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SOVIET RUSSIA PICTORIAL

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Races and Types in Soviet Russia

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A CHILDREN'S SCHOOL-COMMUNE

By ANNA LOUISE STRONG

THERE are tens of thousands of schools across Russia, where children who live at home come to get an education. There are thousands of children's home, where orphans of war and famine live and are taught in the same building. And there are just beginning to be a few score of school-communes, where the children live and work, and earn their own way in the world as a co-operative group, and all the time are also acquiring an education.

These communes or colonies are a more recent development, since the great emergency of the famine receded and gave a chance to plan for the future. Hundreds of thousands of children had to be cared for, and the Education authorities

simply hadn't the money. So a Children's Commission was formed under the Central Executive Committee of the government, to devise ways and means.

They decided to form self-supporting colonies of boys and girls who were over fourteen years old. They would take these children out of the cities, where already their idleness was a problem, and would give them work on the land. Thus they would relieve the ordinary children's homes and leave them for younger children. And they would train them in communal living.

Last week I visited the John Reed Children's Colony, high in the hills near the Volga. Just ten months ago it



Sen Katayama, Japanese Communist leader, in the midst of far eastern delegates and visitors to the Fifth Congress of the Comintern

started, when fifteen boys went there with their instructors and began to repair the dwellings to make room for others. Their first job was to make a living, for they had to; but the teachers were to see to it that they also got an education based on their daily work.

Month by month they added to their number, as the buildings were ready. They made little wooden beds; they made tables and stools and window frames and benches. In one of the houses they organized a shoemaker's shop and began making their own shoes. By spring they had fifty children, of whom fifteen were girls. The girls by this time were making the clothes and doing the cooking for the colony.

They ploughed and planted in the spring time. But they had no ploughs except the ones they made themselves in the carpenter shop and blacksmith's shop. There is a point at which self-help ceases to be a virtue; we should have no real objection to good city-made ploughs if we could afford them. But all the same, the children's harvest is better than any other in the district.

For all during Easter week, when the peasants were going to church and getting drunk between times, the children were ploughing. They planted early, before anyone else in the district. And the day after they planted, there came the one best rain of spring. So now, in the great drought which has again afflicted the lower Volga, the peasants have shrivelled grain eight high, barley 5 poods to the desiatin, hardly fit to gather but the children have, though not a good harvest, at least 35 poods to the desiatin. And the peasants are all saying: "God loves work."



A Mosque in the village of Osh in Turkestan
Some day we hope the children will be teaching even

better propaganda to the peasants, the propaganda of modern methods of farming. But so far there has been no equipment. "We have done better than the peasant not by better methods, but merely by working harder," said the farm manager to me.

The children choose which workshop they will work in during the winter and the times between farming. There is a waiting list for the carpenter's house, a fine building where twelve boys sleep upstairs and work downstairs, making beds,



Ruins of Bibi Changim on the edge of Samara

tables, housing repairs for the colony. They made not only their ploughs and harrows but also their wagon.

In another house is the shoe shop, where a dozen boys live with the shoemaker and make all the shoes for the colony. They have a theater here, built by the boys themselves, in which they have dramatic performances. And a reading room fitted up by the Young Communists of the nearby town, who have taken a cultural guardianship over the colony.

But as far as I could see, the young "communars" of our school commune were not spending much time in the reading room. Like boys the world over, they preferred the "old swimming hole!" Three ponds brighten the life of John Reed Colony, and in the largest of these they go swimming. I went in with the girls; they all knew how to swim. They splashed and paddled about and shouted and had water-fights with each other, till the impatient boys began shouting down the road, asking how much longer the girls thought they could keep the pond. For the boys' turn came when the girls were through.

The girls have three houses to themselves up a side ravine, where, under a most untiring woman teacher, they learn sewing, and hygiene and music and everything else that there is time for. At first she taught them cooking, but now the girls manage that themselves with their committees, and the teacher has time for other work. But there is **only one sewing machine** for twenty-nine girls; far too much of the clothing for the school has to be made by hand.

The woman teacher has had some lessons as a nurse, and knows how to give simple medicines. But the medicine chest is empty. Once the drug stores gave them supplies free; but now, under the new economic policy, those grasping drug stores have to make money; so they demand payment for drugs and the children haven't any to give. Quinine and iodine and vaseline and aspirin—these simple drugs are needed.

But they have their own food for the year now. In ten months' time they have almost achieved self-support. If they do not quite support themselves yet, it is because they have been given so many new children to take care of. Fifty boys in the autumn, and fifty at the time of the spring planting, and now they have a harvest for one hundred children. If the harvest had been good, they could have bought their own material for clothing also; but now that will have to be given them for another year.

During my visit they were taking two days' rest before going to get in their harvest. For the harvest grows in the common peasant field ten miles away. They explained to me how it must be gathered. "As long as it stands, there is no danger that anyone will steal it from us, but as soon as we cut it, it might be stolen, for there are many who have no harvest. So we shall all go over and sleep around the field till we have gathered it in, and taken it home to our own mill."

Harvesting like this is not ideal; but for the first year it was the only way. Already the children are dreaming of expansion to a farm fit for a really large school-commune, which might become in the end a great agricultural institute, giving knowledge to the entire province.

A few miles down stream is a large estate of 1,500 acres. It has buildings capable of housing 300 children and needing only a little repair. It has a big flour mill, motor-driven. And a brick kiln, and well arranged work shops for making agri-

cultural implements. It is located directly on the Volga, with a floating dock beside it.

Here is a place where a great agricultural school could be built. Here might be conducted experiments in dry farming, and the raising of drought-resistant seed which is so sorely needed to prevent future famines. Here five hundred children could eventually live in a children's town, building up a well rounded community life. It belonged once to a grand duke who lived most of his time in Paris and Monte Carlo; now it belongs to the provincial government, and a state farm trust occupies a few of the buildings, and does a little work on the orchard. But the great grain lands have been unploughed for seven years.

Already we have had application to plough them. And to use the implements that lie rusting in the grass. And to occupy the vacant houses. As soon as we get the proper papers, we shall begin ploughing at once. Thirty boys will come over from the colony, and establish themselves for the autumn, and plough until the snow falls. But how much we shall plough depends on how many horses we can buy.

Then, before the navigation closes on the Volga, we shall bring in more children from Saratov, and spend the winter in the work shops making window frames and furni-



(Formerly Soviet Russia)

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ture for the houses. In the spring, we shall be ready for still more children to be absorbed into our organization. Each step depends on how much money we have, for although in the end we shall be self-supporting, we cannot develop fast without capital. In this we are like Russia herself.

The mill we shall run this fall, even if we have means to repair it. And next summer we shall plant a large garden. And the year after we shall be ready to take over the orchard and to operate the brick kiln. So step by step, we shall bring the whole estate into order. We estimate that it will take about \$5,000, in addition to the food and instruction of the children, which comes partly from the government and partly from our own harvest.

This is the way that children's communes grow in Russia. And in the end we shall have a great agricultural college, taking in children at the age of fourteen and organizing them into one big co-operative family, teaching them a varied life of labor and of culture based on labor. The smaller monastery in the hill will take the younger children, and give them their first steps in simple handicrafts—basket-making, wood-working, shoemaking, dressmaking, raising of geese, rabbits, bees, poultry. From here they will move down to the larger farm of grain fields and meadows and flour mill and large shops. And in the end—

What will they do when they grow up? This is undecided, in our colony as in many other colonies in Russia.

Shall they remain where they are and become a co-operative colony of adults? Or shall they move out to make room for younger children. This is for the future to say; it will depend on their own decision. Perhaps they will always be a little of both. I imagine that for several years to come the great farm will fill up with children, and when in the end it grows too full, it will organize from its midst new communes of the older ones, sending them forth with horses and implements and food to take up new land and form new communities wherever they are needed in Russia. So that we shall be not merely a commune, but a Mother of Communes, with connections in many counties and many states.

There is great drought again this year in the southern Volga. But Russia is making no appeal to foreign lands for food. She will handle her famine herself. But she will handle it at a cost. There will be less equipment to give to new struggling communes of children; there will be less all round. And though she is asking for no charity, yet there is plenty of room for friendly gifts from those who wish to help build up such communities of children, strengthening them with equipment and making them able sooner to become centers of light and instruction among the backward peasantry, centers of co-operative life, building the road to Communism.

(Gifts designated to this colony may be sent through the International Workers Relief especially designated to John Reed Colony. All groups requesting it will be put on a mailing list for further information.)



Yes, Soviet Russia is building new Railroads

problem of the South-East, and in particular, the Balkan problem. Both the Balkan wars of 1912-1913 and the world war not only did not eliminate the causes of new conflicts in the Balkans, but still further increased them. Every observer of Balkan affairs knows that a series of problems exists there, each of which may tomorrow become a cause of war. The question of Macedonia, Thrace, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Hungary, the Dobrudja, have already made their appearance before the peoples and the governments, insistently demanding their solution. Without their solution, peace will be in constant peril.

In the opinion of the Soviet Government, one of the principles which might safeguard the interests of the populations of all these provinces and States, and at the same time build them up into more powerful State organisms, containing within themselves the necessary conditions for economic and political development, is the principle of federation. The application of the principle of federation in Yugo-Slavia, with the granting of independence within the limits of federation to Croatia, Slovenia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Dalmatia and Serbia, will eliminate the crisis which has been continuous since the very moment when this State arose, and which cannot be abolished by the use of force. The restoration to Bulgaria of New Dobrudja, seized by the Roumanian Government in '93, and the granting to Bulgaria of a real outlet to the Aegean Sea, will create the conditions for the neighborly relations between Greece and Roumania on the one hand, and Bulgaria on the other. Similarly, only by the observance of the principle of self-determination and of real equality between all nationalities will it be possible to avert the inevitable future conflict between Hungary on one side and Czecho-Slovakia and Roumania on the other.

The Soviet Government realizes that only a policy firmly intent on disarmament can create conditions in which the



Clara Zetkin, old, but still active, enthusiastic and fearless in the ranks of the revolutionary proletariat of the world

settlement of national questions will take place not by force, but reckoning with the interests of the mass of the people. In this respect the Soviet Government fully shares the opinion expressed by the British Premier that "the normal and spiritual claims of nationality cannot be fully recognized in a world under arms. Until they are recognized, there can be no peace and no security. In that dilemma the world is today."

Although the Soviet Government has considerably reduced its Red Army, which now numbers, in all, less than 600,000 men, including in this figure all armed forces whatsoever—the army, fleet and aerial forces—it is ready to go much further still on the road to disarmament, if the other States also agree for their part. The Soviet Delegation will be glad to hear from the British Delegation of the readiness of Great Britain to summon, in the most immediate future, an international conference on disarmament.

