all trade unions and seizes their funds; or France that slowly starves to death a people of sixty millions; do they all "measure up to the American standard" and shall Russia be denied recognition until she follows the footsteps of these champions of "orderly government"?

A New "Thriller"

BOLSHEVIK-BAITING seems decidedly to have become the last refuge of the American union leader of the hundred-per-cent type. Envious of Gompers' laurels and afraid of the dissatisfaction created by his latest "victory"—Mr. John Lewis of the United Mine Workers' Union went out into the "serial" business. And the entire capitalist press is reprinting his tales in which he uncovers the many dangers threatening the United States, the coal industry and the bureaucracy of the miners' union owing to the activities of "Nikolai Lenin and his associates of Moscow" who are "waging a definite contest for the subjugation and seizure of the United States and Canada." An important part in this definite contest for the seizure of the United States he attributes also to the Friends of Soviet Russia, which, according to him, is the center of all subversive activities in America.

Mr. Lewis is a worthy successor of that other leader of the American miners, Mitchell, whose honesty, uprightness and devotion to the cause of the workers enabled him to leave an estate of about half a million dollars.

Plain Talk

THE "Chicago Tribune" is, if we are not mistaken, that remarkably outspoken organ of American supermen that a few decades ago, when unemployment was running high, candidly suggested strychnin sandwiches for the reduction of the unnecessary rabble. With the same frankness, in an editorial of Sept. 12, referring to the visit of American Senators in Russia, it opposes Russian recognition because an economically rehabilitated Russia will stay in the way of world domination by American capital. This is, at the least, plain talk and we like it. It is more honest than the continuous harping on "principles" or on moral issues.

Russian Chronicle

Foreign Trade and Shipping

July 20 was the first anniversary of the formation of the Baltic State shipping agency. During the year the trade operations amounted to nearly 250,000 tons and 160 voyages were made. The agency now possesses ships with a tonnage of 190,000.

A Russo-Esthonian chamber of commerce has recently been opened at Reval. Among the members of the presidium are, on the Russian side, Professor Volkov, representing the Russian Delegation at Reval, and a representative of the Centrosoyus. On the Esthonian side representatives of the Reval stock exchange, manufacturers and merchants' unions, as well as the Central Union of Esthonian Co-operatives, took part in founding the chamber.



COMRADE CHUBAR

Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the Ukraine after Rakovsky's departure to England as Trade Representative of the Union of Soviet Republics.

Coming Back

The Caucasian "Dashnak" (Armenian Nationalist) Party has issued a declaration to the effect that the Russian Soviet Republic alone can be trusted to defend the interests of oppressed nationalities, and of the Armenians in particular. The declaration continues: "We are not the enemies of the Soviet Government. Anyone who now continues the struggle against the Soviet Government, either on the territory of the Soviet Union or abroad, is an enemy of, and a traitor to, the Armenian people."

Industrial Revival

In comparison with last year the number of furnaces in action in the Urals metal works has increased by 150 per cent; the Martens ovens have increased by 50 per cent, and the rolling mills by 115 per cent.

The Metal Workers' Union

Following on the revival of the metal industry during recent months, the membership of the All-Russian Union of Metal Workers increased from 400,000 at the end of October, 1922, to 450,000 at the end of March, 1923. At the latter date, 96.7 per cent of all workers and employes in the industry were members of the union. Women members constitute 16.7 per cent of the total membership, and juveniles (under eighteen) 6.6 per cent. The proportion of juveniles to other members is distinctly higher in the areas with small and scattered factories than in the industrial areas where large works exist.

Education

The People's Commissariat for Education is establishing a new type of high schools specially fitted for peasants where great attention will be paid to agriculture.

During the current educational year 17,000 schools will be opened in the Ukraine with over 1,500,000 pupils. The schools will be supported in the main by the local populations. The experience of last year has shown that agreements for the support of village schools in good harvest areas are kept to the extent of ninety per cent. This year there are no bad harvest areas in the Ukraine; the village schools are therefore assured of proper support.

Mineral Resources

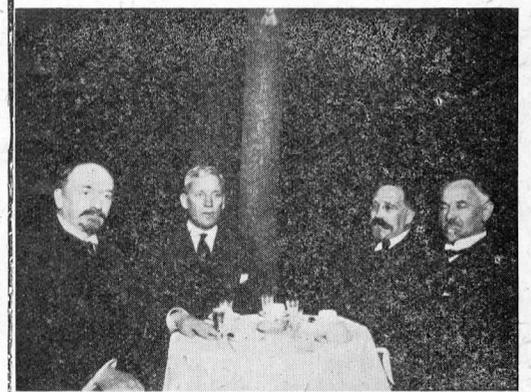
According to reports given out by the Central Mining Administration, soft coal deposits have been discovered near Cheliabinsk (Urals) extending over a territory of 300 kilometers. The deposits in question are suitable for railway transport as well as for power stations. The importance of this discovery is emphasized by the fact that the deposits are situated in an industrial region with a railway junction nearby.

The Petrograd Geographical Society has received a report that rich silver and mercury deposits have been found on Novaya Zemlya, in the Arctic region. The society is sending a special expedition to investigate these deposits.

An expedition sent by the Russian Radium Institute to Ferghana in the Turkestan Soviet Republic has discovered deposits of radium which are considered the largest of all hitherto known.

Nationalities in Russia

In view of the absence of exact information regarding the nationalities peopling the R.S.F.S.R., and their distribution, the Council of People's Commissaries has resolved to hasten the publication of racial maps, for which purpose it has assigned 7,500 gold roubles to the Commissariat for Education.



Farewell dinner given to Col. Haskell of the American Relief Administration by Russian Soviet leaders. Note—from left to right: Chicherin, Haskell, Kamenev and Krassin.

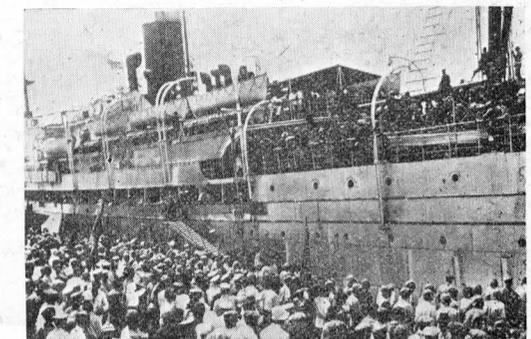
Credits to Workers

The Petrograd Textile Trust has assigned 129,000 gold roubles' worth of textile goods for the granting of individual credits to workers.



New Flag of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics waving above the Fair of Nizhny-Novgorod.

ual credits to workers. The goods will be sold to workers with a 30 per cent discount from the retail price lists, and will be given on credit for a month.



Russian soldiers back in their country after six years' enforced stay in the French colonies. They had been sent to France by the Tsar "to make the world safe for democracy".

Russian Agricultural Exhibition

ON occasion of the opening of the Agricultural Exhibition Dr. Semashko, People's Commissary for National Health, writes in the "Izvestia":

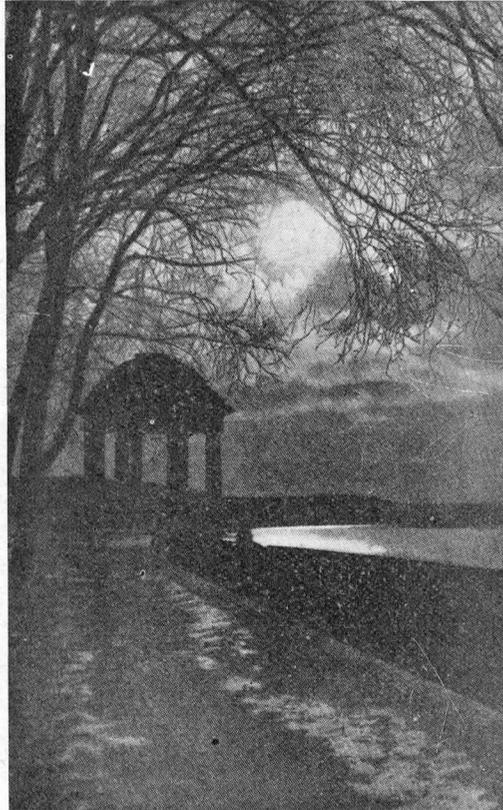
"It is known that Peter the Great founded a new capital of Russia, Petrograd, on the swamps, and even the name of the River Neva means in Finnish marshes and swamps. In our days we have the same thing in the outskirts of Moscow beyond the Crimea Bridge. A few months ago there was a place where all the residues of the city were piled up; now owing to the amazing energy of the workers and the administration, we see there a new clean town in the making. The All-Russian Agricultural Exhibition with its numberless pavilions have sprung up from the earth as if by miracle. One looks at it with amazement. We are uncultured; but there is some power within us which can quickly mobilize, as nobody in the world, all our labor force and means of production. This is the Soviet Power, the power of the workers.

"The administration of the Exhibition says with pride that during all the time there has been not one misunderstanding with the workers engaged in the building of pavilions and the clearing of the grounds of the Exhibition. This is a remarkable proof of the unity of interests and wishes of all concerned.

"The Soviet Power by the hand of the workers destroys our backwardness, our lack of culture, and with the mighty enthusiasm of the peasants and the workers builds a new handsome building of communism where a few years ago was filthy capitalistic exploitation."

The opening of the Agricultural Exhibition at Moscow, on Aug. 19, is an event of considerable importance internationally as well as to Russia herself. Over 250 foreign firms are reported to be taking part in the Exhibition, and a large number of representatives of these as well as of other foreign

firms have arrived in Moscow during the last few weeks. There can be no doubt that the Exhibition has been the means of opening up new connections between Soviet Russia and merchants and manufacturers in other countries—and this is probably the reason of the renewed attacks on Soviet Russia which have been made during the last few weeks



A corner of the exhibition with view on Moscow river.

by certain groups in this and in other countries which are more interested in old controversies than in new trade.

It was estimated that about 20,000 Moscow workers were present at the opening, and most of the members of the Russian Government and of the foreign Diplomatic Corps also attended. The speakers included Rykov, vice-

chairman of the Union Council of People's Commissaries, Chicherin, and Krassin.

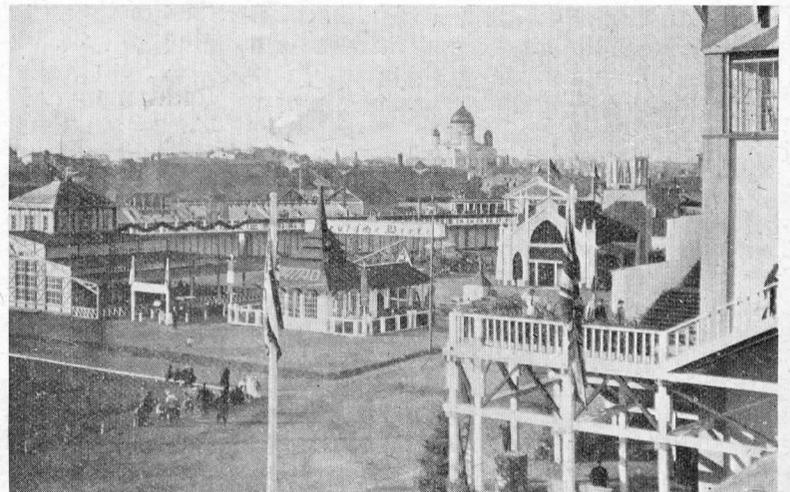
Points emphasised in the speeches were the importance of the Exhibition in the development of Russian agriculture, and its international value as a link between peoples. This point was also emphasised by the Turkish Minister, Mukhtar Bey, the doyen of the foreign Diplomatic Corps. Speaking on behalf of all the representatives of foreign powers, he welcomed the opening of the Exhibition and expressed the hope that the Exhibition would be successful, and that the progress of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics would continue unchecked. Amongst other speakers was the chairman of a delegation from China, Liu-Lian, who has just arrived in Moscow.