The Soviet Delegation considers that the coordination of the efforts of all Governments for the settlement by peaceful means of the disputes arising between them must become one of the customary methods of international political life. If the Soviet Union has objected, and continues to object to the League of Nations, the reason for this negative attitude is the circumstance that the League of Nations in its organization is nothing else than a method of consolidating those unjust treaties which were concluded as a result of the world war. The League of Nations has sanctified the division of

the States into victors and vanquished, and to the first it grants the control of world policy. No country has suffered so much from the war as the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and not a single country desires peace more than the Soviet Union. It cannot, however, participate in an organization which has proved powerless and helpless to pre-

vent all those acts of violence which are even yet taking place in the name of Treaties. All question affecting the vital interests and independence of the people and their right to self-determination were decided outside the League of Nations by the so-called Allied Powers at the Ambassadors' Conference or at other meetings, while those few questions concerning nationalities which were raised before the League of Nations received a solution there which corresponded, not to the interests of the oppressed, but to the interests of the Governments of the oppressors.

II.—Bessarabia

By their signature of the General Treaty on August 8, the Soviet and British Delegation took a vast step forward towards eliminating disputed questions of a financial character, and in this way facilitated the restoration of economic co-operation between our two countries. The working masses of the Soviet Union are deliberately making concessions considering that any sacrifice they are making will be realized at its full value by the British Government and the British people.

Nevertheless, during the period of over six years that have elapsed since diplomatic relations between Great Britain and the Soviet Union were interrupted, the vital interests and dignity of Soviet Russia were infringed by a number of flagrantly unjust acts in which the British Government participated. Only the gradual correction of these acts will give the peoples of the Soviet Union tangible proofs of British friendship.

Amongst these questions, decided in complete infringement not only of the interests of Russia, but of all standards of international law, must be classed the sanction given by the Allied Powers, amongst them Great Britain, to the violent uniting of Bessarabia with Roumania.

On the occasion of the Vienna Conference I had the honor, in my capacity of Charge d'Affaires of the Soviet Union in London, to present to the British Government an Aide-Memoire on this question, which I annex to the minutes of the Conference, in order not to give a detailed exposition

of the development of this question here. I consider it necessary, however, here in the presence of the British Delegation to declare before the British Government and before the whole British people the most decisive protest, in the name of the Soviet Union, against the act of violence committed against the Soviet Union.

In the treaty signed at Paris on October 28, 1919, as a justification for its signature, the plenipotentiaries of the Allied Powers declared that the Allies base themselves on the fact that "the population of Bessarabia has shown its desire to see Bessarabia united with Roumania." In making

this assertion the Allies relied exclusively on the statements of the Roumanian Government itself, i. e. on the statements of a party interested in concealing the truth. With the least desire to ascertain the later, the Allies would not have found it difficult to convince themselves that the Roumanian Government occupied Bessarabia by fraud, on the plea of temporary occupation for humanitarian purposes, namely to ensure the food supply to the Russian and Roumanian troops fighting on the Roumanian front. On the other hand, as the British Government might have convinced itself from the Aide-Memoire I presented, the resolutions of the so-called Sfatul-Ceri, which did not represent the will of the population, being not a parliament but a body set up ad hoc, were partly forgeries, and partly extorted by force, under the threat of Roumanian bayonets. The argument adduced by the Allies in this way loses not only all legal but also all moral force.

The Allies imagined that they could mask this gross violation of the will

of the Bessarabian people by providing in the treaty that "the Roumanian Government will guarantee liberty and justice, without distinction of race, religion, or tongue, to all Bessarabian citizens." Yet the Allies could not but know that obligations of this kind on the part of a State in which the persecution of national minorities constituted a State doctrine, and in which hundreds of thousands of inhabitants remained for over forty years without civil rights,



This is Tovarish Lip, a youthful orator from Leningrad. His convincing oratory is recruiting many new adherents for the Leninists of Russia

in spite of the solemn promises of this State at the Berlin Congress to give them rights on an equality with Roumanian citizens, represent a new act of deceit. This is confirmed by the whole policy of the Roumanian Government after the war towards the national minorities which constitute one-third of the present kingdom of Roumania—a policy which reduces itself to the crushing of their national culture and their national consciousness.

Side by side with this trampling under foot of the rights of the Bessarabian people, which alone has the right of determining its own fate, the Allies, when they signed the treaty of October 28, 1919, committed the most flagrant breach of international law. There is a question to which the Allies have not yet been able to answer; by what right did they dispose of the fate of Bessarabia? International law does not know of any case in which one country can dispose of the fate of another country without the consent of the latter. Even in respect of territories seized by right of conquest, the Allies applied a plebiscite, as in the case of Upper Silesia and Schleswig-Holstein. Bessarabia, however, belonged to that State which, in order to safeguard the victories of the Allies, gave three million victims on the field of battle, and for the defence of Roumania itself against German occupation sent to Roumanian territory fifteen corps of infantry, two cavalry corps, and seven cavalry divisions—

in all, 376,700 bayonets, 33,399 sabres, and 1,200 cavalry bayonets (the constitution of the Russian Army on the Roumanian front on January 24, 1917, without reckoning the Danube detachment). The sacrifices made by Russia in defence of Roumania during the world war amount approximately to 100,000 killed and wounded. All the vast property of three Russian armies became the booty of the Roumanian Government, together with all the stores on the territory of Bessarabia. In place of this, at first with the help of General Mackensen and German diplomacy after the signature of the Peace of Bcharest, and later with the help of Allied diplomacy, the Roumanian Government found a way to enrich itself at the expense of both its old ally, Russia, and of its enemies.

The treaty concluded by the Allies also makes reference to the historical rights of Roumania to Bessarabia. Yet even if the Roumanian Government has any historical rights to Bessarabia (not to speak of the fact, if the theory of historical rights be accepted, the whole of Europe should be carved up anew, and with it the map of Roumania itself), it twice renounced its "historical rights" to those three Bessarabian countries which were annexed to Roumania after the Crimean war. The first occasion was when it received the Dobrudja at the Congress of Berlin in 1878, and the second occasion was in 1913, when it seized a new portion of Bulgarian territory.



Trotsky, commissar of war of the U. S. S. R., in midst of group of graduates of Officers' Training School in Moscow

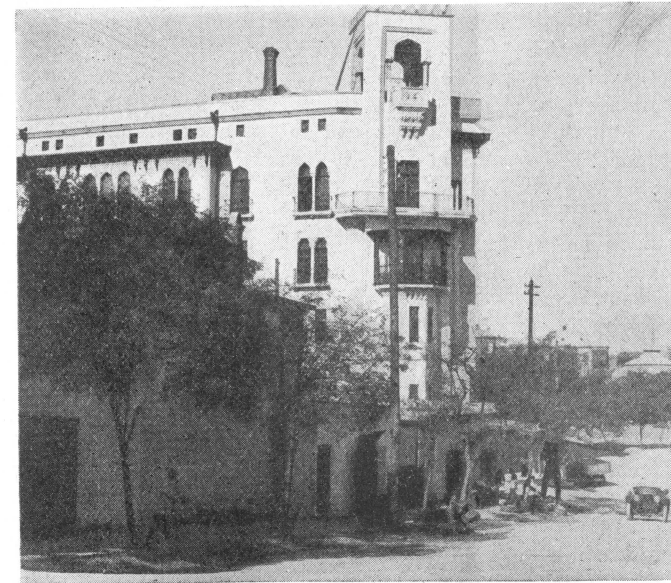
The treaty also makes reference to ethnographic rights. If the population of Roumania originated in Bessarabia, which constitutes if not the absolute, at least the relative majority of the Bessarabian people, desired to unite with Roumania, it might have said this itself, had it been given the opportunity freely to express its opinion. The stubborn refusal of the Roumanian Government to accept a plebiscite—the sole lawful means of ascertaining the will of the Bessarabian population—proves that the Roumanian Government cannot even reckon on the sympathy of the Roumanian population of Bessarabia, which is entirely opposed to the Roumanian domination.

More than once the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has declared, and today again declares, that the Treaty of October 28, 1919, is invalid. Formally, from the point of view of international law, Bessarabia is, and remains, territory belonging to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Only the Bessarabian people can change this historical fact, and it must be guaranteed freedom to express its will, Bessarabia being evacuated by Roumanian troops and the Roumanian administration. The workers and peasants of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics fought for long years and made unheard-of sacrifices in order to guarantee to all peoples national independence, they overthrew the Tsarist regime, and amongst those to whom the Russian Revolution brought freedom was the Bessarabian people. This was not done in order that the freedom of the Bessarabian people might be snatched away by a Government which, in its policy and in its internal relations, is no better than the old Tsarist Government.

In the name of the Soviet Delegation, I ask the British Delegation; what does it intend to do in order to remedy the injustice committed towards the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics and the Bessarabian people?

III.—Bukovina

With the help of the Allies, and of Great Britain in particular, Roumania, under the Treaty of St. Germain, seized



This was once the palace of a wealthy Moslemite in Azerbaijan. Now it is the home of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan.



A Peasant's home in the Volga district



Ruins of Tomb in Samarkand

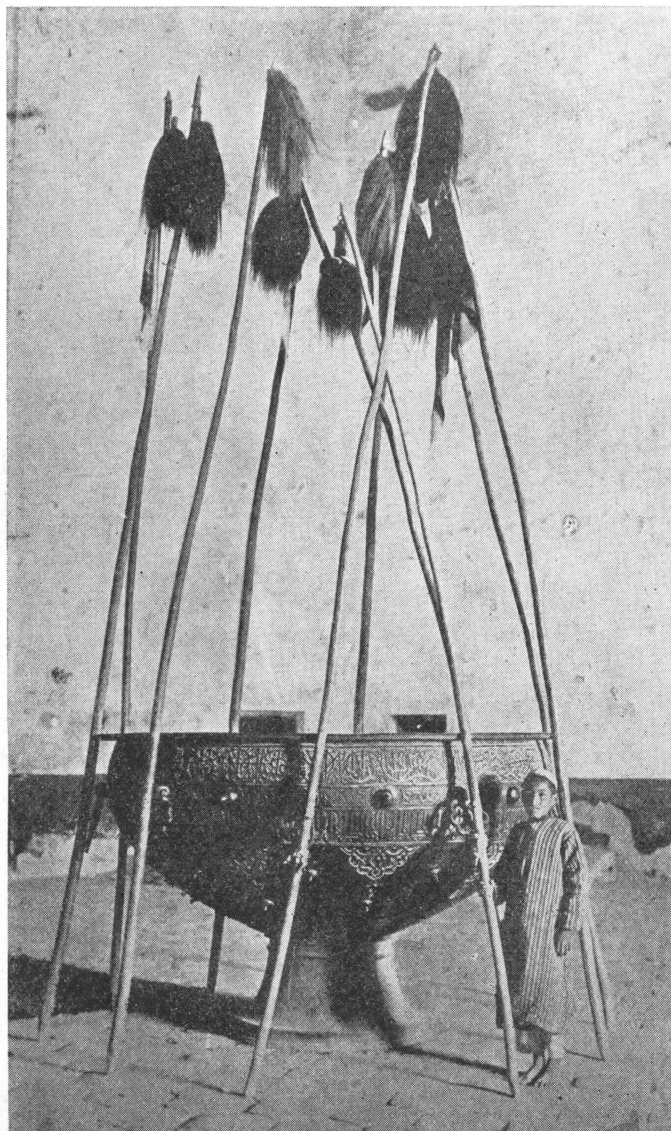


A Peasant's house in Boroviki

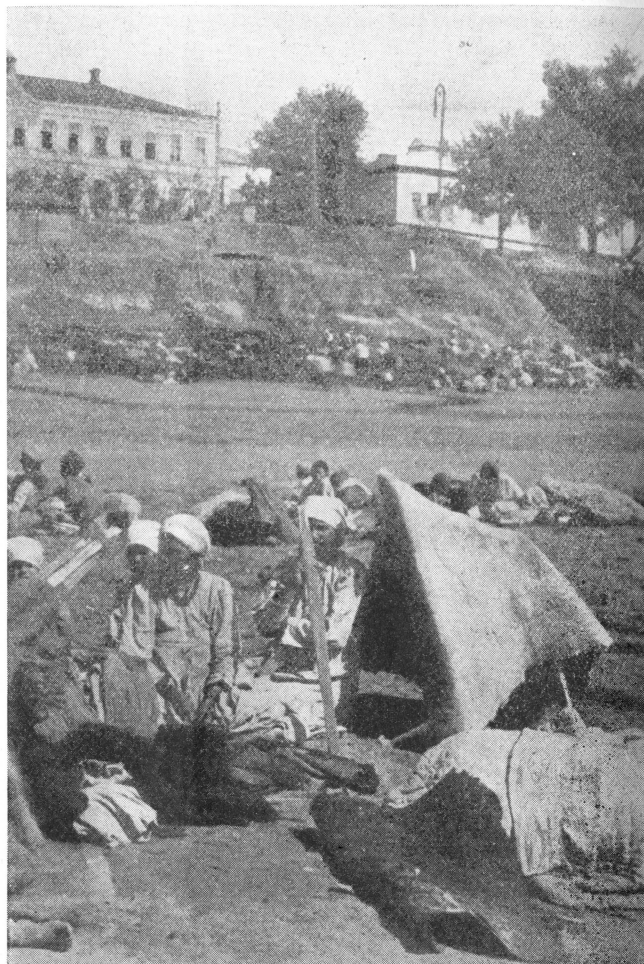
yet another territory, populated by Ukrainians, namely, the northern part of Bukovina. This act of violence on the part of the Roumanian Government was committed in infringement of the treaty signed between Roumania on the one hand and Russia and the other Allies on the other on August 4, 1916, and on the eve of Roumania's entry into the war; just as the annexation of Bessarabia took place in breach of another treaty, which Roumania conducted with the Soviet Government in March, 1928.

In the name of the Soviet Union Government, the Soviet Delegation makes a decisive protest against this act of violence, committed with the aid of all the Allies, including Great Britain. The population of Bukovina must also be given the right to determine its own fate.

Protesting against the acts of violence of the Roumanian Government, the Soviet Union is far from intending to make the Roumanian people responsible for the actions of its ruling classes. In the hearts of the Roumanian peas-



At the entrance of a tomb in Turkestan



Group of Tartars in temporary camp in city while changing location of permanent camp

antry there are alive deep feelings of sympathy with revolutionary Russia, which, by overthrowing the yoke of Tsarism and thereby putting an end to the annexationist policy of its Tsarist Government towards Constantinople, destroyed the terrible peril which hung over the Roumanian people as over all the other Balkan peoples. But the Roumanian peasantry is penetrated with profound sympathy to the Russian Revolution also because only thanks to that Revolution was its Government obliged to carry out even partially an agrarian reform, and to give land to the Roumanian peasants.

IV.—Eastern Galicia

In spite of the circumstances that 70 per cent of the population of Eastern Galicia are Ukrainians, and only 14 per cent are Poles, the Conference of the Allied Ambassadors in Paris in 1923 decided on the uniting of Eastern Galicia with Poland. This is not merely a violation of the will of the people of Eastern Galicia, but also a violation of repeated promises on the part of the Allied Powers to give the population of Eastern Galicia the right of national self-determination. However, all these promises proved false, and a large country, with a population of five and a half millions, with the assistance of the Allies, was placed under a foreign yoke.

As a result of the victory of the Allies, which, it was alleged, was to signify the triumph of democracy over militarism, four and a half million Ukrainians inhabiting Eastern Galicia found themselves in a position much worse than that in which they had been under the feudal and clerical Austro-Hungarian Monarchy.

By their declaration of September 24, 1921, on the occasion of the signature of the Treaty of Riga, Soviet Russia and Soviet Ukraine solemnly declared that they reserved the right of Eastern Galicia to national self-determination. They repeated their protest also last year, on the occasion of the annexation of Eastern Galicia to Poland. The Soviet Delegation repeats this protest today. The situation which has arisen in Eastern Galicia threatens complications, and the duty of the British Government, which declares its readiness to place the world on a solid basis, is to assist the Galician population to decide its fate itself; and by this, the British Government will fulfill the solemn promises already given to that population.

V.—The Straits

While expressing its consent to sign the Convention on the Straits, the Soviet Government pointed out in its Note to the Powers who had signed the Treaty of Lausanne that

it could not consider this Convention as a means of strengthening peace in the East. The situation which existed before the war, as a result of which the Straits were closed for foreign war fleets, as well as for fleets of the States bordering on the Black Sea, had this immense advantage, that it removed the Black Sea from the field of action in the event of war. The opening of the Straits for warships makes it necessary for the Soviet Union to take measures for the protection of its borders as well as for the whole territory which adjoins these borders. Thus, instead of diminishing the causes for armaments the new Convention on the contrary encourages them.

That is the reason why the Soviet delegation here repeats that the decision taken on the question of the Straits is directed not only against the Soviet Union but against peace in general. As the initiative of the new decision of this question emanated chiefly from British diplomacy, the Soviet Government considers that the present Government of Great Britain, which has already given tangible proofs of its desire to preserve peace and eliminate causes of international friction, will take into consideration the view advanced by the Soviet delegation as to the reconsideration of the Lausanne Treaty, in the part relating to the Convention of the Straits.



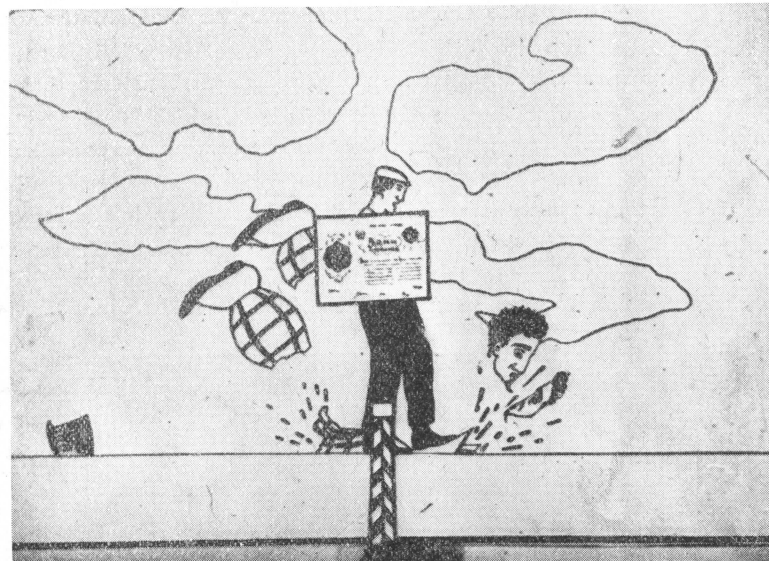
A group of children in Astrakhan doing their share of reconstruction work

RUSSIA TURNS TO MOVIES FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES

By WILLIAM F. KRUSE

RECENT news from Russia indicates that the Soviet film directors are taking a leaf out of the book of their fellow-craftsmen in America in the use of motion pictures as a means of spreading the viewpoint and ideology of the ruling class. In the United States, of course, it is the capitalist class that puts its message across, while in Russia the workers, having power in their hands, likewise use it in their own interest.

Until very recently the use of the animated cartoon was practically unknown in Russia. A large batch of high-class educational films sent abroad by the "International Workers Aid" last Summer at the time of the writer's movie-camera visit, undoubtedly helped to bring home to Russian film men the tremendous educational possibilities of this phase of their industry. A few film-clip enlargements show that good progress has been made. The three little pictures of Premier Poincare, symbolic of all anti-soviet statecraft including our own Secretary Hughes, going through a rapid change of countenance upon the receipt of three news dispatches from Russia. The first, announcing the death of Lenin, puts him in a most jovial mood. At the news of England's approaching recognition of the Workers' Republic he is somewhat pained, whereas the hundreds of thousands of new members rushing into the Communist Party leaves him very sick.



Animated Cartoon showing "Comrade Chervonetz" smashing imperialist Banking Power

The splendid financial strength based upon fundamental economic progress is brought home to the Russian masses—and to the world at large—by means of a series of animated cartoons showing the adventures of "Comrade Chervonetz." Russia is very proud of her gold standard currency, (Chervontzi), and has a good right to be considering its maintenance of a higher standard than even the British Pound Sterling.

A Petrograd organization has produced a film called "Vassily Graznaro," which is said to be hardly complimentary to the old priesthood. One of the central episodes hinges on the opening of the "sacred shrines" which revealed very modern rags and pillows instead of the venerable bones which were supposed to be kept there. The desperate tactics of the priesthood and their economic and political allies to keep religious superstitions alive among the masses create many humorous as well as dramatic situations.

These two pictures, employing widely different

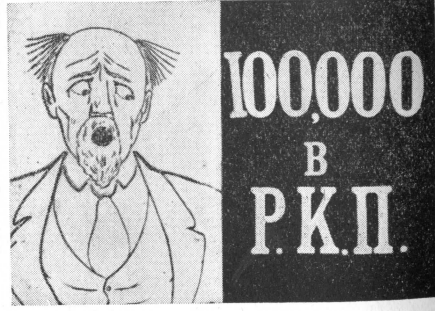
types of technique, mark a real mile-stone in Russia's film industry, and the development of the deliberate propaganda picture by the Workers' Republic will furnish an absorbing field of study both for film craftsmen and labor organizers.



When Lenin died Poincare smiled



But when England recognized Soviet Russia Poincare thought this was not so good



And when the Communist Party of Russia took in 100,000 new members Poincare took very sick, indeed

SOVIET THEATRE DEVELOPMENTS

OF all forms of art, that of the theatre has undergone the greatest change and development as a result of the revolution. The reason is clear. With the advent of the masses to power, the theatre obtains a new hero. As a living art, representative of its epoch and in sympathy with the new mass emotions, it has developed new forms reflecting collective, not individual, psychology.