Over 250 firms showed their goods at the Exhibition. Among the countries represented a conspicuous place was occupied by the United States. The preparatory work done by the New York Committee of the Exhibition (in conjunction with an Advisory Board consisting of a number of senators, professors of agricultural colleges, and journalists) interested American traders, and a great number of entries were made at an early date. Much was also done to popularize the Exhibition by the Committee's taking part in the "Travel Show" at the Grand Central Palace, New York. Advertisements of the coming Exhibition were prominent at the Russian pavilion, and visitors were given all the necessary information about the way in which to send exhibits.

The following are a few of the American firms showing goods at Moscow: Bocay Incubator Co.; Jackson and Co., leather goods; Allied American Corporation, New York; New Molin Plough Co., Molin, Ill.; Oliver Plough Co., South Bend, Ind.; J. I. Case Threshing Machine Co., Racine, Wis.; American Seeding Machine Co., Springfield; and O. S. L. Allen and Co., Philadelphia.



Main Entrance to Russian Section of Agricultural Exhibition.

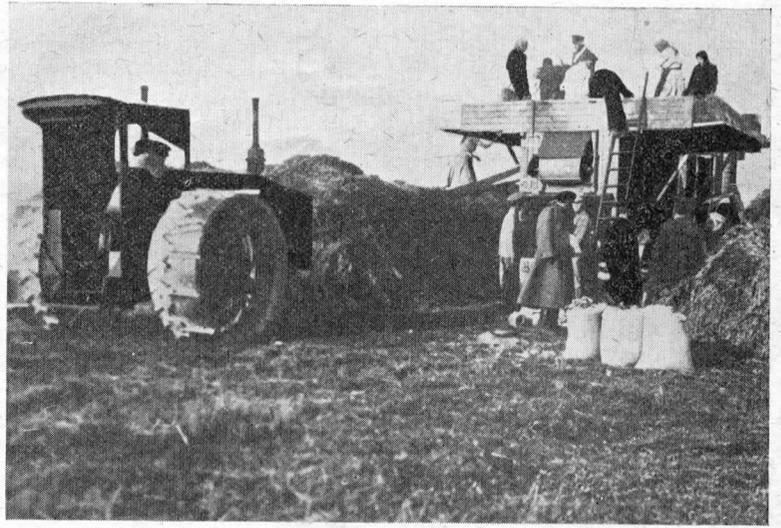


American Flag Waves Over Agricultural Exhibition Next to British.

City and Village



FIRST AUTOMOBILES MANUFACTURED IN SOVIET RUSSIA



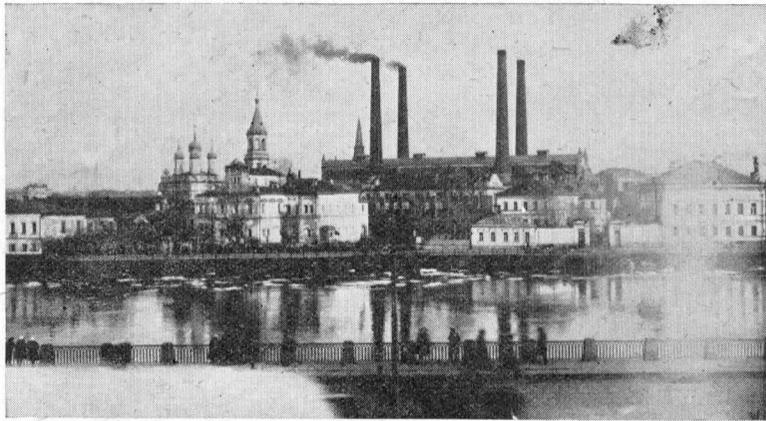
BRINGING IN THE HARVEST



A PEASANT MARKET



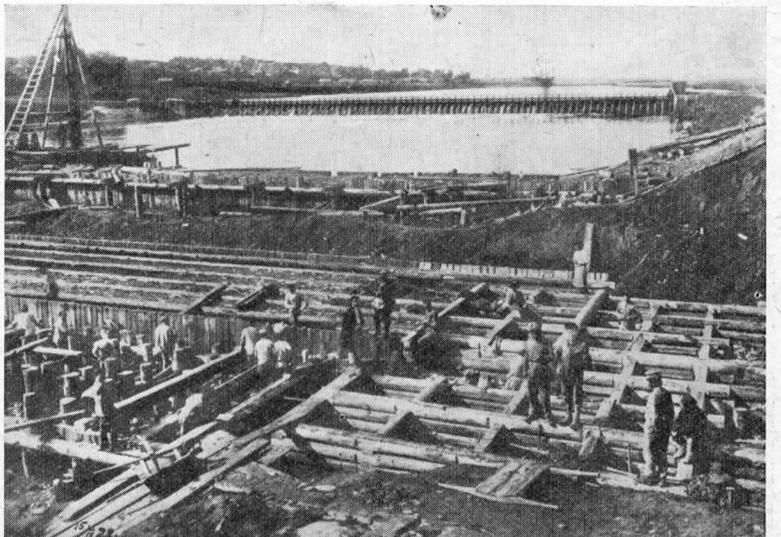
A WATER CART IN DAGHESTAN, Caspian Sea in Background



MOSCOW FACTORIES OVERLOOKING THE MOSCOW RIVER



CHEESE SALE IN THE MARKET OF SAMARA



RECONSTRUCTION

The Organizer of the Red Army



Drawing of L. Trotsky.

part in underground activities. In the beginning of 1905 I returned on a false passport to Russia. Took part in revolutionary activities. On December 8th, 1905, I was arrested together with the entire Petrograd Soviet of Workers' Deputies. Spent fifteen months in prison. Was condemned to exile in Siberia. Fled in 1907 from Berezov, province of Tobolsk (Siberia) going first to Petrograd and from there abroad. Published abroad illegal literature. At the time of the War I was deported from France in 1916 for propaganda against the imperialist war. In Spain I was arrested and sent to North America. From here I left in March, 1917. Was arrested by



Recent Bust of Trotsky.



"Workers to the Horse!" Trotsky's slogan at the height of the Civil War.

ON THE occasion of the forty-fourth birthday of Comrade Trotsky, which falls on the 26th of October of this year, it will be perhaps not without interest to reprint the report written by the leader of the Red Army to the Commander of an infantry regiment in Simbirsk which had elected Trotsky its honorary Red Army soldier:

"In view of the fact that I was entered as Red Army soldier of the first platoon of the First Company of the training regiment of the 25th Sharpshooters' Division, and in view of the fact that the Commander of the Company asked me to send him my biography in order to enter it on the files, I report as follows:

"I was born in 1879 on October 26th. I studied in a technical high school. Joined the revolutionary labor movement in April, 1896. I was arrested in January, 1898. I spent two and a half years in prison. Was exiled for four years to Siberia. Spent there about two years. Fled from Siberia abroad to take

the English and kept a month in a concentration camp in Canada together with interned German sailors, with whom we entered into the most friendly relations. Liberated by the English government on the demand of the Petrograd Soviet I arrived in Russia at the beginning of May. Took part in the November revolution.

L. Trotsky."

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Petrograd Soviet of 1905 on Trial. Note Trotsky in second row.



In Siberian Exile in 1906. Note Trotsky in first row.

The Red Air Fleet

EVERY second person on the streets of Moscow wears the insignia issued in the drive for contributions to the Red Air Fleet: A small airplane whose tail has the form of a fist, threateningly extended and on whose wings can be read the word "Ultimatum."

This is the answer of the entire Russian population to the threats contained in the well-known note of Lord Curzon. An impressive answer!

But the meaning and importance of the entire problem of the creation of an air fleet extends far beyond the present moment.

It often happens in the course of historical development, that tendencies of destructive nature in one field are at the same time speeding up progress in another direction. Thus the world war, for all its destruction, nevertheless hastened the development of certain branches of technique. Witness the primitive airplane of 1913 which since the war has been converted into the indispensable means of transportation of today. Similarly the last conflict with English imperialism has driven aviation in Russia to a stage of quick development which may lead to most important results.

One-sixth of the surface of the earth is occupied by the union of Soviet republics. In consideration of the tremendous distances in such an enormous territory, it is clear that the organization of means of communication must be of paramount importance to its entire economic and political life. We see, even in the Russian literature on

matters concerning mails and traveling, that adventures on coach and railway stations play a much more important part than in the literature of Western Europe.

The wide, comfortable railroad cars of Russia, with their sleeping berths in all classes, are well known. Of all European countries, Russia has the greatest mileage of railroad lines; the development of the railroad net, first of all, for strategical considerations, has been uninterruptedly continued, with the help of French capital, until the war.

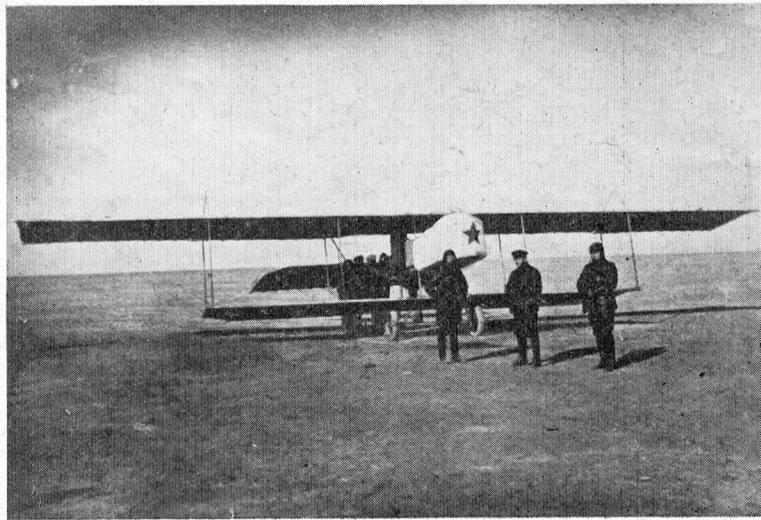
The Soviet state took over a transport system which had been terribly disorganized by the long war and the

western technique which is already greatly advanced. The first line that began its operation on a large scale was the Koenigsberg-Moscow line requiring only seven hours, which, in view of the three and a half days of railroad traveling between Berlin and Moscow, means a saving of about three days. Moreover, there are lines from Moscow to Petrograd, to Kharkow, Nizhni Novgorod (to the fairs) and recently over the Caucasus and Tiflis up to Teheran, the capital of Persia.

The organization of this line has, first of all, an important political significance, directed against English supremacy in Persia. This brings us back to the statement that there were also military motives for a quick building up of the Russian airfleet. The Soviet state, which for so many years has withstood all the attacks of counter-revolution, must also in the future protect itself by having in preparation the most effective and strongest war means of modern times. But this time the opponents of Russia cannot talk of "Red militarism" because the development of the Red air fleet means, simultaneously with the strengthening of the strategic defense, also a strengthening of the means of communication, that is the strengthening of the economic power.