The first manifestations of the revolutionary Russian theatre were the open air performances in Leningrad, organized by Nicholas Evreinov, some of whose philosophic plays and playlets are known in this country. One of the productions was a representation of the various form of Labor, beginning with ancient slavery and passing through the various forms of exploitation and capitalistic rule up to its emancipation and victory in Soviet Russia. The background for this play was provided by the River Neva and the colonnade of a huge palace on its banks, whilst realism was introduced by the use of big crowds, passing regiments, etc. Another of these plays represented the taking of the Winter Palace by the revolutionary troops, and was enacted on the actual spot of the event, with the Winter Palace in the center. Both shows, and more particularly the second, were successful attempts at reviving the *commedia dell'arte*, giving full scope to the creative spirit of the crowd.

In Moscow, the supreme aim of all the "schools" is to do away with the old pessimistic psychology, and to make the theatre a mirror of the new Russian spirit—creative, daring, full of vitality and confidence. The movement away from the pessimistic realism of the Moscow Art Theatre is headed by the Kamerny Theatre, created and managed by A. Tairov, where the actor is afforded the opportunity of giving full scope to his artistic personality. There is no scenery in this theatre, only screens which change shape according to the needs of the actor, and platforms to show off the actor and his movements.

The outstanding theatrical figure of revolutionary Russia is, however, V. Meyerhold, who manages two theatres in Moscow, and makes open political propaganda in both, but his propaganda is essentially theatrical art. All the plays produced by Meyerhold are linked up with Soviet ideals and interests. For example, Verhaeren's "Dawn" ends with the triumph of the Third International, and the audience joins the crowd in the play at the end, thus uniting the whole house. In the production of Maiakovsky's "Farcical Tragedy" the curtain was abolished, in order to destroy the



The old Priest rages over the failure of his magic

separation between stage and audience. The summit of Meyerhold's art has been reached in his last production, a dramatized version of Ehrenburg's "Hey, Europe!" which he has transformed into a communist propaganda play, and in which he uses sailors from the Baltic fleet, and cinema screens. The most remarkable achievement in this play is the extraordinarily vivid contrast of satirical pictures of the old world, opposed to the joyful atmosphere of the new—that of the workers and peasants of Soviet Russia.

The latest development of theatrical art in Soviet Russia is the staging of mass productions illustrating actual incidents of working class life, in which thousands of workers of all trades take part, under the guidance of skilled producers. On a recent occasion, performances were arranged in Moscow (on the October Field) on ten platforms, by a

number of trade unions. The "Appeal to the Workers" produced by the Railwaymen's Union was a demonstration of various movements of the worker when using the hammer, the sickle, the axe, etc. The Metal Workers gave "The Smithy," a production based on the rhythmical movements of work to the accompaniment of a mass recitation of a poem, written for the occasion. Then came satirical and humorous scenes staging such topical subjects as "The recognition of the U.S.S.R.," "Air Conservations," "The Raid on the Soviet Trade Delegation in Berlin," meetings of German

Cabinet Ministers, etc. Over 5,000 workmen, members of workmen's theatrical clubs and associations took part in these productions which, apart from their political purpose, had a genuine artistic value of the marked progress in theatrical technique.

The theatres in Soviet Russia are very keen on producing the most interesting English and American plays. The Kamerny Theatre has just announced that its program for the autumn includes "The Hairy Ape," by E. O'Neil, and Bernard Shaw's "Saint Joan."

RACES AND TYPES IN SOVIET RUSSIA

Few people realize the tremendousness of the advance of reconstruction in Soviet Russia. Even if they made due allowance for the utter destruction wrought upon Russia by seven years of foreign and civil wars, they, as a rule, underestimate the psychological barriers that had to be overcome.

Russia is a vast empire covering one-sixth of the habitable part of the globe. Some fifty nations are settled within its boundary lines, some of them in a state of social development like some biblical nations. Nomads that have not yet outlived the pastoral age, wander over the steppes of Asia. A mixture of nations, different in language, in religion, in social development, differing in everything possible, that is the population of Russia.

Under the old regime military governors established a rule of force over these nations in the name of the autocrat in Petrograd. To subject these nations to Czarist rule was the only problem of those days.

The Soviets brought to all these nations and tribes a measure of self-government that no other system could possibly succeed in establishing. The old order demanded obedience. The new order demands a share of responsibility in the administration of the affairs of the country from all of them. And only in the degree the Soviets succeeded in establishing this sense of responsibility and making the administration of the affairs of all these nations and tribes through their own Soviets a part of the Soviet government of the whole Union of Soviets could they succeed in building up a new Russia politically and industrially.

To illustrate this problem for our readers we publish in this issue pictures of some of the races that inhabit and are part of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

The cover picture illustrates inhabitants of Kokand in Asia. They are a group of Smokers. The kind of pipe they are using makes it necessary to do the smoking in groups of two or more.



A nomad Mongolian tribe is settling in a new location. Its tents are spacious and built ingeniously

ON LENIN HILLS

SUMMER in Moscow is attended by an exit from the Red Capitol comparable in numbers to that of Boston. Except here the Workers have precedent in like proportion to that of the capitalists in New England.

One of the favorite outing places in the vicinity of Moscow today is LENIN HILLS. This resort is located about three miles south-west of the city on the opposite bank of the Moscow river, and is easily accessible by car line and auto road, as well as by motor boat.

From the crest of the hills where you land by car or auto you get a wonderful panoramic view of the beautiful city of Moscow and the surrounding country, with a wonderfully picturesque skyline against which the magnificent old towers and turrets of the Kremlin and other sections of the ancient city protrude themselves. It is indeed a view fascinating to the last degree.

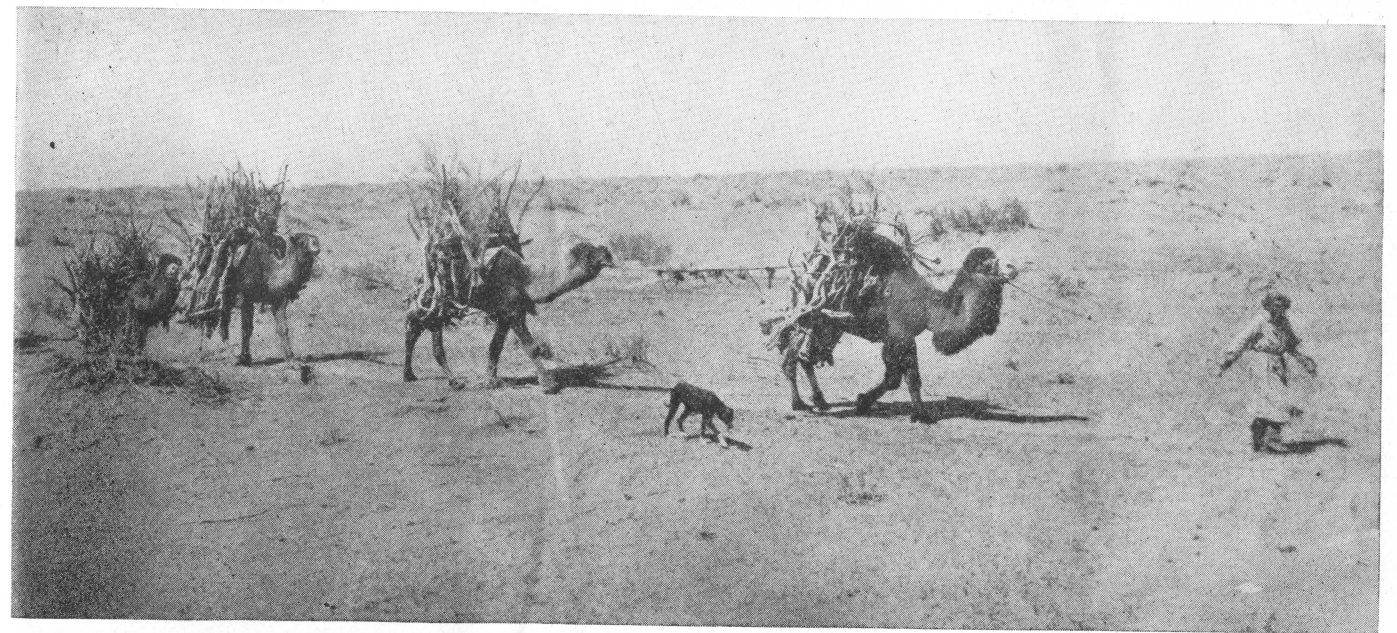
You walk down from there, long, winding paths until you come to a vast expanse of level bottom land, some two or three hundred feet below. It is here that a large part of the city's huge play life is spent. And it is here also that the proposed INTERNATIONAL RED STADIUM is to be built and a vast playground project developed. One that will be suitable for mass play activities and that will lend itself later to International Working-class Sports.

The Sunday we were there, (July 27th) Comrade Podvoisky, the chairman of the committee for the building of the



Churchmen and their allies celebrate the maintenance of the masses' superstitions

International Red Stadium, took us all over the grounds. And when he was not giving his assistance to some young workers group in its play program for the hundreds of children and youth who were almost continually performing,—sometimes as many as a thousand at a time,—he detailed to us the comprehensive program of development that had been or was in the process of being worked out for the plant, and asked us to bespeak the co-operation of the American Comrades in helping the committee make its dreams come true.

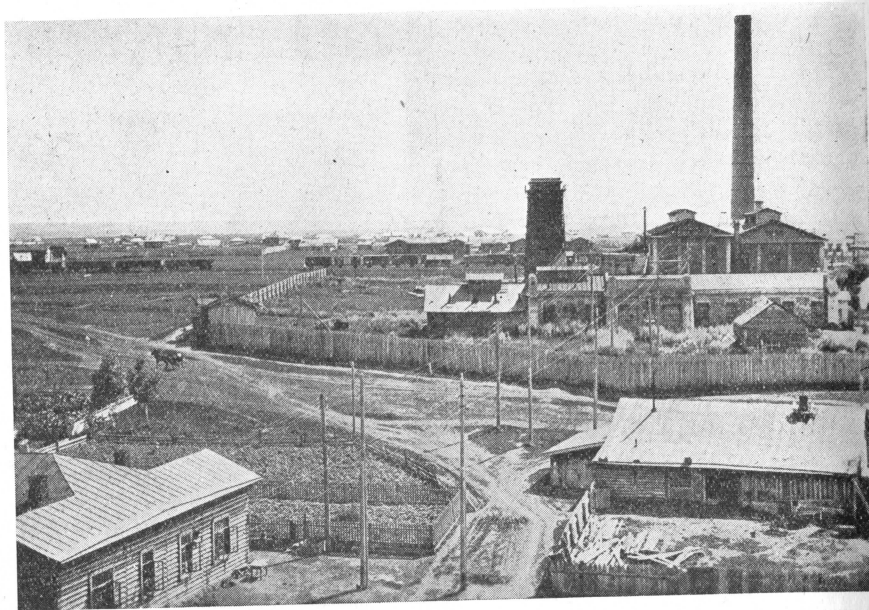


Little problems become big ones in the wide steppes. Fire wood is scarce and far between. It must be transported over great distances without road and railroads. The camel supplies the only means of transportation. With great bundles of firewood on its back it navigates the steppes and supplies the solution of a great problem.

The location itself is ideal. It is a convenient distance from Moscow easily accessible for the Masses of the City. The grounds themselves are very beautiful. The contour of the hill lends itself admirably to the amphitheatre idea as will be seen from the accompanying views. The Hills are also well suited to skiing and coasting and other winter sports. The flat expanses below,—there are several of them,—lend themselves easily to all manner of play activities. While the River, on whose banks the grounds border, lends itself to bathing and rowing, as well as motor-boat traffic from the city, in the summer, and to sleighing and skating in winter. And at either end of the play fields for a mile or more in extent, are beautiful shady woods, ideal for camping, picnicing, etc. The place offers wonderful possibilities for the development of the play life of the great city's population.

There must have been between five and ten thousand people enjoying the Hills the day we were there. But Podvoisky told us that the committee hoped to see five or ten times that many out there each Sunday when the recreational plans for the Moscow workers had been thoroughly realized.

All and all Lenin Hills is one of the prettiest of the many choice outing places in the vicinity of the Red Capitol, where



Industrial Plant in Kamerovo

masses of the Workers go for rest and play on their Sunday and other holiday excursions. And it is destined to become in time, we feel, one of the choicest of International Working-class Play Grounds.

J. C. Coleman.



Kitchen and Household implements made of wood are here offered for sale in Kalla-Kourgan

Anti-Soviet Rebellions

Recently the capitalist press contained "hopeful" reports about the impending doom of the Soviets. Bloody and victorious rebellions were reported from all parts of the Soviet Union. These reports were based on official Soviet reports of defeated counter-revolutionary movements in the Caucasus.

To give our readers a chance to judge the character and origin of counter-revolutionary Anti-Soviet plots we reprint here a "Rosta" correspondence, dated June 10. The item speaks for itself.

"The Rosta correspondent at Tashkent (Russian Turkestan) learns that, profiting by the very difficult position of the Afghan Emir, the Britishers have become very active in preparing a counter-revolutionary invasion of Bokhara. The Emir of Bokhara has lately received large sums of money from them. This has enabled him to support a considerable number of prominent counter-revolutionaries who have come to Cabul and are now, under British auspices, concentrating at Hanabad. The Emir of Bokhara is said to urge an immediate invasion of that country, stressing that the Soviet power is getting ever and ever stronger there. As for the Emir of Afghanistan, the British authorities, while bringing strong pressure to bear upon him, are trying to allure him by promising territorial compensations at Bokhara's cost.

These authorities are supported in their activities by the Anglo-Indian press, which purposely spreads incorrect information about would-be insurrections in Turkestan and Bokhara."

In the light of this item British demands to the Soviets to stop anti-British propoganda in Persia and Afghanistan acquires a new flavor. The good old ruse of "catch thief" seems to be elevated by the anti-Soviet forces to a diplomatic art.

NEW COAL DEPOSIT

In connection with the announced discovery of new coal deposits near the little town of Blagodat on the border between the provinces of Kharkov and Yekaterinoslav, Mr. Rodigin, who is in charge of the Geological Department of the Donetz Coal Administration, stated that the coal seams in this locality are situated at a very great depth and that nowhere do they crop out to the surface.

In 1921 the Donetz Coal Administration undertook investigations in the neighboring Grishinsk region, where rich coal seams were discovered near the river Gnilusha at a depth of 63 meters.

The results of the investigation stimulated further prospecting. During June of the present year, three large coal seams were discovered near the Samara River. This discovery has revealed an entirely new coal field in the Lozovo-Barvenkov region, which undoubtedly has a great future. Further surveys are planned in this territory.

OUTPUT OF ORES

During the period extending from October 1, 1923, to August 1, 1924, the enterprises of the Southern Ore Trust have turned out over 18,000,000 poods of iron ore, which is equivalent to 108 per cent of the scheduled production.

In the course of nine months 8,400,000 poods of manganese ore were mined, constituting 128 per cent of the production program.

By the end of the fiscal year the Southern Ore Trust will have produced between 25 and 26 million poods of iron ore instead of the proposed program total of 20 million poods, and 10 million poods of manganese ore in place of the 8,500,000 poods scheduled.

TRADE WITH CHINA

The "Selskosoyuz" (Union of Agricultural Co-operatives) has sold 60,000 poods of raw hides to Chinese firms and also a considerable lot of horse hair, bristles and furs.



A Turcoman and all his possessions (inclusive of shelter) packed on his camel

SOVIET ECONOMY

An examination of the three chief branches of Soviet economy, i. e., agriculture, industry, and transport, will give an adequate conception of the present general economic trend of the Soviet Union.

AGRICULTURE

The total area sown within the bounds of the present territory of the Union of Soviet Republics, when compared with the present year, increased by 18.8 percent, i. e. from 13.9 million acres to 16.5 million acres. The gross agricultural yield, however, shows only a slight increase over that of the preceding year, i. e., from 46 million tons in 1921-22 to 50 million tons. The food tax was reduced from 6 million tons in the previous year to 5 million tons in 1922-23, and the levy in kind, which was a heavy burden on the peasantry, was replaced by a money impost. Mercantile produce, that is, corn which the peasant can place on the home and foreign market, rose from only 2½ million tons in 1921-22 to 8 to 9 million tons in 1922-23.

Mention should be made of the development of the cultivation of industrial plants. The area under flax, for instance in the flax-growing regions was only 1,114,000 acres in 1921, 1,344,000 in 1922, and 1,382,000 acres in 1923. That is, 1923 shows an increase of 25 percent over 1920. The inducement to the peasant to cultivate industrial plants is the fact that their products are getting dearer in consequence of the rapidly-growing demand for them, both within the Union and abroad. Great strides were made in the restoration of cotton cultivation in the year under review.

The output of cotton fibre, in 1920 amounted to 12,000

tons, and in 1923 to 43,000 tons. The estimates for 1924 provide for the production of 100,000—110,000 tons of cotton.

There cannot, of course, be a rapid increase of cattle breeding. The number of cattle in 1923 was almost the same as in 1922, but the number of young cattle increased; colts by 15.7 percent and calves by 25 percent.

The prospects for the harvest this year are more favorable than they were at this time last year.

INDUSTRY

Large-scale industry has grown more in the past year than in any one recent year, and moreover, the advance has been greater than in that of agriculture or small industry.

In 1923 agriculture reached two-thirds of its pre-war level, whereas industry, both big and small, reached only 40.3 percent of the 1913 level. If the rate of development of agriculture and industry in 1923 is examined, it is found that while agriculture has increased by only 4 percent in relation to 1922, industry has increased by 21.8 percent. If the development of big industry is compared with that of small industry in 1922 and 1923, it will be seen that big industry increased in 1923, as against 1922, by 22.4 percent, and small industry by only 20 percent. Absolute figures for last year's increase of production are shown in the following table:—

in million roubles at pre-war prices			
Large-scale industry	Small industry	Total	Agriculture
27.3	85.0	322.3	163.5

An examination may now be made of what has been



Here we have a public meat market in Kalla-Kourgan

achieved in particular branches of industry.

Cotton: Value of the 1920 output of cotton was just above 39 million roubles (at pre-war prices) and in 1922-23 it was 170 million roubles, that is, there has been more than a quadruple increase.

If the whole of the textile industry of 1920 is taken at 100 percent, then the 1922-23 production increased by 323.9 percent, and in respect of pre-war production (1912) it reached 39.9 percent.

Chemicals: The output of the chemical industry was estimated at 18 percent, of the pre-war level in 1920. In 1922-23, however, it was 46 percent.

Coal: There was no shortage of fuel last year, with the result that there was a reduction in the purchase of foreign coal. The value of the gross output of coal was estimated at 69,237,000 roubles (pre-war prices); i. e., about 160 percent, of the 1920 output. The gross output of the Donetz basin rose to over 8 millions tons in 1922-23, i. e. 83 percent, in respect of 1920, and 50 percent, in respect of pre-war output.

Oil: In comparison with 1920 the oil industry increased its output by more than 35 percent, and reached last year 56.6 percent, of pre-war output (1912). As regards particular fields, the following figures mark the growth of production.

Baku; Production increased from nearly 2.5 million tons in 1920 to about 3½ million tons in 1922-23—an increase of 1.40 percent. Grozny; In this field the corresponding figures are nearly 9 million tons and 1.5 million tons, or an increase of 74 percent.

When both the coal and oil industries are taken together, it is seen that their 1922-23 output was worth almost 200 million pre-war roubles, and was about 50 percent of the pre-war level.

Wood, as fuel, is gradually being replaced by mineral fuels. Thus in the general consumption of fuel in 1920-21 the relative percentages were—wood, 73 percent; oil, 11 percent; coal, 16 percent; but in 1922-23 they were—wood, 57 percent; oil 13 percent; coal 29 percent.

The period of fuel crises has now been passed, and the achievements made in the coal and oil industries have created a firm foundation for the general industry of the Soviet Union.

Metals: Considerable advance was made in this industry in 1922-23 in comparison with 1920. The output of pig iron and rolled iron has more than doubled. Lartensits shows a more than trebled output. If last year's output of the whole metal industry, including manufactured metals, is estimated at pre-war prices it reaches 20 percent of the pre-war level.

The amalgamation and concentration of small enterprises has also given good results. Before their amalgamation, the enterprises of the cotton industry worked to 46 percent, of their capacity, after their amalgamation this figure rose to 59.2 percent, in the big flax industry it was 61.9 percent, respectively; in the woolen industry it was 66 percent, and 75-100 percent; in the leather industry 69.5 percent and 90 percent; in the State iron smelting works 30 percent and 96 percent. The quantities of raw material required for manufacturing finished goods have been reduced. For instance, in 1922 a good of sole leather was produced from 1.92 pood of raw materials, but in 1923, 1.89 pood was used. From the berkovetz (3.61 quintals) of beet, 58 Russian pounds (the Russian pound equals .9 lb.) of sugar were made in 1922, but in 1923 the yield rose to 62.5 Russian pounds. An economy of fuel, also, is noticeable in every branch of industry. It should rather be mentioned that the productivity



This is another section of the public market of Kalla-Kourgan

of labor has also increased. For example, in 1920 the gross output per worker per year was estimated at 548 pre-war roubles, but in 1922-23 it was estimated at 1,292 roubles. All these facts, taken together, mean that the cost of production has been lowered in some industries. For example, in the case of the manufacture of machinery the reduction of the cost of production has been 21 percent, and in the rubber industry 7 percent.

These details are very real evidence of the fact that the industry of the Soviet Union has been progressing.