The majority of the Russian population has realized it very well; the first airplanes constructed by popular subscription are to be seen every evening

(Continued on page 226)



Red Aeroplane in a Desert Near the Indian Frontier.

destruction caused by the internal struggles. Many lines had not been used in years. The rolling stock was destroyed and not renewed.

Owing to the isolation of Russia, any attempt at reorganization met with endless difficulties. Nevertheless, a tremendous amount of work was done and at present again the large trains are circulating from Petrograd to Tiflis, from Moscow to Vladivostok, and on most of the small lines.

But in the meantime an important competitor of the railroads has arisen in the airplane. In face of the tremendous development which is now beginning in Russia, this means of transportation must at once be used to the highest degree. On account of Russia's enormous dimensions, this is the ideal means of transportation.

While in other countries of smaller distances, the airplane is used to supplement the railroad and steamship, in Russia it will become the exclusive means of communication for very large territories. The wide steppes of Siberia and Turkestan will, in the future, be crossed with tremendous velocity.

In starting a large system of air communication, Russia has a great advantage in that she can avail herself of the methods and experience of the



The Red Fliers and Capitalism.



Oh! What Luck to be an Aviator's Sweetheart!

International Children's Solidarity

By WILLIAM F. KRUSE



First National Congress of Communist Children's Groups in Germany.

German Communist Children Help Russian Orphans

A CONGRESS of children representing the "Kommunistischen Kindergruppen" recently held at Gotha voted unanimously, without the aid or prompting of elder comrades, to continue their splendid support of the Russian famine orphans. In this way the German children intend to show that international working class solidarity extends right down among even the youngest members.

A remarkable independence of thought is shown by these youngsters most of them under eleven years of age. They were purposely left alone in their deliberations and the results warranted the confidence placed in them. The principal domestic decision was to inaugurate an "Anti-School Week." This was not, as might be supposed, directed against all school attendance but against certain abuses under which children of Germany suffer more than those of most other countries. The principal demand was for the abolition of corporal punishment, minor demands included the cessation of anti-labor teachings on the part of the teachers. The children carried on very actively during this



Argentine Children Collecting for Russian Orphans.

week. Many thousands of leaflets were distributed, in many meetings held and addressed by the youthful agitators. In many cases the teachers took official notice of the leaflets and tried to counteract their effect by lengthy dissertations on the necessity for whipping "naughty" children. In every case but one, when a vote was called for, the youngsters decided overwhelmingly for the leaflet and against the teacher. Some good resulted; in Saxony, for instance, teachers were forbidden to use sticks in inflicting punishment.

There are about 20,000 members in 300 of these "Kindergruppen". They are under the guidance of the "Communist Youth" which has a membership of about 50,000 and is growing very rapidly. A rebel spirit characterizes all phases of the proletarian movement and recently the children demanded (and obtained) editorial control of their paper.

Argentine Children Help Russia

EVEN to far away Argentine the news has penetrated that in Russia many thousands of children lost their parents due to the war and famine and now roam about the country without shelter, sick and hungry.

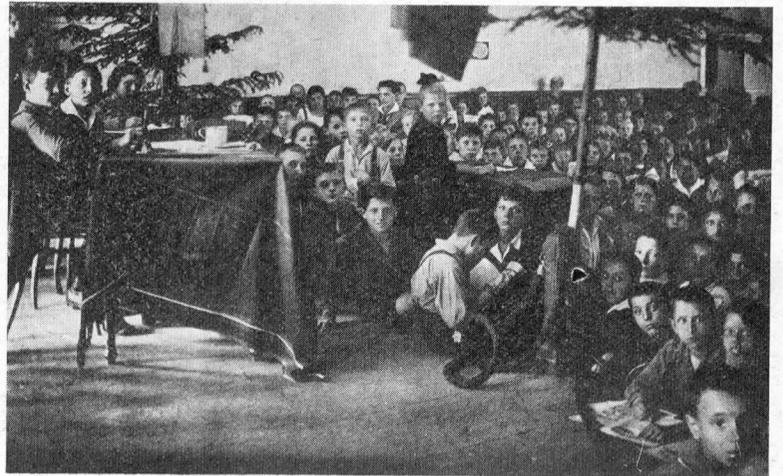
Although the Soviet government has done everything in its power to alleviate their misery, nevertheless it could not proceed quickly and thoroughly enough to efface the consequences of hard times in such an enormous country. The workers of all countries helped their brothers in Russia. The children in Buenos Aires also heard of

the misery of the Russian children and even those little members of the working-class began relief activities for their brothers in far-away Russia. Immediately they set to work.

On May first they organized, with the help of the women, great collecting activities by going from one May meeting to another, by distributing leaflets and selling small shares, tags and buttons.

This troupe of more than sixty children and women gathered, in a short time, 1470 pesos, which were donated by workers.

This success encouraged the little helpers to new deeds. A relief society of children was founded with the purpose of establishing an entire children's home in Russia for the orphans. 150 children joined this society immediately and they are all very eagerly taking care of their Russian brothers. They publish their own children's newspaper entitled "The Little Comrade". They have elected their own children's pre-



Children's Congress in Full Session.

sidium and instituted a special propaganda committee.

During the coming three months, these courageous children intend to carry out a special campaign in order to get school material and utensils for Russia. More and more children are joining this children's relief activity. All over the world the workers' children are joining hands.

When such a working class grows up to manhood and womanhood then, in the next imperialist war, the hyenas of capitalism will have only themselves to tear to pieces.

EDUCATORS—ATTENTION!

The International Workers' Relief Committee is at present collecting material about vocational and factory schools, about mining and agricultural schools, and the most modern methods for technical education and special training of defective children. If you have any such material, please send to Friends of Soviet Russia.

The Children's Colony

By A. C. FREEMAN

JUST outside the old Tartar city of Kazan there are a number of summer villas, surrounded by trees. These villas formerly belonged to the local millionaires. After the fashion of Russian millionaires, these former owners somehow disappeared after the Revolution; and the villas are now inhabited by three hundred famine orphans, the young citizens of the Eugene V. Debs Colony. The existence of the colony is announced by signs in Russian and English which stand over the entrance.*)

The Eugene V. Debs Colony is truly international in its composition. A little more than half of the children are born of Russian parents. The others are Tartars, Bashkirs, Kirghiz, Chuvashes, orphans of the various oriental tribes that one finds all along the Valley of the Volga. One could see the different racial traits expressed in the behavior of the children. The Russian children, as usual, were open and friendly, eager to talk and answer questions. The Tartars, long repressed

partially or completely destroyed, and one hospital is pitted all over with the marks of Czecho-Slovak bullets. In 1920 a great fire raged for three days in Kazan. Finally, in 1921, came the famine. It is estimated that more than a hundred thousand people died of hunger in the Tartar Republic, of which Kazan is the capital. The city has recovered from the effects of war and famine with really remarkable speed;

but the local government is faced with an appalling problem in taking care of the multitudes of homeless children in the Tartar Republic.

The Eugene V. Debs Children's Colony is a beautiful monument to the international solidarity of the American workers who contributed the funds for its upkeep. It is a genuine bond of friendship between Russia and America. To the children there America will be associated not with the troops that were sent to Archangel, not with the shells that were sent to the sanctimonious

dren's city that bears his name and see what a splendid work of humane reconstruction the American workers have already made possible in this region.

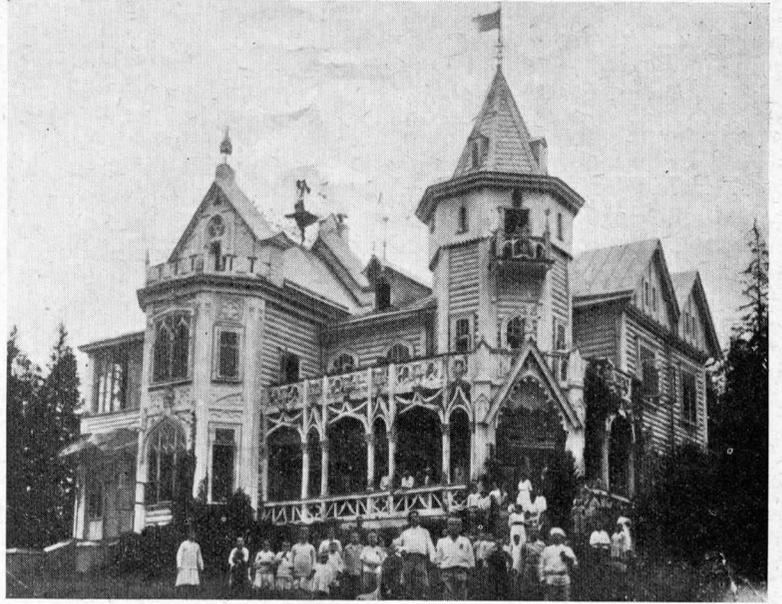
Soviet Russia Pictorial Your Magazine

The demand for the September issue of Soviet Russia Pictorial exceeded all expectations and the issue was sold out almost immediately.

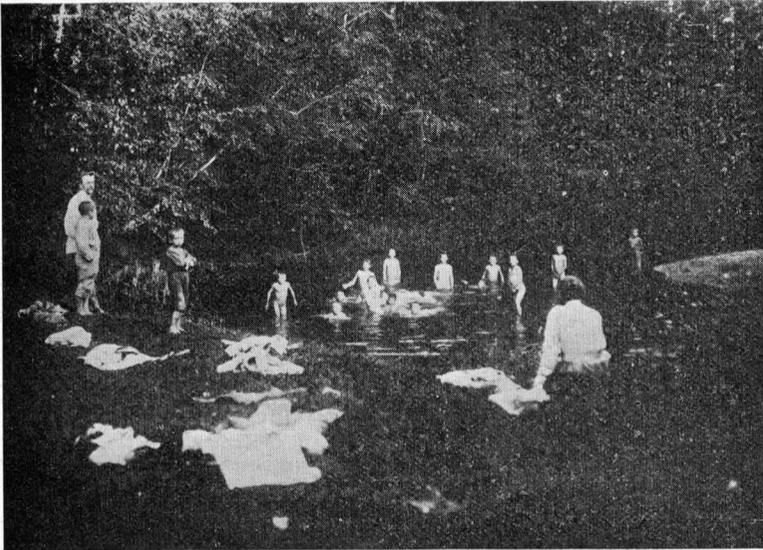
The question of recognition of Russia is of vital importance and as this magazine intends to make an issue of that question, full support is desired from all who are interested.

How can you help us?—First, sign the coupon printed elsewhere in this magazine; second, get others to sign it; third, get subscriptions, and fourth, order a bundle to sell to your friends or place on the newsstands.

The future of Soviet Russia Pictorial depends upon you and the interest you can help create. *Recognition of Soviet Russia is the slogan*,—help to pass it along.



Children's Home "Lenin" in Orenburg.