TRANSPORT

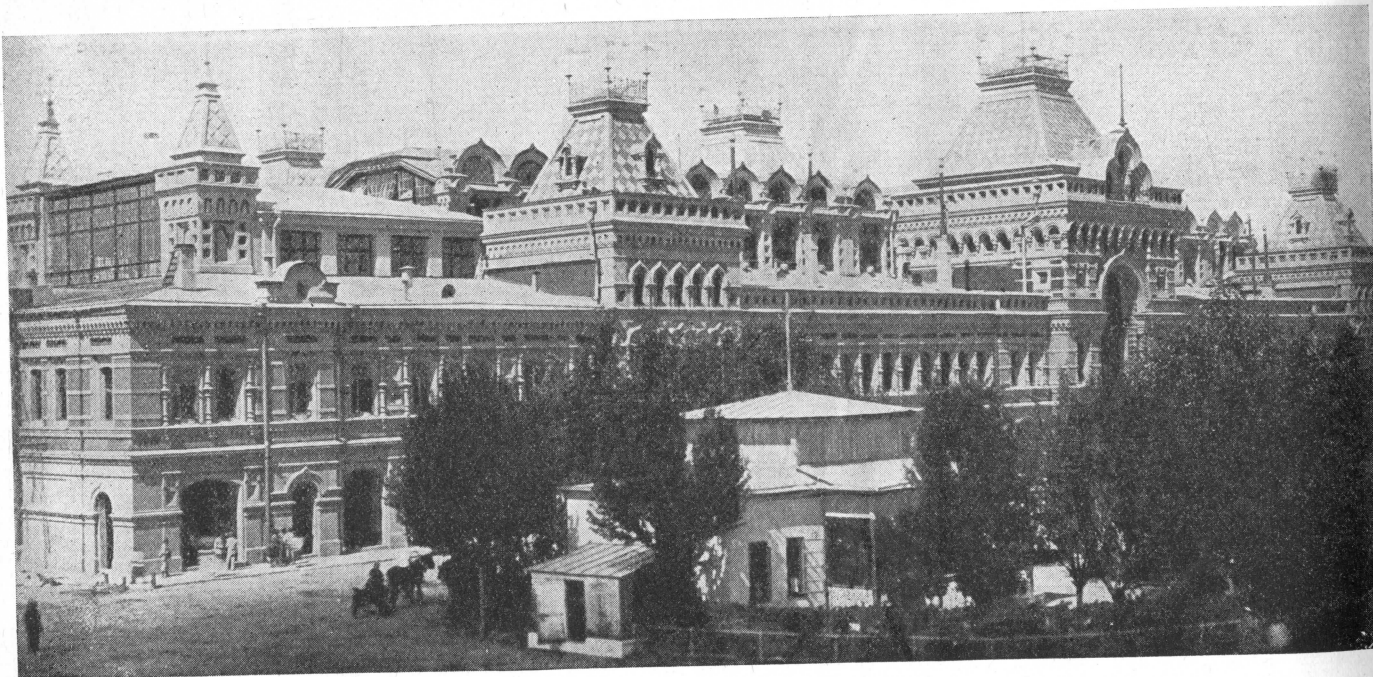
The total length of railway lines in use in 1922 (October) was 42,026 miles, while in 1924 (January) it was 45-010 miles.

The financial position of the railways is also improving. Last year the position was as follows: The total gross income for the first quarter was 52 million roubles; for the second quarter 100 million roubles; for the third quarter 110 million roubles; and for the fourth quarter 116 million roubles. For the first quarter of the current year—January to March 1924—the income amounted to 138 million roubles. For the month of April alone the income was 56.4 million roubles, i. e. an amount larger than that of the first quarter of last year.

The railways of the USSR are gradually leaving behind the period of working with a deficit, and in connection with the general development of the national economy there is not the least doubt about the favorable prospect for their further development.

THE NIZNI-NOVGOROD FAIR

The famous trade fair at Nizni-Novgorod is now being held for the third year under Soviet auspices, the resumption in 1922 occurring after an interval of five years. In the past the fair was very important for general trade between central industrial Russia and the outer-lying regions. It provides a means by which goods could be inspected on the spot, paid for in cash, and immediately handed over. This rather primitive mechanism has now to a considerable degree been rendered unnecessary by the development of Soviet trading organizations, trusts, syndicates, co-operatives, etc. Still the old desire of exchanging actual commodities retains much of its hold, and the fair, of course, possesses the advantages of a big business exhibition. Now, more than ever, the exact functions played by the fair as a link in Soviet trade are becoming clearly defined. In particular it makes it possible clearly to gauge the capacity of the market in different regions. This year the fair opens just when the question of reduced prices is again in the foreground. This should help to stimulate trade rather than the reverse. Already by the date of opening, on August 1, over two million poods of goods had been brought to Nizni-Novgorod, whereas at the same date last year the amount was less than 800,000. It is very likely, therefore, that last year's total of four million poods brought to the fair will be exceeded this year. The increasing participation of small co-operative organizations is also to be welcomed. Already by last year the co-operatives had become the most important buyer, accounting for 53 percent of all purchases. This is a valuable feature of the fair today.



Main Building of the Nishni-Novgorod Fair

The Consumers' Co-operative in Russia

Almost a year has passed since the reorganization of the Centrosoyus (Central Union of Co-operative Societies) on a basis of voluntary membership. In accordance with the decree of December 30, 1923, which set forth the principles for the reorganization, only central, territorial State and district co-operative unions, as well as large workers' co-operatives, were eligible for membership of the Centrosoyus.

In April this membership was divided as follows:

State and District Unions.....	123
Workers' Co-operatives	28
Territorial Union	1
Ukrainian Co-operative Unions	44

Besides these, the transport section of co-operatives and the military co-operative board are also members.

The number of individual societies and members is growing rapidly. There are now 19,391 societies operating 25,136 stores and 6,265,400 members. This last number is apportioned as follows:

Workers' City Co-operatives.....	2,297,000
Peasant Co-operatives	2,599,200
Transport Co-operatives	1,000,000
Military Co-operatives	369,200
Total in U. S. S. R.....	6,265,400

New Constitution of the Centrosoyus.

Under the new constitution of the Central Union it is not only the organizing and representative center for all the co-operatives of the U. S. S. R. but also a trading center and commission agent for the distribution and sale of many of the most important articles of export goods. As such the Union has begun to liquidate many of its industrial enterprises which do not entirely correspond to its trade activities.



A Street Peddler in Tashkent, capital of Turkestan



An old Sart, and a young one

In future the Centrosoyus intends to limit its industrial activities to the following spheres of industry: Flour mills, oil refineries, the production of starch and molasses, confectionery and candy, low grade tobacco, leather, footwear, and soap. Altogether it will operate 14 factories and mills, of which 11 are its own, and three have been rented. The approximate value of the yearly production of these enterprises is about 13 million roubles, and the total energy of all the enterprises is equal to 3,500 horsepower.

Of greatest importance in the industrial work are the three mills of the Centrosoyus, with a total yearly capacity of 160,000 tons of grain. Then come the two oil refineries which can consume yearly 33,000 tons of sunflower seeds, and yield 8,300 tons of sunflower seed oil and 12,000 tons of fodder. The starch and molasses industry consumed during the past year 16,000 tons of potatoes. The makhorka factory produced 4,000 tons of makhorka. The leather mill and boot-making factory can produce 1,000 pairs of shoes per day. All the industrial enterprises of the Centrosoyus employ over 37 thousand workers and employees. The value of the output of these enterprises for the period from October 1 of last year to March 1 of this year amounts to 10.2 million gold roubles.

The Prospects of the Egg Trade.

The Centrosoyus purchases eggs in the Ukraine both for the home market, as well as for export through the Central Ukrainian Co-operative Society. By the beginning of April, the latter had loaded and shipped to the home markets 35 carloads of eggs. It was hoped to ship 20 carloads during April, and 100 during May and June. Simultaneously, store-houses for the preserving of eggs are being hastily equipped. A series of measures are also being carried through for the co-operative sale of eggs and the improvement of the peasants' poultry.

Remittances to Russia

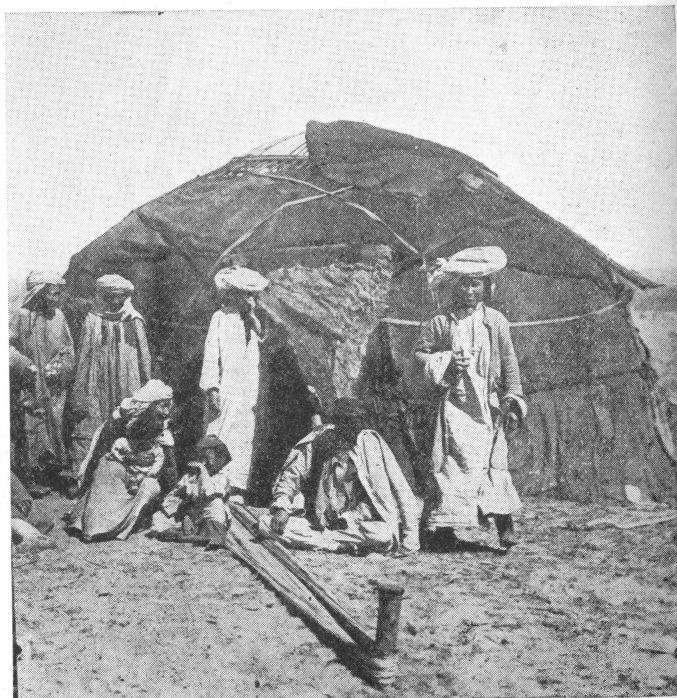
Official Statement of People's Commissary for Finance,
U. S. S. R.

In view of the rumors which have appeared in the foreign press that citizens of the U. S. S. R. experience difficulty in obtaining receipt of money sent to them from abroad, the People's Commissary for Finance of the U. S. S. R. desires to bring the following to the notice of all concerned:

1. In accordance with the laws of the U. S. S. R., foreign currency may be received from abroad freely and without limitation.
2. Remittances are paid out to the persons to whom they are sent by the banks and postal institutions in all parts of the U. S. S. R. in any quantity.
3. Remittances are paid by the above institutions without any deductions.
4. Remittances are not subject to any taxation.
5. Holders of foreign currency, including those in receipt of sums from abroad, have the right to hold the same without limitation, and to exchange the same freely in credit institutions and money exchanges.
6. In order to assist the poorer sections of the population receiving money from abroad, the Union People's Commissary for Finance is taking steps to reduce the price of such remittances.

July 23, 1924.

G. Y. SOKOLNIKOV.



A tribe of Kirghiz and their camp in the Steppes

TECHNICAL AID TO SOVIET RUSSIA

IT IS now five years since the Society for Technical Aid to Russia (S. T. A. U. S. S. R.) has been carrying on its work of organizing agricultural Communes made up of Russian-American workers. The Society has not only sent these workers and agricultural specialists across to establish farming communities in Russia but ships, tractors and tools, until today the value of the modern farm implements transported to Russia by the Society amounts to five million dollars.

But the importance of the communes cannot be measured merely by their physical equipment. They are pioneers in an agriculturally backward country, and pioneers in establishing the social organization of the society of the future.

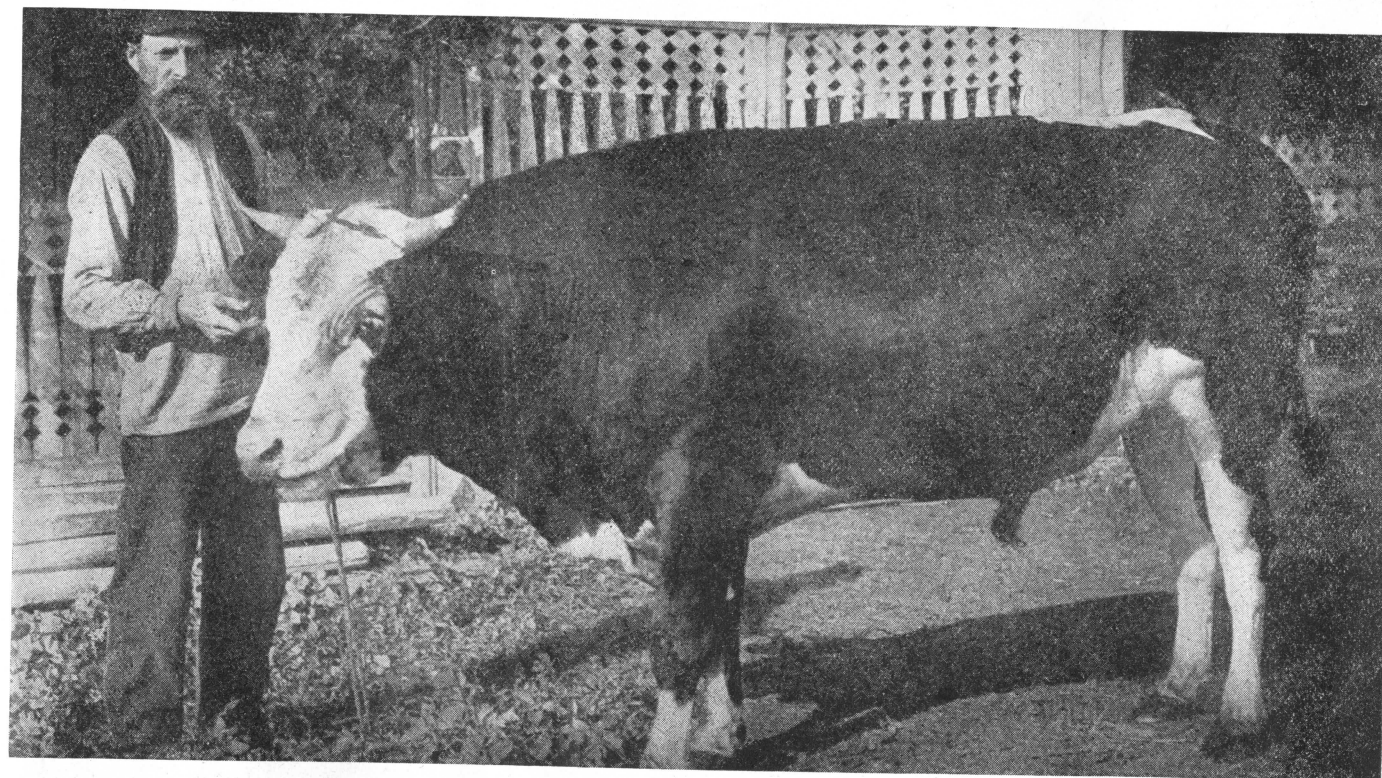
It must be remembered that when seven years ago the Revolution swept over the wide expanse of Russia and brought the councils of workers and peasants—Soviets—in the wake of the overthrown monarchy, it was not an altogether easy task for those Russian workers and peasants to bring about such a fundamental change in the body politic and economic and to firmly fix the conquests of that Revolution.

For even prior to the Great World War, Russia, in spite of 80 million people, was a backward country owing to over a thousand years of tyrannical rule by petty and bellicose princes, czars and landed aristocracy, who kept the popula-

tion in subjection, slavery and ignorance. As late as the sixties of last century Russia was a country of serfdom and virtual chattel slavery, dominated by the landed aristocratic gentry and nobility who administered justice in the land by whipping their peasants to death, impressing them forcefully into military service, auctioning them off—wholesale and retail—to highest bidders and generally treating them as if they were the lowest of animals. The peasants were forced to work a full week on their masters' lands, while the peasant tracts were worked only evenings and Sundays.

The so-called Emancipation of the Serfs in the later part of the sixties of last century brought little relief for them. It would suffice to point out only that the yearly budget of a Russian peasant family at that time amounted to about \$140—the earnings of sweating labors from dawn to dawn. This miserable existence was due to the utter ignorance of the peasantry held tightly in czarist clutches.

The World War took a toll of almost ten million of Russian peasants and workers and shook the country to its very foundation. Russia became disorganized and her economic life disrupted. Such was the heritage of the Revolution, and if you add to this the ravages of the civil war, foreign intervention and the blockade that soon ensued—you get a glimpse into the economic and social life of Russia toward the year



International Workers' Relief, of which the Friends of Soviet Russia were the American Section, directed its relief action not only toward immediate help to famine victims but also toward economic reconstruction, so that a recurrence of such a famine catastrophe as that of 1921 could be prevented. The drought from which Russia is this year suffering shows how far seeing this policy was. Again a drought—but not again a famine. Russia will be able to feed the sufferers from the new drought.

The International Workers' Aid has taken over and is working a number of agricultural communes in Russia. The above picture of a home-grown bull was taken in one of these communes.



This is a Temple of Fire Worshippers near Baku

The Supply of Agricultural Machinery.

Agricultural machinery and implements from the stocks purchased by the Centrosoyus in America to the value of 1 million roubles has arrived at the ports of Novorossiisk, Murmansk, Odessa, and Vladivostok. Up till now 410 thousand dollars' worth of machinery has arrived. In addition, 411 grain purifying machines have been purchased and shipped to the provinces. This transaction, to the value of 75 thousand dollars, was carried through by contract with the Austrian firm Heyda. Finally, the Centrosoyus obtained the consent of the British firm Vickers to act as its representative in the sale of agricultural machinery in Russia, with an extension of credit up to three years.

One Month of Trade.

A typical month's trade was done in February, 1924. The centrosoyus exported raw materials to the amount of 1,691,000 roubles, which included the following:

	Value in Roubles
76 tons rags	18,163
8 tons feathers	22,895
484,477 squirrel skins	763,964
31,731 fox skins	100,789
12,155 various skins	102,678
1½ tons horse hair	28,290

Other co-operative centers are also exporting abroad, but they are exporting only certain products. Thus the Selskosoyus (the Agricultural Co-operative Union), is at present engaged only in the sale of milk products, and the excellent quality of Russian butter has enabled it to sell its products without difficulty in the foreign markets. During the latter half of 1923 the Selskosoyus exported 3,121,725 roubles worth of products.

The total cost of the goods exported by the Centrosoyus during last year amounted to more than \$16,000,000.

of 1921 when the country made the first supreme effort to get back on her feet again. Thus the Soviet Government has been set face to face with a colossal task of rebuilding the country anew from the very bottom up.

Now, just at this juncture, in America among the Russian toiling elements in sympathy with the cause of their brothers across the ocean, a movement was set on foot to start an organization for rendering technical aid to Soviet Russia in her efforts to reconstruct the economics along a new social basis. Thus the society above mentioned came into being, with the view of rendering industrial, but chiefly AGRICULTURAL, aid to Soviet Russia. The Society has been since engaged in the organization of groups and units composed of skilled workers, in various agricultural branches who are being sent with modern machinery and capital to the economic front of Soviet Russia. The Society's chief pre-occupation with organization of agricultural units is a natural out-

come of the fundamental needs of Russia to raise her agriculture to a higher level, as the country is predominantly agricultural.

The Society has over 50 affiliated branches located at various points in the United States and Canada, the organization being headed by a central bureau elected at mass conventions held at regular intervals. This central bureau in co-operation with its affiliated branches carries on the work of organizing units of experienced agricultural workers for Russia, each member of such a unit contributing a certain amount of money into the general fund of a unit, known as a Commune. When a unit has been organized a delegate or a delegation proceeds to Russia for selection of tracts of land set aside by the Soviet Government for such a purpose. These tracts of land belonged formerly to nobility and landed aristocracy and are now being turned over to various groups and institutions for the establishment of model farms and experi-

mental stations for the benefit of the particular community, as well as an example to the neighboring peasantry still clinging to the most antiquated forms of agricultural work. These model farms—Communes—vary in size from 2,500 to 3,000 acres each.

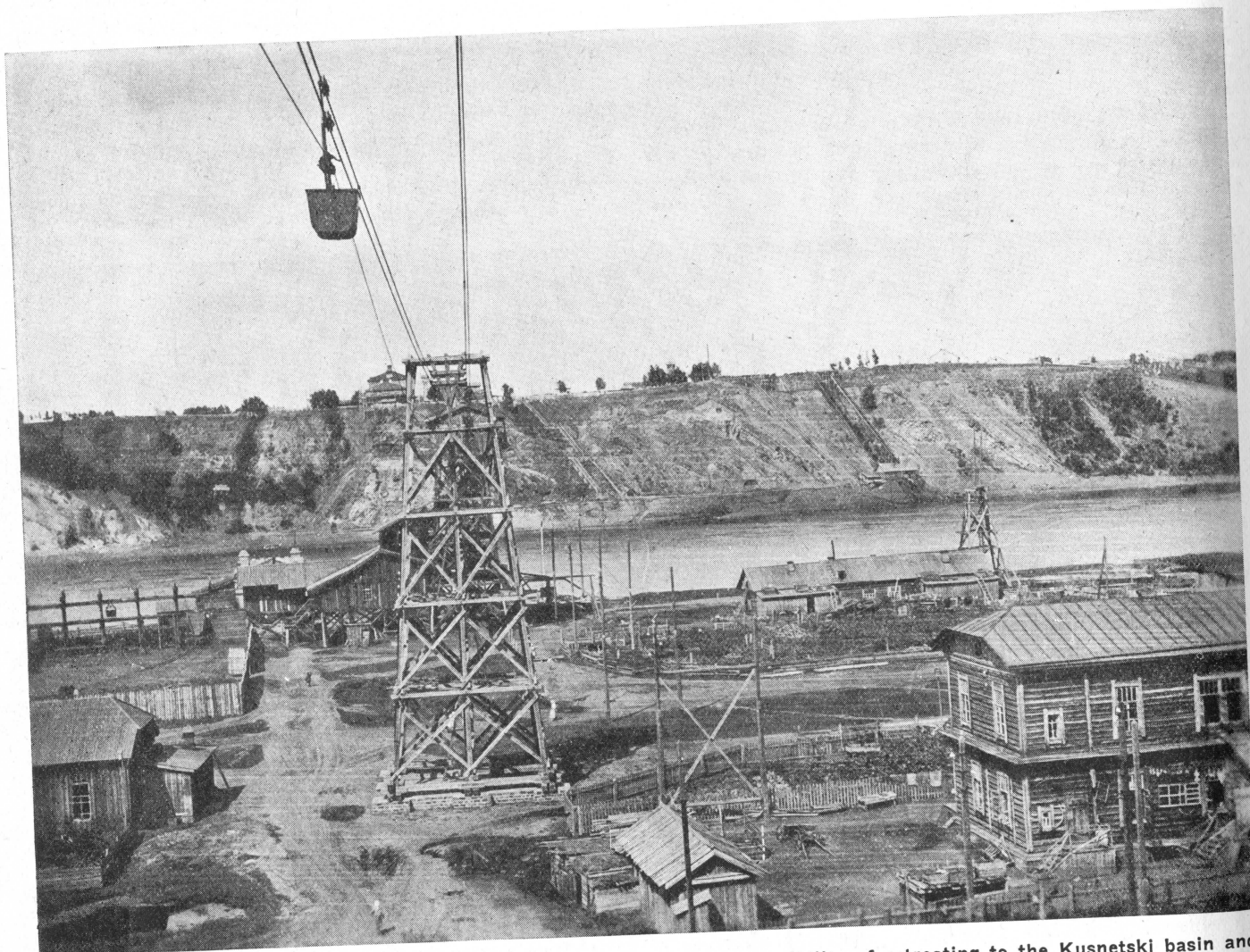
Immediately upon selection of a suitable location and signing of an agreement with the proper Soviet authorities by the delegation, the agricultural unit begins purchasing of all the necessary machinery, implements and inventory for the Commune, the first initiative groups of which start for their Communes in Russia.