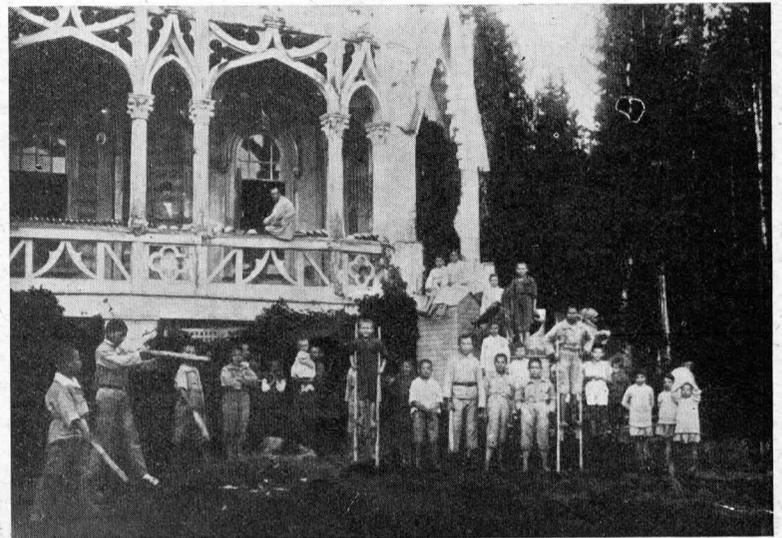


"Lenin" Home Children bathing in River.

under the Tsar's tyranny, were more shy and reserved. All of them, however, seemed happy and healthy under the regime of mingled work and play and study that prevails in all the Russian children's homes.

Kazan was one of the most exposed outposts of the Revolution. It was taken by the Czecho-Slovaks and Whites in the late summer of 1918, one of the most critical periods in the life of the Soviet Republic. It was retaken soon afterwards by the Red Army under the personal command of Trotzky himself. While in Kazan I heard many stories of the reckless courage which Trotzky displayed in directing the military operations at that time. The city shows traces of desperate fighting. Many houses are

Kolchak, not with lies of the official anti-Soviet propaganda, but with the great-hearted leader of the American working-class who went to prison because he hated war and imperialism and who stood by the Russian Workers' Republic from the moment when it was born. As I left the Colony, after a visit that was all too short, I had one dominant wish: that Debs himself might some day visit the little chil-



Children Playing in Front of "Lenin" Home.

*) In our former issue we reproduced pictures presenting the Debs Colony.

Women in Soviet Russia

THE Russian trade unions are making a determined effort to attract women workers to join unions and take an active part in their work. This work has, on the whole, been meeting with success, as the reports of the following unions indicate:

Textile Workers: 55% of the members of the textile unions are women; special women organizers have been appointed in 19 provincial departments. The women are fairly active in the general work of the union—at delegate meetings 40% are women; in the administrative sections of the factory committees 22.6% are women; in the executive committees of the provincial sections 14.8% are women. During 1922 the proportion of women participating in conferences and provincial congresses was 25.1%.

Besides general relief measures, the local branches have established special workrooms for women unemployed, who comprise almost 80% of the total unemployed members. The women's wages are being raised gradually to the level of the men's.

Water Transport Workers: 9.5% of the total trade union members are women. The different conditions under which water transport workers have to work in different river systems have led to a variety of methods employed in attracting women to do work in the union; successful work has been done on the Northern Dvina and its tributaries in the Archangel area. As a considerable proportion of the women are unskilled, the regional union committees are endeavoring to replace some of these unskilled women by men, transferring the women to lighter tasks, or to the newly opened trade technical courses and schools, thus raising their standard of training.

Chemical Workers: 30% of those employed are women. Trade union work has been very successful. Special conferences have been organized to discuss women's conditions; the proportion of women taking part in union work is rising steadily.



ALEXANDRA KOLLONTAI
Soviet Representative in Norway.*

The First Woman Ambassador

(In his impressions of Russia Hulet M. Wells, Seattle labor leader, expressed in the following way his admiration for Alexandra Kollontai.)

What a remarkable type is Kollontai! No portrait of her would be in a familiar setting apart from the foot-lights. She is a born actress and orator. How young she looks! Without apparent effort her musical voice fills the auditorium. She holds her hearers' fixed attention, perhaps as much by her graceful manner as by her words. She makes a speech in one language and translates it into two others.

I recalled her visit to Seattle years ago, and she professed to remember us all very well. When I told how our capitalist press had charged her with being bought by German gold, she laughed and said that she had been bought and sold so often in the capitalist press that her total price was now a very large sum.

I asked her if she was going to visit us again, and she replied that none of

the capitalist countries seemed to want her now. I did not ask her how she kept so young, but a Polish girl I knew said she asked that question, and Kollontai answered that she was always so busy that she never found time to grow old. I suppose she had been asked the same question and answered it the same way many times.

Women in Russian Soviets

How the Russian woman begins to play more and more a part as a delegate to the Soviets is shown by the following statistics:

In 1921 there were three hundred peasant women elected to the Soviets of fourteen provinces.

In 1922 there were in twenty provinces, 7,221 peasant women members of Soviets. It suffices to state that in the province of Voronezh in 1922, 53,000 peasant women took part in the elections.

There are now 22,733 women who are delegates of forty-seven provinces of Russia.

If we consider that every assembly of delegates has from thirty-five to seventy peasant women we can form an idea how far the organization of the peasant women has progressed in Russia.

THE TRACTOR DRIVE

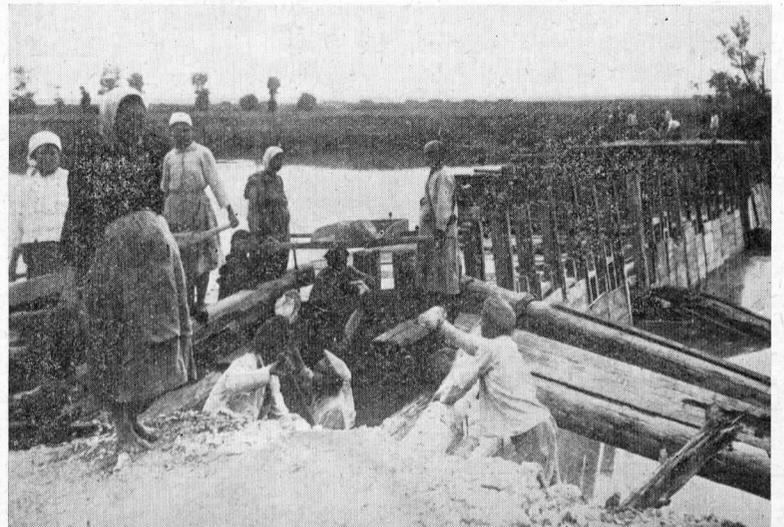
THE second contest ended October 1, 1923.

As we go to press the status of the contestants has not yet been ascertained. The next issue will carry a report.

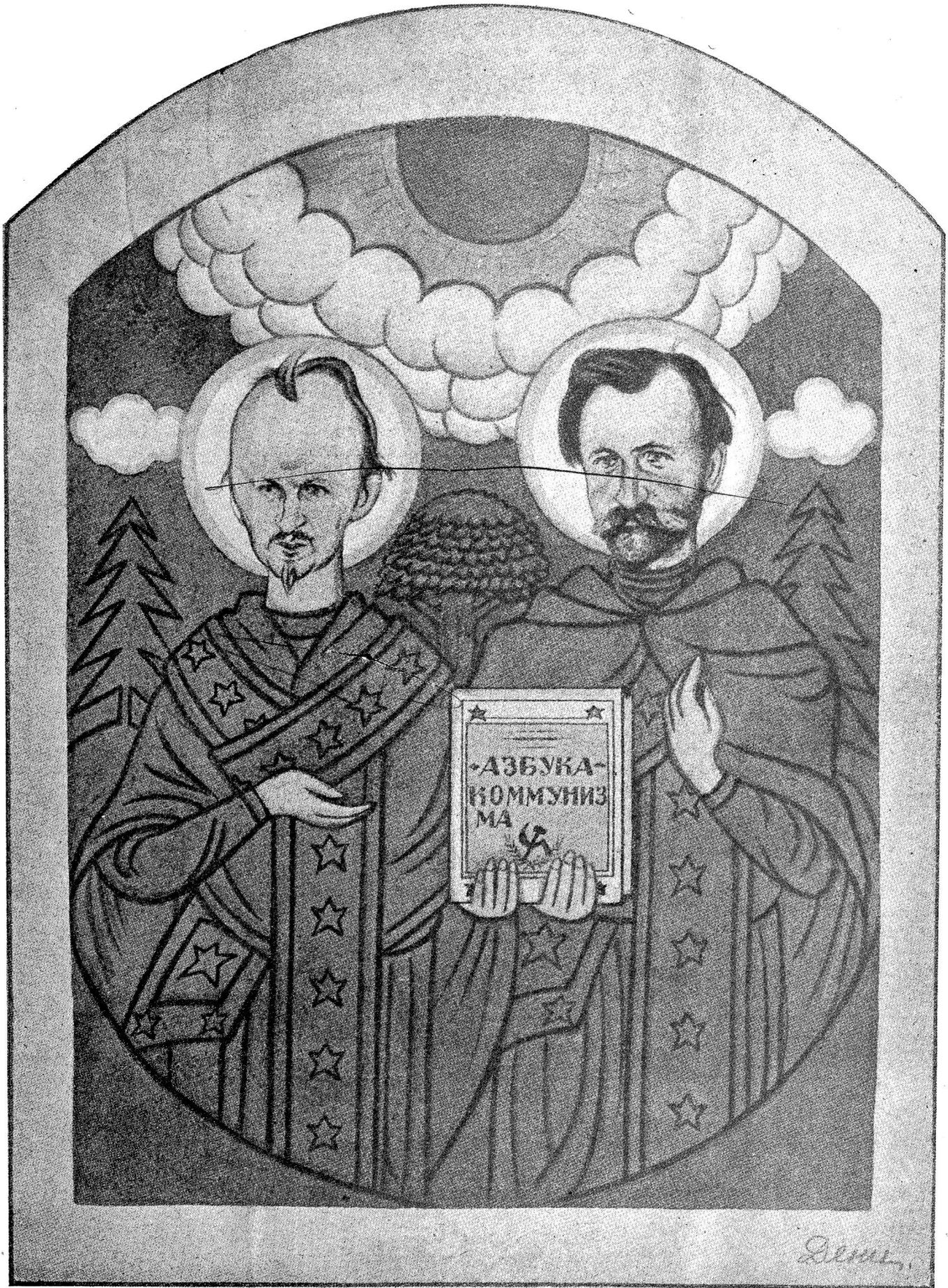
John T. Taylor, President of the Detroit Federation of Labor, who won the free trip to Russia in the first contest, is sailing to Russia by the end of September, as soon as he has made his arrangements for the trip.



Moscow Home for Mothers and Babies.



Women Doing Men's Work of Reconstruction at Equal Pay.



Cyril and Methodius--A Friendly Caricature

Russia's most brilliant cartoonist, Deni, contributed this drawing to the Moscow illustrated monthly "Projector" ("Searchlight"), edited by Bukharin. It presents the two Russian Communist theorists, N. Bukarin and E. Preobrazhensky—authors of the "ABC of Communism"—in a Byzantine setting as the two Slavic Apostles Cyril and Methodius—the founders of the Christian Church in Russia, holding their famous pamphlet.

Why I Voted for Russian Recognition

By DANIEL R. DONOVAN

(We received the following letter from a worker who has been active for years in the Trade Union movement. We are convinced that it will be of interest to our readers and hope its publication will encourage other militant workers to express their opinion on the same subject.)

IN a communication from you dated August 22nd, you request a short statement from me giving my reasons for supporting the "Recognition of Soviet Russia" resolution at the Massachusetts Federation of Labor held at Worcester during August.

The resolution, in the face of bitterly hostile opposition on the part of the Chairman of the Resolution Committee, (who is also the personal representative of Mr. Samuel Gompers), a lack of preparation on our part for its forceable presentation and the usual apathy which comes towards the end of a long session of tiresome speech-making, was supported by 26 delegates on a standing vote. Under the circumstances the result was not without hope.

My reasons for advocating recognition of Soviet Russia in the interests of the American workers are:

1. Adherence to the principle of working-class unity, which the trade union movement of the world endorses either expressly or by implication, compels support of the struggle of the Russian workers in their endeavor to maintain a workers' government against the forces of International Capitalism.

2. The present position of organized labor in America, beset as it is by reactionary forces, needs the moral stimulus of a successful, free-functioning, Workers' Republic in Russia.

3. The material interests of American labor are involved in the establishment of trade relations with the Russian people. An enormous field for development will be opened eventually, if not immediately. This is conceded even by unfriendly critics of Soviet Russia.

American workers would partake of the increased business activity resulting.

4. The stability of the present Russian Government according to practically unanimous opinion is assured.

The immediate recognition of Soviet Russia would hasten Russian and world reconstruction. The denial of recognition by the United States, by retarding reconstruction will prolong suffering throughout the world, but will not change the form of government in Russia or affect those policies which have aroused the opposition of the United States Government at Washington and the officials of the American Federation of Labor.

5. United States Senators and Congressmen to whom the American Federation of Labor gave its political support and was instrumental in electing to office, are almost without exception favorable to recognition of Soviet Russia.

In my opinion the American worker in the interest of world peace, of a nobler future for humanity and of his own individual welfare, should work towards the recognition of the Workers' Republic of Russia. Whatever differences we may have regarding the tactics of the revolution, the American worker should concede—and I believe that he does very generally concede—that the rise of the Workers' Republic in Russia has been a hope-inspiring event in the world.

Let us strengthen the hand that has raised the light in Darkest Russia.

As the light grows it will illumine the pathway of the workers of America and the world.

European Labor and Soviet Russia

IT IS well known that the majority of trade union leaders in Europe concur with their Governments in their hatred for Soviet Russia. This is shown by their periodical refusal to admit Russian unions to the international congresses of the various industrial unions. A breach in this time-honored custom was made recently by the International Federation of Transport Workers, whose secretary, Edo Fimmen, has come out openly in favor of Soviet Russia.

Now his example was followed by O'Grady, Secretary of the International Federation of General Laborers and Labor member of the British Parliament. He came out in favor of the admission of the Russian chemical workers in spite of their affiliation with the Red Trade Union International and wrote to the "London Daily Herald" a letter in which he declared that the Western European Trade Unions should learn first of all that Russia has carried out a victorious revolution against a political and economic system which had kept the population for centuries in slavery, and that in the course of this upheaval every trace of that old system has been swept away. And he added that in spite of the partial retreat which the Russian government was forced to effect, the changes achieved in Russia will influence the political and industrial system of the whole world. For this reason he deems it the duty of the labor movement to collaborate in this forthcoming change without any bias against Russia.

How differently this sounds from the usual pronouncements of American labor leaders!

Can the millions of American workers and farmers afford to remain silent when Russia needs the goods you produce? Your first duty is to demand the recognition of Soviet Russia by signing the coupon below and mailing it to the office of the Soviet Russia Pictorial.

The undersigned is in favor of recognition of Russia by the United States Government. I (We) disagree with the letter of Secretary of State Hughes to Samuel Gompers, and further declare that Mr. Gompers expresses only the opinion of the bureaucracy of the labor movement and not the labor movement itself. Likewise Mr. Hughes speaks only for American plutocracy and not for the American people.

I am in favor of recognition of Soviet Russia.

Name.....

Occupation.....

Union affiliation.....

Address.....

The following union or organization is in favor of recognition of Soviet Russia:

Name.....

Secretary.....

Address.....

The reasons why I am in favor of recognizing Soviet Russia are as follows:

.....
.....
.....

Russia's Foreign Trade

SOME time ago a building concession was granted to a British firm in Moscow. The Russian Trade Delegation in London has recently received the following letter from the Hon. R. Cripps, who is in charge of the firm's activities in Moscow:—

Moscow, July 14, 1923.

Dear Mr. Klishko:

I understand that several inquiries have been made through the Russian Delegation in London about my building concessions and construction work here in Moscow.

Perhaps you will be good enough to inform them that so far as my relations with the Moscow Soviet are concerned, I have been at all time perfectly satisfied on my side.

So far as the work directly is concerned, I regard the prospects as distinctly promising, and I have sufficient work in hand to keep me fully occupied for some time to come. I am now constructing a hotel, which, I hope, will be completed before the end of this year.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed)
R. Cripps.

This letter provides an effective answer to those who proclaim that trade with Russia is impossible under present conditions.

American Capital in Russia

Mr. G. Hammer, director of the Allied American Corporation, has made the following statement to the press: "The work of our Corporation has increased considerably during the last few months. We have concluded an agreement with the People's Commissariat for Foreign Trade, giving us the right to import annually goods to a value not exceeding 2,400,000 gold roubles, principally machines and mining requirements. There is no limit to our export operations, but, by the agreement, we must export yearly not less than 2,400,000 gold roubles' worth of goods.

With regard to our concession for the asbestos deposits at Alapaevsk, I can state that the production program of 100,000 poods of asbestos for the current year will be carried out completely. Next year our program will be increased to 160,000 poods, and we

shall continue to increase it by 50,000 poods a year. We have so far exported 14,000 poods of asbestos and have a large quantity ready for shipment.

Relations with the labor organizations—the trade union and the works committee—are quite satisfactory, as we have been carrying out to the letter all the obligations of the collective agreement signed with them.

The experience of our Corporation's work is the best possible proof that it is quite possible for foreigners to work in Russia at the present time, and I am sure that in the near future foreigners, and particularly Americans, will play a much greater part in Russian industry.

grain prices ruling on the Rotterdam Corn Exchange, less the cost of freightage.

The concessionaire is liable to the food tax and cartage tax and all other general taxes. He must pay customs duties, except for goods imported under Government control for the needs of his enterprise, according to the plan established. He is subject to all the laws and regulations of the Soviet Government, including the Labor laws.

At the expiry of the term of the concession, all enterprises must be handed over to the Government in proper working order, with all proper equipment, based on the average amount and quality of the equipment during the twelfth to the eighteenth year from the commencement of the contract. After twelve years from the commencement of the concession the Government has the right to acquire the concession by purchase.

Rights of Foreign Citizens

(From the decree of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee bringing into force the Civil Code):

8. The rights of citizens of foreign States, with which the R.S.F.S.R. has entered into definite agreements, shall be regulated in accordance with these agreements.

In so far as the rights of foreigners are not provided for in the agreements with the States concerned, or by special legislation, their rights to freedom of movement, throughout the territory of the R. S. F. S. R., choice of occupation, establishment and acquisition of trading or industrial enterprises, acquisition of real rights in buildings and land, may be restricted by decisions of the corresponding central departments of the government of the R. S. F. S. R., in agreement with the People's Commissariat for Foreign Affairs.

NOTE 1.—Foreign share companies, firms, etc., acquire the rights of legal persons in the R.S.F.S.R. only on the basis of special decisions of the Government.

NOTE 2.—Foreign legal persons not authorized to conduct business in the R.S.F.S.R. have the right to legal enforcement in the R.S.F.S.R. of claims arising outside the territory of the R.S.F.S.R. and relating to respondents resident within its territory, but only on the basis of reciprocity.

From the Civil Code on Personal Rights:
17. In foreign trade transactions all legal or physical persons domiciled in the R.S.F.S.R. can act only through the medium of the State as represented in the People's Commissariat for Foreign Trade. The independent conduct of business on foreign markets is only permitted in cases specially sanctioned by law, and only under the control of the People's Commissariat for Foreign Trade.

RUSSIAN TERRITORY COMPARED WITH THE UNITED STATES



The Krupp Concession

On January 16, 1923, the Council of People's Commissaries ratified the amended contract with the German firm of Krupp, conferring one of the most important concessions the Soviet Government has yet granted. The firm acquires the right to exploitation of 25,000 dessiatines (roughly 67,500 acres) of virgin land in the Saalsk district in the Don province, for grain cultivation on modern lines. The concessionaire agrees to cultivate a minimum of 1,400 dessiatines in the first two years, increasing the area of cultivation by fixed additions to 23,500 dessiatines at the end of six years; the lease dues will be collected on the area of cultivation provided for in the programme, even if from any cause this programme has not been duly carried out.

The lease dues are levied at the rate of 17½ per cent. of the total harvest delivered free on rail to the nearest railway station. The Russian Government reserves the right to purchase the remainder of the harvest at current

Friends of Soviet Russia Activities

The Fifth Year

THE first few showings of "The Fifth Year", the magnificent Russian movie, arranged by the New York local of the Friends of Soviet Russia, created a sensation beyond their expectations. For four days in succession the Labor Temple was besieged by thousands of people trying in vain to gain admission into an already overcrowded house, while the hundreds of lucky ones inside were enthusiastically cheering and applauding the great accomplishments of the first Workers' Republic.

In order to satisfy the great demand of the people, the New York local Friends of Soviet Russia has already made arrangements for a dozen or more showings in New York and vicinity.

Arrangements are being made by the National Office to have this picture shown in over 100 cities throughout the United States. Fifty showings have been booked already for the latter part of September and the whole month of October.

All proceeds of this picture will go to the Russian orphan homes maintained by the Friends of Soviet Russia.

Thanking the F. S. R.

The Samara District Section for People's Education has sent the following letter of thanks to the Friends of Soviet Russia:

Friends of Soviet Russia,
201 West 13th Street,
New York, N. Y.

The Samara District for People's Education expresses, in the name of thousands of Samara children, its deepfelt gratitude to the American people for the relief which the latter rendered to them through the Samara section of the International Workers' Relief Committee.

Your children's relief is very significant and important. Therefore, in spite of prospects for a good harvest, we can't do without your help. Too many bad consequences have been left

from this last famine. The number of hungry, neglected and naked children is still enormous and your relief is absolutely necessary.

Once again we express our sincere gratitude with the hope that in the future you will not cease to give help to the children of the Samara district.

The Samara district section for people's education. Sutchkov.

Plenipotentiary of the Samara district for Children's relief. (Signature.)

Representative of the RSFSR government at foreign Russian relief organizations. Karklin.

From the same district we received also a letter from the Secretary of the International Workers' Relief Committee. That Committee is feeding 1,550 children in the Samara district—the district that has suffered most from the famine. It conveys to us its thanks for the food and for the three carloads of clothing sent by our organization.

Donation of a Russian Priest

We have received the following letter from Rev. Paul Shadura, Russian Orthodox Priest, in Kenai, Alaska:

August 19, 1923.

Dear Friends of Soviet Russia:

I am enclosing herewith \$25.00 for the following purpose: \$12.50 for Russian orphans and \$12.50 for tractors to help Russian peasants.

Yours truly,

Rev. Paul Shadura.

Chicago House-to-House Canvass

The Chicago branch of the Friends of Soviet Russia started in August a house to house canvass in connection with the tractor drive. The collection undertaken in one of the working-class sections of the city by a small group of comrades, realized an amount of about \$450.00.

The branch is also selling twenty-five cent stamps in connection with this drive. Other locals can do something similar.

Answering Attacks

We have received the following letter from Mr. Roger N. Baldwin, Director of the American Civic Liberties Union:

To the Friends of Soviet Russia:

In response to your request for a statement in answer to the attack on your work in the Jewish Daily Forward, New York City, August 9th, let me state the following facts which ought to answer the charges fully to any fair minded person. I give them as chairman of the investigating committee which went into this whole matter a year ago.

1. The Forward repeats its old charge that the Friends used "a big portion, if not all, of the \$1,500,000" they raised for famine relief for "secret and open support of an army of Communist agitators and propagandists." That charge is wholly without foundation. Not a dollar was used for that purpose. The only criticism which could be fairly made is that many representatives of the Friends of Soviet Russia were also Workers' Party members and engaged in Communist Party activities in the time they were not actually on the famine relief job. The investigating committee itself criticized this confusion of relief and political activities and we understand that shortly after agents of the organization were required to desist from political activities while in the actual employ of the organization. The investigating committee indeed traced most of the charges to the "confusion which resulted from appointing leaders in the Workers' Party as organizers for the Friends of Soviet Russia and to allowing them to engage in political activities." It is preposterous, however, to suggest that famine relief funds were diverted to these activities.

2. The Forward again charges that the investigating committee was appointed by the Friends of Soviet Russia from among its "own people". That charge is without justification except for the single fact that the accountant of the organization was originally appointed on the committee but at once resigned when the propriety of that appointment was ques-

(Continued on page 225.)



F. S. R. Militants of Yonkers, N. Y.



Detroit Branch of F. S. R. Workers.

Helping the Workers' Republic

The famine in its literal meaning is over. Men, women and children do not die any longer of starvation, and the famine relief activities, except in certain definite sections, have been discontinued.

But a new famine is on. True, it is not as heartbreaking, as full of immediate appeal as that of 1921-1922. From a larger viewpoint, however, this new famine is not less pregnant with tragic consequences.

The situation of the Russian workers and peasants has noticeably improved in comparison to what it was during the civil war. But the destruction wrought during the long years of war, revolution and intervention, coupled with the primitive condition of Russian agriculture, its lack of industrial and agricultural machinery and general low standard of technical education—makes for Russia's poverty in spite of the riches that are buried in her soil.

Russia's other famine, that is her lack of modern machinery, her lack of efficient industrial methods, can be only remedied by improving her agriculture. Here is the real gold mine that will enable the Workers' Republic to make her big start on the road of industrial development, on the road of efficient exploitation of her natural resources, on the road of securing a really human living to her toilers.

But to improve her agriculture, tractors are necessary, tractors that will force the soil to render ten times as much as heretofore, and enable Russia to buy with the produce all the machinery and equipment necessary for the reorganization of her industry.

Russia has not gold enough to buy all the tractors she needs. It devolves upon us to help her out with our pennies and dollars and to collect enthusiastically during the winter as much as we can so as to be able to send a large shipment of tractors in the spring—ready for operation for the next harvest.

Tractors in the Urals

We have just received No. 164 of the "Ural Worker" of July 22, 1923, which brings an enthusiastic report on the activities of the tractor group composed of twenty units that started its work on July 10 on the Soviet estates of the Kuyashko-Motlinsk group of the Yekaterinburg province. The "Ural Worker" expects the rejuvenation of Russia from the extension of the tractor activities.

The International Workers' Relief Committee in Berlin, with which the Friends of Soviet Russia is affiliated as its American branch, has received the following letter of thanks:

"In the name of the pupils as well as of the entire teaching personnel of the free school community 'Peretz' in Yusovka, we beg to express our heartfelt thanks to the International Workers' Relief for the foodstuffs and clothes sent us. We would be very grateful if your organization would continue to grant us its help."

"Stop Thief!"

The Jewish press has recently brought to light facts on the "Jewish People's Relief," an organization sponsored by the "Forward," which explains the persistent campaign conducted by that publication against the Friends of Soviet Russia. It appears, according to the "Day" and the "Freiheit" that for every hundred dollars



Czecho-Slovak Taggers in Chicago at work for "Cannons or Tractors" drive.

which the People's Relief Committee collected, it spent over eighty-four dollars on "expenses" and salaries, the manager treating himself generously to *over hundred dollars a week*.

Thus it was not only hatred for Soviet Russia that prompted those attacks of that "socialist" paper. It was the old "stop thief" trick—pure and simple.

In this connection we may mention that some time ago it has come to light that an organization calling itself the "Russian Relief Forwarders, Inc." collected hundreds of dollars from Russians in America, promising to ship clothing to Russia. After collecting the money for shipment, in some instances as high as fifty dollars per family, the goods were not shipped. Mr. Cahan, hater of Soviet Russia, and

editor of the Jewish Daily *Forward*, sold advertising space in his publication to these schemers, while refusing to accept ads from the F. S. R. Before attempting another editorial attack on the F. S. R., as he has in the past, Mr. Cahan had better explain to the hundreds of Jewish workers who sent packages through these "Relief Forwarders" why he accepted their ads and refused ads from the F. S. R.

Mr. Baldwin's Letter

(Continued from page 224.)

tioned. Of the five members who served none was or has been a member of the Workers' Party or of the Friends of Soviet Russia. One of the members of the committee, Mr. Walter Nelles, refrained from signing the report because after his appointment his law partner had become attorney for the Friends of Soviet Russia. The other members were Timothy D. Healy, President of the Stationary Firemen's Union, Prof. Robert Morss Lovett of the New Republic and the University of Chicago, Norman M. Thomas of the League for Industrial Democracy and myself.

3. It is charged "that the daily newspapers receiving paid advertisements were Communist organs". That is true, but the report showed that Communist papers as a whole did not get an undue proportion of the advertising. Of \$17,000 spent for that purpose, less than \$5,000 went to Communist papers.

4. The *Forward* again says that this committee "confirmed the greater part of our accusations". The committee reported the precise contrary. It said, "In general the committee finds that the charges are not borne out by the facts, although it is perfectly clear to any one who looks at the letterhead of the Friends of Soviet Russia that it is pro-Soviet and controlled by the members of the Workers' Party. The nature of the Friends of Soviet Russia has been so clear all along that anyone who objected to giving to an organization friendly to the Russian government could easily have gotten the facts. Its work has been conducted with real and sincere minded devotion to the cause of famine relief."

WARNING

From Denver, Colorado, we received the communication that an individual calling himself Alex Passo (he has probably changed his name since) has obtained some money from some gullible comrades on the pretext that he was on a secret mission for the Soviet Government and claiming that he had a bar of gold but was afraid to cash same.

He is well dressed, of medium height, of dark complexion and claims he speaks only Russian and Polish. He claimed to be on his way to Chicago.

In this connection we wish to warn our comrades that anybody who pretends to be on a secret mission from the Soviet Government is an impudent faker.

Russia in American News

Senator La Follette in Russia

According to newspaper reports, Senator La Follette was in Moscow at the beginning of September; he had conferences with Commissar of Foreign Affairs Chicherin, with Commissar of Foreign Trade Krassin and other leading personalities in Russia. Senator La Follette is known as an advocate of Russian recognition.

Senator Brookhart on Recognition and "Propaganda"

In a statement published in the Iowa "Legionnaire", organ of the Iowa Department of the American Legion, Senator Brookhart declared that he advocated Russian recognition because it might help restore world prosperity and eliminate world unrest.

Referring to the argument of "propaganda", he declared that "Russia's propaganda against the United States is dead. It never was one-tenth part of what we put out against them."

He further declared that "the present Government is largely a labor Government, though the voice of the peasant grows stronger in it every day. This unites the vast majority of the people in its support".

"Communism Dead in Russia"

Upon his return from Russia, Colonel Haskell, who for two years had charge of the American Relief Administration in Russia, made a report concerning his activities. In this report we read the remark that "Communism is dead and abandoned, and Russia is on the road to recovery".

We suspect that the new President either did not read or did not believe this report, for shortly afterwards the newspapers reported from the White House that Russia has no chances of recognition as long as she has not "definitely discarded the Communist doctrines of the Bolsheviks".

American Banker on Russian Revival

Mr. F. Sisson, Vice-President of the Guarantee Trust Company of New York, recently visited Russia. After leaving that country and Central Europe, he stopped in Paris where he made an interesting statement as regards his European impressions. He declared that the progress made lately by Russia was the most interesting matter in present-day Europe, and added that the Russian government is well established and that the State Bank is operating with success. He noticed a general revival of business in Russia.

Sven Hedin on Recognition

The world-famous explorer Sven Hedin, now in San Francisco, expressed the opinion that Russia is on the road of recovery and that her recognition by other countries, especially by the United States is highly desirable.

American Commission in Russia

An unofficial American Commission, headed by the Senators King and Ladd and the Congressman Frear, has visited various parts of Russia, going as far as Cheliabinsk in the Urals on the border of Siberia. They studied the metal and mining industries; spoke with hundreds of peasants and visited the state model farm. Their reports upon their return will certainly be of great interest.

A Delicious Alliance

WHEN the November Revolution of 1917 proclaimed the rule of the workers all over Russia, the pink Socialists, then in influential in Georgia, a small but important province in Caucasia, on the Black Sea, declared their country independent—on the principle of "self-determination". They never thought of that principle before, and were ardent Russian patriots under the bourgeois democratic regime of Kerensky. The "independent" Menshevik republic soon became a base of operations for British interventionists and White counter-revolutionists directed against Red Russia. After the liquidation of the Civil War, the power of the Mensheviks was destroyed in Georgia, and that small people of about 1,500,000 became a member of the great Soviet family. It was a hard blow to the Menshevik jobholders—but still harder was the blow to England which intended to keep Georgia as a basis for bottling up the Russian oil outlet to the Black Sea and for the ultimate conquest of the Caucasian oil fields.

Disappointed, Menshevism and British imperialism found, however, a fearless champion in Mr. Philip Snowden, one of the main spokesmen of the Labor Party—yes, the Labor Party, in the British parliament. A short while ago this gentleman asked Mr. MacNeill, Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, if the British Government does not intend to demand the liberation of Georgia as a condition for the recognition of Soviet Russia. Mr. Snowden knows perfectly well that the "liberation of Georgia" means simply its deliverance to England, whose insistence upon the admission of its warships to the Black Sea is nothing but the first step in the achievement of its noble intentions directed against the Caucasus. For it was the same gentleman who a short while ago wrote that "so long as any imperialism exists whatever, the emancipation of India and other colonies will not signify the securing of their liberty, but would deliver them into the hands of other great powers lusting for power."

And this "labor" and "Socialist" champion of British expansion fulminates against Russian "imperialism!"

Revolutionary October Days

(Continued from page 211)

the political arena and ten months after the bloody Sunday of January, 1905, the general strike of October forced the Tsar's Government to issue the famous "Manifesto of October 17" (i. e. October 30) which marked the beginning of the constitutional era in Russia. It was also its end, and the power of the Tsar, in spite of the convocation of the various Dumas (parliamentary assemblies) remained practically unrestricted until the Revolution of 1917.

The following year, on October 2, 1906, the epilogue to the unsuccessful revolution of 1905 took place in the form of a trial of the leading figures of the Petrograd Soviet of Workers' Delegates, Leo Trotsky, Krustalev-Nossar and Avksentiev. They were sentenced to exile in Siberia and loss of their "rights". Krustalev-Nossar later turned out to be a "bad egg" in every respect and was shot in 1918 as a counter-revolutionist during the civil war, while Avksentiev is now the leader of the extreme right wing of the Social Revolutionists that collaborates with the openly bourgeois-capitalist party of the "Cadets."

The war of 1914 renewed the hopes of the Russian revolutionists and on October 8, 1917, we see Leo Trotsky elected as Chairman of the Petrograd Soviet of Workers and Soldiers Delegates. This election was a decisive indication that the Petrograd workers were finally through with Kerensky and the "bitter-enders" and an unmistakable foreboding of the coming triumph of the Bolshevik slogan "All power to the Soviets!"

Two years later, in October 1919, the Workers' Republic was passing the hardest moments of its existence. Yudenich had attacked from the north-west and was fast approaching Petrograd, while in the south Denikin was driving nearer and nearer to Moscow, having occupied Orel and menacing Tula, the only large ammunition center that was left the Soviet Republic. But in a last effort the Petrograd workers in the North and the "rough riders" of Budyonny's Red Cavalry in the South shattered the Whites to pieces and finally thwarted the attempts of Russian and foreign counter-revolutionists.

The days of October are marked with bloody letters in the hearts of all Russian revolutionists!

The Red Air Fleet

(Continued from page 217)

over Moscow: the "Bolshevik" and the "Moscow Soviet."

This is the quick and energetic answer of Russia to all threats and attacks. It should show also to the bourgeois states that the Soviet power is now more strongly entrenched than ever before and can start with full equanimity the development, on an extensive scale, of the national economy and the natural resources of her wide territories.

Books Reviewed

A WEEK, by Iuri Lebedinsky, translated from the Russian by Arthur Ransome. 220 pages. Published by B. W. Huebsch, New York, 1923.

FOR the first time the Russian Revolution is presented in the form of a novel, and in the personal life and tragic fate of individuals we see a reflection of the stormy waves of the great historical occurrence.

For the first time we become familiar with the pioneers of the New Russia and learn something about how they carried through the revolution; how they struggled and worked and sacrificed their lives—living for and in the revolution, almost forgetting and giving up their human desires and personal lives.

Only a small slice of the Revolution, but full of moving events and tragedies. Here are the various types—subordinating themselves—often reluctantly—to the inevitable and inexorable chain of events. How they live in the revolution with their very souls, or only participate in it as climbers—or traitors. They are all well characterized, vivid figures which become engraved in our memory, whom we do not forget and who together form a lively picture: Here is Martynov the bourgeois intellectual who has given up his comfortable bourgeois existence and personal happiness and has become a Communist with all his soul. Here is the other bourgeois, Matusenka, a typical bureaucrat who has put on Bolshevism like a new coat, just as before he carried the coat of the Tsar and to whom the new institutions and slogans are but new patterns without contents as formerly the bourgeois order under the Tsar. Matusenka, who in reality doesn't understand anything of the new order, but nevertheless in the presence of his superiors pretends to be interested and to understand; who is a grafter, lives in a cozy and comfortable home and is provided with the best food.

And then the other Bolsheviks—the revolutionists, whose life is the revolution, whose farewell word is "Work well" because they know that every parting may be the last. These clever workers who organize everywhere, who struggle courageously, who conquer all obstacles, these Klimin, Robeiko, Gornuikh, Ziman, Stalmakhov and the charming and courageous Simkova, who at the end of the week are practically all killed by the counter-revolutionists.

The plot turns around the question of how to mobilize the whole town, particularly the bourgeois elements, in order to fell wood in a nearby forest, for fuel is needed for the railroads in order to transport the seed grain without which the whole district would face famine and a revolt of the disappointed peasants.

The Red Army soldiers are also commanded for this work. Taking advantage of their absence the counter-revolutionists, the bourgeois and peasants prepare for an attack on the town. Many of the Communist leaders are killed before the Red Army men return, led by the old revolutionary Cossack Karaulov, and remain victorious.

Gornuikh, the one who, at the critical moment had mobilized the railroad workers and saved the railroad station, is elected by the Soviet meeting as the new Chairman. That meeting forms the concluding chapter of the book. Here are some of its passages:

"It was the first time in his life that Gornuikh had to preside over so large a meeting

. . . Gornuikh lost his head a little, did not know what to do, while the meeting, like a tamed beast of prey, lay submissively at his feet, grew quiet, and fixed its many-eyed gaze on him, its master. And instead of the common sentence, "I declare the meeting open" and the reading of the agenda for the day, from his tongue came other words, heavy and sharp, which entered into the consciousness of his audience, like nails into wood under the heavy blows of a hammer, words smelted and wrought by Gornuikh's strong judgment and determination during that critical week.

"Comrades, it will be more difficult for us now. . . . In the Executive Committee nine are left, in the Party Committee four workers. In the Politdep both the Chiefs are gone, and in the Tcheka the President, Vice-President and three workers. The centre cannot send us reinforcements. There is little to be hoped from it. And the work has now become more complex. It is not enough to get seed-corn. We must be ready for the sowing campaign and carry it through over the whole of our trackless country. And the bandits are still not finally liquidated. It amounts to this, that we must carry heavier loads. Take me for example. I am now acting as President. That is because we have no

Klimin, no Robeiko, no Simkova, who would carry these duties out better. . . . So it will be everywhere, we must take on our shoulders the work of those who have been killed. It will be hard, but, if we remember their example, we shall manage it. . . ."

DER BESTE FABRIKDIREKTOR (The Best Factory Manager.) by Frida Rubiner. 63 pages. Published by Karl Hoym, Nachf. Louis Cahnbley, Hamburg 8. 1923.

A very useful little book full of interesting information, which describes how, during the Revolution, the industrial establishments were taken over by the workers and how, after the destruction and disorganization caused by the Civil War, the industry was finally reconstructed and developed again by the workers themselves.

The contest started by the *Pravda*—on the subject, "Who is the best factory manager?" which led to the publication of a number of portraits of the best proletarian factory directors, is the point of departure of this book.

We see the development of the factories into small independent concerns with clubs, kindergartens, schools, children's homes, bakeries, stores, etc., which are kept by the factory itself so that the surplus which is realized goes into the pockets of the workers themselves.



RUSSIA, OLD AND NEW

Labor Progress in Russia

Moscow Labor Courts

IN the Moscow provincial court two chambers deal exclusively with labor affairs. The sessions open at ten in the morning, and the courts often sit till very late at night, sometimes even to four or five the following morning. The court works in three shifts; fifty cases or more being dealt with per day. The court is quite frankly on the side of the workers; it guards jealously the rights conferred on them by the labor legislation of the government. This is the more important in view of the fact that many of the Russian workers have been accustomed for so many years to receive only repression and wrongs from the Tsarist government, and have not yet grasped the full meaning of the new proletarian state. Thus, sometimes it happens that a worker comes to the court with a certain complaint. Having disposed of that, the court inquires:—

"Have you had such and such days off?" "No."

"Have you received compensation for working on your holidays?" "No."

"Have you been provided with such and such special clothing?" "No."

The worker now learns for the first time that he is entitled to all this, and the court helps him to obtain his due.

When a worker is dismissed without the allowances to which he is entitled, and without the necessary documents, he will often go time after time to the employer without receiving satisfaction. When, however, he appeals to the court, not only is the employer compelled to carry out his duties, but he is prosecuted for breaking the laws.

Trade Unions and Illiteracy

WHILE Tsarism had "put out the eyes" of the workers, i. e., kept them stagnant intellectually, Soviet Russia, through its labor unions is making a determined effort to stamp out all vestiges of illiteracy. Already illiteracy in the Red Army has been reduced to 5 per cent. Now the workers in the factories are being taught to read and write.

At the beginning of 1923 there were 2642 trade union schools for illiterates; the builders alone had 608 schools. The number of these schools has increased within the last few months. All energies of the builders are being turned to the task of stamping out all illiteracy by the end of this year; they have 17 schools for illiterates in Moscow alone.

The chemical workers announce that 15% of their 150,000 members are illiterate; they have fixed January 1, 1924, as the date for completely stamping out illiteracy. In Moscow alone they have 58 schools for illiterates.

The postal and telegraph workers have completed their work in this direction last year; only a few very old men or a new member here and there are illiterate.

Education is the hope of Russia.

Life in Soviet Russia

IN EVERY industrial plant there is a commission composed of the same number of representatives from the workers and from the management. This commission settles all the controversies concerning wages and piece work payment. The representatives of the workers on that commission are responsible to the shop committee and may be recalled at any moment. The shop committee is under the strict control of the trade unions. Every worker who is dissatisfied with the decision of the wages' commission may appeal to the trade union for mediation.

Collective wage agreements are generally in use. Every six or three months the wage agreements are renewed through negotiations between the managing board (the directors are almost exclusively former workers, old comrades and trade unionists) and the trade unions. It is a matter of course that during those negotiations the parties take into consideration what is economically possible. In case of controversies, which of course occur often, the decision is made by a court of arbitration. These arbitration courts are called by the Commissariat of Labor but only in the case when the trade union asks for it. The managers of the establishments and the private employers cannot call them. If the trade unions do not want an arbitration court, they still have the right to strike at any time, but this practically never occurs in state enterprises. Private employers are absolutely unable to resort to lock-outs, as they can be forced at any time by the arbitration court to recognize unconditionally the wages fixed by it.

A New Agricultural Concession

The Council of People's Commissaries has ratified the concession agreement with the German Volga Agricultural Bank, the head office of which will be established in the town of Pokrovsk on the Volga. The main provisions of this concession agreement are as follows:

The Government of the R.S.F.S.R. grants the German Volga Agricultural Bank 270,000 acres, situated in the Fedorovsk, Krasnokutsk, and Palasovsk cantons of the German Voga Commune, for the organization of agricultural enterprises for a period of thirty-six years. The concessionaire undertakes to exploit this land in accordance with modern agricultural practice. The concessionaire must, within the course of four years, bring under tillage twenty-five per cent of the total arable land, and within the course of the next six years the rest of the seventy-five per cent must be brought under tillage. The concessionaire is empowered to sublet portions of the land granted to him, but only with the special sanction, in each individual case, of the Russian Government, and on conditions approved by the latter. For land exploited directly by the concessionaire, the latter will pay the single agricultural tax as by law es-

tablished. But for land sublet by them the concessionaire must pay from twenty-five to seventy-five per cent of the rental obtained by him to the Government, as well as any State and local taxes other than the agricultural tax.

Disputes arising out of the interpretation or application of the agreement are to be referred to an arbitration commission specially appointed for that purpose, and consisting of an equal number of representatives of both sides with a chairman elected by mutual consent. In all its activities the German Volga Agricultural Bank is to be subject to all the laws of the R.S.F.S.R.; in particular it must observe strictly all the decrees and legislation relating to the methods of engaging workers and employes, the protection of labor, and social insurance.

Russian Finances

(From an article by Fridtjof Nansen, in the "New Republic.")

The most important of the efforts made in Russia to secure a sound financial organization is that made by the Soviet government through the state bank, which has more than 170 branches in all the important towns and correspondents in many of the smaller ones. It undertakes all funds in Russia and from abroad to Russia, and if the senders do not specify to the contrary, pays in foreign currency all transfers of dollars or sterling, so that the recipients do not incur loss through the decline in Soviet roubles. It shows great caution in furnishing industry and agriculture with credit, financing no undertakings which run at a loss. As part of what the public pays for state administration is paid in gold, the steady decline in roubles will not inflict such large losses on the government.

American Exhibits in Moscow

The American Scientific Educational Department is exhibiting the work of various agricultural colleges. These include Cornell—scientific farming and the nourishment of plants; Massachusetts—agricultural education and housing; New Brunswick—manure; and Pennsylvania—vegetable garden plants. The Universal Agricultural Society is exhibiting the periodicals of different institutions connected with afforestation, dairy farming, cattle breeding, and bee-culture. The exhibits consist of large photographs, maps, models, books, and samples. Exhibits in the form of publications are also being sent from Colorado, New Hampshire, and Pullmana (Washington). The State governments of Wisconsin and Michigan are also taking part in the Exhibition.

The American Chamber of Commerce of Harbin is sending to the Moscow Exhibition a special train of twenty-one carriages containing exhibits of different well-known American firms, including the Standard Oil Co.; Dupont de Nemur (gunpowder and chemicals); the International Harvester Co.; the Singer Sewing Machine Co.; and Baldwin's Steam and Internal Combustion Engines. Exhibitors are also installing a model repairing workshop, a cinema with films illustrating agricultural work, etc.

Financial Statement of the Friends of Soviet Russia

National Office, 32 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

For the Fiscal Year—August 9, 1921 to July 31, 1923

Statement "A"

The INCOME of the National Office is received chiefly from F.S.R. Locals and other Workers' Organizations. Receipts are issued for income received and published in detail.

For the first fiscal year, ended July 31, 1922, there was received and reported. Receipt Nos. 1 to 12,115. \$734,922.70

For the second fiscal year, Receipt Nos. 12,116 to 22,230 have been reported in detail, a total of. 154,237.87

For July 1923, the last month of the second fiscal year Receipt Nos. 22,231 to 22,720 are published in detail in "Soviet Russia Pictorial," Sept. 1923. 8,275.05

Through American Federated Russian Famine Relief Committee, as reported in detail. 44,876.63

Total Received and Acknowledged \$942,312.25

The above income was deposited in a bank account and before it was withdrawn for relief there was received INTEREST amounting to:

For the first fiscal year. 878.96
 For the second fiscal year. 438.24
 Through A.F.R.F.R.C. 442.24

Making a Total of. \$944,071.69

From which is DEDUCTED the following:

For the first fiscal year, previously detailed. \$5,448.01

For the second fiscal year:

- (1) Lost through burglary: Contributions previously detailed \$166.10
- (2) Bank Charges 17.27
- (3) Error, Receipt No. 17,099. 3.00
- (4) Official Organ Subscriptions formerly as contributions 30.00
- (5) War Savings Stamps, legal fees. 15.00
- (6) Checks returned by bank: Receipt Nos. 19,540 and 19,848. 7.00
- (7) Local Movie Charges 151.50
- (8) Loss on Busts purchased for sale. 4.12
- (9) Loss on Books purchased for sale. 975.54
- (10) Advances to Locals not repaid 485.00
- (11) Cost of Acquiring Toys 1,788.81
- (12) Cost of Selling Toys 2,145.32

\$5,788.66

Adjustments to prior year, credit. 72.46

Leaving INCOME RECEIVED by National Office. \$932,907.48

BUSINESS OFFICE EXPENSES:

In order to carry on the work of receiving funds, valuables, and clothes, making appeals and spending money for relief and aid, the National Office needs a secretary, office employees and a business office. The expenses paid for these needs are:

For the first fiscal year, previously detailed. 29,222.40
 For the second fiscal year, detailed in Statement "B" below 27,374.50
 A.F.R.F.R.C. previously detailed 6,659.71

Leaving INCOME LESS BUSINESS OFFICES EXPENSES \$869,650.87

FOOD DRAFT & PACKAGE DEPARTMENT DIRECT EXPENSES:

For second fiscal year:

- Publicity \$2,279.77
- Administrative 1,724.07
- Warehouse and Shipping 1,875.37

\$5,879.41

Less Percentage of food draft receipts:
 Applied toward expenses \$40.50
 Cost and Expenses—received for packages 1,414.65

1,455.15

4,424.06

Leaving INCOME LESS OVERHEAD. \$865,226.81

Part of this amount was used for PUBLICITY AND APPEAL EXPENSES:

- (a) In raising the total income.
- (b) In collecting clothes.
- (c) In aiding Soviet Russia by the dissemination of friendly information and by other friendly acts.

In order to assist Locals and other Workers' organizations in these purposes the National office sent speakers and films throughout the country, published advertisements and literature and furnished supplies. The amount of money which the National Office spent for these purposes is explained in detail in statements herewith referred to. The National Office could charge much of this amount to Locals, making them pay for speakers' services and expenses and for literature distributed in their territory, although that would mean a lot more office work, more bookkeeping. Instead of that these expenses are deducted from the amount which is sent in by Locals and other Workers' organizations in order to show how much the income received by the National Office amounts to after the deduction of all expenses, including the cost of friendly acts, whether paid by Locals or by the National Office; thus:

Publicity & Appeal Expenses paid by National Office::

For first fiscal year, previously detailed \$93,888.71
 For second fiscal year, detailed in Statement "C" below 79,347.51
 Through A.F.R.F.R.C. previously detailed 21,117.63

Leaving a Balance AVAILABLE FOR MATERIAL RELIEF OF SOVIET RUSSIA of \$670,872.96

Arising from:

- First fiscal year \$607,2422.54
- Second fiscal year 46,088.89
- Through A.F.R.F.R.C. 17,541.53

670,872.96

Most of this amount has already been SPENT FOR RELIEF as follows:

- American Federated Russian Famine Relief Committee shipped food, equipment and an agricultural relief unit, previously detailed \$497,197.48
- Remitted to Arbeiterhilfe, Auslandskomitee, Berlin (The Workers' Aid, Foreign Committee) 96,263.23
- Food Shipments Direct 2,185.73
- Tool Drive Shipments, direct 24,845.52

- Russian Red Cross, Medical Unit No. 2 Specific contribution remitted thereto 1,987.50
- Manufacture of 1,000 dresses by donated labor of I.L.G.W.U. 2,288.94
- Society for Technical Aid to Soviet Russia—Subsidy for training technicians for Agricultural Relief Unit. 5,305.00
- Freight, express, trucking, warehouse, packing, cartage and shipping charges on old clothes contributed. 11,181.56
- Federated, International and Russian Conference expenses for distribution of relief and organization of further aid 24,204.53

665,459.49

Leaving a BALANCE of \$5,413.47

Which is increased by FOOD DRAFT AND PACKAGE RECEIPTS:

- Food Draft Charges Received, less returns \$810.00
- Package Charges received, less returns 2,358.40

Total. \$3,168.40

- Less: Food Drafts Remitted \$769.50
- Used for Direct Expenses 40.50
- Cost of Shipping Packages \$1,414.65

2,224.65

943.75

Leaving a BALANCE ON HAND OF \$6,357.22

Which is partly in CASH ready to be spent for RELIEF, but is also represented partly by OTHER ASSETS to be used for raising funds or for EXPENSES of the business office as follows:

- Cash in Bank 5,367.01
- Petty Cash on Hand 286.50
- Advances to Speakers, Locals & Sections 669.54
- Office Furniture & Equipment (Cost, less reserve for depreciation) 2,108.06
- Deposits for Electricity & Gas & lease 160.00
- Inventory of Books & Busts purchased for sale. 330.26
- Advances for future advertising & printing. 881.24
- Collectible advances chiefly for expenses in placing Russian Art Films 433.48

\$10,236.09

DEDUCT:

- Due to Speakers \$303.42
- Funds Held awaiting definite instructions. 75.45
- Funds reserved for payment of expenses incurred 3,500.69

3,878.87

6,357.22

Statement "B"

BUSINESS OFFICE EXPENSES

For Second Fiscal Year to July 31, 1923

- * Wages: Secretary \$1,995.00
- Office Staff 14,862.50
- Office Rent 2,280.00
- Office Space—Fittings, Alterations, Maintenance, cleaning, light & heat 545.77
- Office Supplies, etc. 1,245.30
- Printing & Stationary 643.08
- Telegrams 547.06
- Telephone 508.26
- Outside phone calls, carfares, etc. 401.66
- Auditor's Charges 3,392.15
- Legal Charges 580.00
- * Insurance, fire 122.66
- Depreciation of Office Furniture & Equipment. 251.06

Total. \$27,374.50

* Maximum rate of wages recently increased to \$45 per week.

PUBLICITY AND APPEAL EXPENSES

For the Second Fiscal Year to July 31, 1923.

Statement "C"

- * Wages: Speakers and Organizers 4,756.93
- Addressers 7,733.75
- Publicity: Writers, Translator and Movie Director 5,253.40
- Traveling—Speakers and Organizers 6,357.30
- Postage 9,821.45
- Envelopes and Wrappers 1,505.86
- Official Organ—"Soviet Russia Pictorial"—Subsidy 8,200.00
- Bulletins 397.00
- Advertisements 13,668.18
- Leaflets and folders printed and distributed 6,041.81
- Posters and Show Cards 1,371.66
- Motion Picture and Stereopticon Equipment 8,703.31
- Miscellaneous Movie Expenses 1,008.39
- Cuts, mats, cartoons, etc. 2,042.64
- Organization supplies, lists, buttons, etc. 2,742.56
- Information Service 122.32
- Meetings, Bazaars, etc. 35.00

\$79,767.56

- Less: Sale of and Refunds on pamphlets and cards 282.67
- Profit on Literature sold through Russian Section. 137.38

420.05

Total. \$79,347.51

* Maximum rate of wages has reached \$50 in a few cases but has usually been \$40 or less.

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

I have examined the accounts of the National Office of the Friends of Soviet Russia, New York, N. Y., for the two fiscal years from the date of organization, August 9, 1921 to July 31, 1923, and of the American Federated Russian Famine Relief Committee for the period of its existence.

I have received all the information and explanations I demanded. Any contributor not receiving both an official receipt and a published acknowledgment of his contribution should communicate with me. Clothes and other necessities received for shipment are not included. In general, expenses have been paid promptly, and expenses incurred but not paid are reserved for.

The above statements, "A", "B" and "C" are of the National Office and the American Federated Russian Famine Relief Committee only and are not consolidated to include receipts and disbursements of affiliated locals. Remittances from locals on account of net income are included. Locals are responsible to their own contributors for the acknowledgement and disposition of funds collected.

In my opinion the above statements, "A", "B", and "C" are drawn up to present a true and correct view of the cash transactions for the period, and of the state of the funds as at the close of the period.

J. B. COLLINGS WOODS,

299 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. Chartered Accountant.
 August 27, 1923.

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