In this way for the past few years a number of model farms have been created where modern agricultural methods and American experience have been applied to great advantage to the Commune and the neighboring Russian farmers eager to learn the beneficial methods of up-to-date agriculture.

Social life on these model farm-communes organized through the efforts of the Society, is very interesting. As soon as the first group moves into its new abode it begins to teem with activity resembling a bee-hive. They clear the grounds, plant gardens, raise cattle, erect new structures and repair old ones, so that in a short time the estate is unrecognizable and what formerly was a deserted and neglected plot becomes now a model farm equipped with modern machinery, mills, shops and electricity. These Communes have schools for children and adults, libraries and various social centers. There are theaters, dramatic circles and singing societies. Besides, the Communes keep all the time in touch with America, through the Society, wherefrom they purchase, from time to time, new machinery and receive new members and specialists, according to their growing needs.

In the past few years the Society has established in Russia about thirty of such agricultural Communes and a few industrial co-operatives wherefrom come reports of fine progress and cheerful messages.

Those desiring more information about the work and functions of the Society, can obtain these by applying, either in person or in writing, to its General Bureau, located at 799 Broadway, Room 402, New York City.

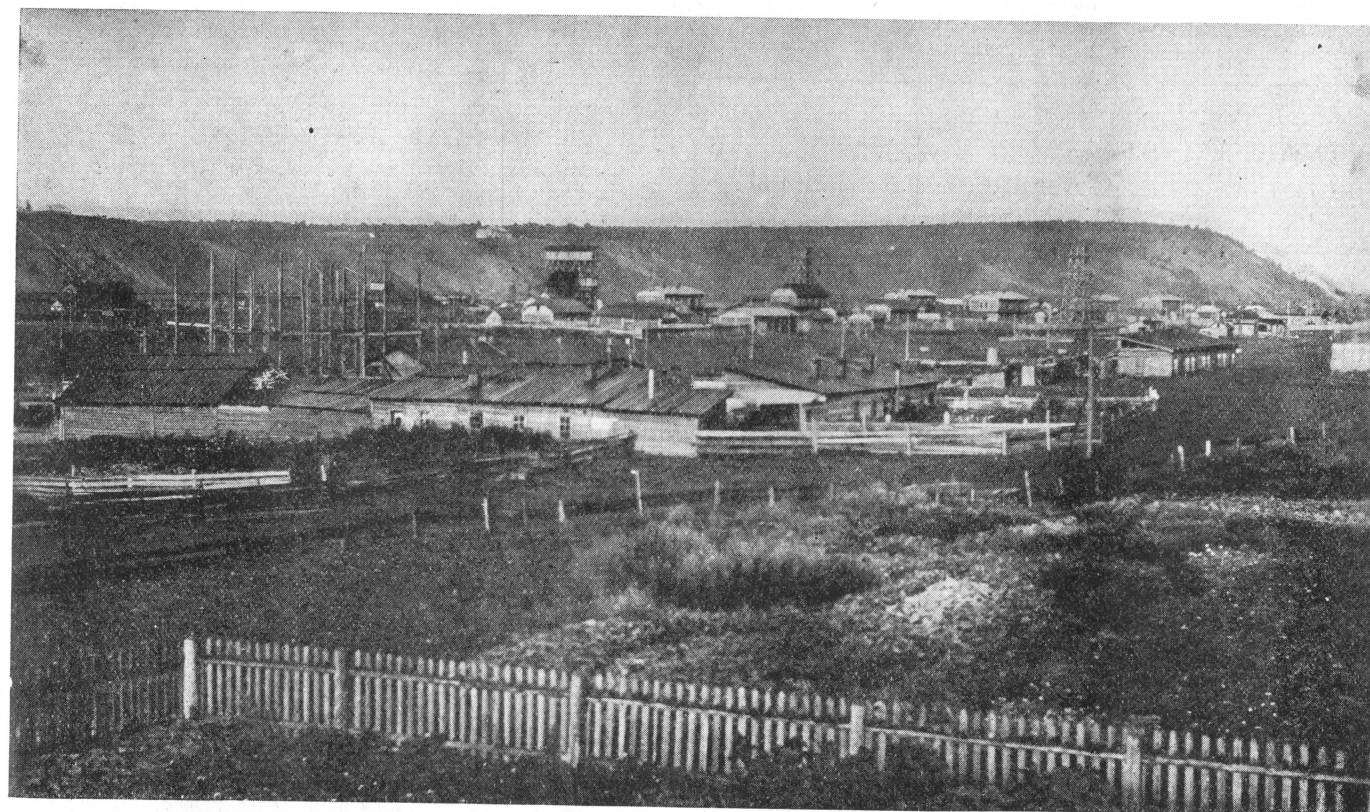


In the darkest hours of the Soviet Republic Lenin spoke of the possibility of retreating to the Kusnetski basin and erecting a Soviet Republic there, from whence they could come back in better days to reconquer Russia from the enemy of the working class. This idea was suggested by the richness of the Kusnetzli Basin in coal and metal ore as well as in rich soil. Today the Kusnetzki Basin is a basis of operation for the economic reconstruction of Russia. In Kameroovo, the center of coal and metal fields, an industrial city is blooming up. Some day it will be a Russian Pittsburgh—without the steel trust.

The above picture gives a view of an aerial tramway in Kameroovo.



Types of the far eastern section of the U. S. S. R.



General View of Kameroovo

CASH INCOME--AUGUST 1924

Friends of Soviet Russia (Committee for International Workers Aid)
National Office 19 South Lincoln Str., Chicago Ill.

29336 J. J. Barnes, Avon, Conn..... 5.00	29367 Com. for Int'l Workers Aid (H. Sahlender, Treas.), San Francisco, Calif.150.00	29399 Mrs. P. Schuster, Syracuse, N. Y. 5.00
29337 F.S.R. (Fred Horwath Treas.), Rochester, N. Y. 92.00	29368 Irwin E. Klein, Yonkers, N. Y. 10.00	29400 Geo. Kessler, Eureka, Calif. 4.00
29338 T. F. Meade, Flushing, N. Y. 50.00	29369 George Konkly, New York, N. Y. 5.00	29401 Laura Cardel, Rutherford, N. J. 10.00
29339 A. Alper, New York, N. Y. 10.00	29370 A. Lovac, Cicero, Ill. 2.00	29402 L. Hendrickson, Flint, Mich. 2.50
29340 B. M. Whitsitt, Decatur, Ill. 6.50	29371 O. Okinen, Buffalo, N. Y. 7.50	29403 Anna Hammer, Roslindale, Mass. 7.00
29341 Carl and Laura Brannin, Dallas, Texas 6.00	29372 Lee Rox, Juneau, Alaska, 5.00	29404 Luther B. Gerhard, Reading, Pa. 4.00
29342 Gus Daubecek, Casper, Calif. 6.00	29373 Miss K. Nernoff, San Francisco, Calif. 4.00	29405 Edith B. King, Brooklyn, N. Y. 1.00
29343 Paul Parch, (thru Edgar Owens), Detroit, Mich. 5.00	29374 Jack Samek, New York, N. Y. 2.00	29406 Chas. Poeltl, Allentown, Pa. 230.00
29344 Margaret Furness, Chicago, Ill. 2.00	29375 Theo. M. Evans, Aberdeen, Wash. 1.00	29407 Wm. P. Greiner, Philadelphia, Pa. 2.00
29345 C. Bodden, Philadelphia, Pa. 1.00	29376 Joseph Wilson, Long Beach, Wash. 5.00	29408 E. M. T. Chicago, Ill. 1.00
29346 Mary E. Broughton, Philadelphia, Pa. 2.00	29377 Paul Peching, Cleveland, Ohio 5.00	29409 Com. for I.W.A. (A. J. Lifschitz), Los Angeles, Calif.150.00
29347 John Kowalczuk, E. Liverpool, Ohio 2.50	29378 Com. for I.W.A. (Martin Wendl), Providence, R. I. 13.05	29410 Chas. Stevens, Redford, Mich. 5.00
29348 Axel Clemensen, Chicago, Ill. 3.00	29379 Herm Baurfeld, Stapleton, N. J. 6.00	29411 E. M. T. Chicago, Ill. 1.00
29349 Mrs. Allen R. Nagle, Erie, Pa. 25.00	29380 Mrs. R. E. Stearns, Whittier, Calif. 3.00	29412 Sam Bilenky, Gary, Ind. 8.00
29350 Paul Luhn, Cincinnati, Ohio. 5.00	29381 Julius Kungler, Chicago, Ill. 2.80	29413 Nat Gomez, Chicago, Ill. 2.00
29351 Bishop and Mrs. Wm. M. Brown, Cahon, Ohio 50.00	29382 Albert Gerling, Portland, Oregon 2.00	29414 Walta Karsner, Chicago, Ill.30
29352 P. W. Whiting, Iowa City, Iowa 12.00	29383 J. Soyez, Santa Barbara, Calif. 5.00	29416 T. Titch, Chicago, Ill.75
29353 Daisy M. Barteau, Minneapolis, Minn. 4.00	29384 August Mencke, Cleveland, Ohio 7.00	29416 George Wehling, Yonkers, N. Y. 6.00
29354 Ellen A. Freeman, Troy, N. Y. 2.00	29385 B. Bush, New York, N. Y. 1.00	29417 H. Kasser, Daly City, Calif. 2.50
29355 Daisy M. Barteau, Minneapolis, Minn.50	29386 Mrs. M. Hopfgarten, Boston, Mass. 1.20	29418 I.W.A. (H. F. Salender, Treas.) San Francisco, Cal.500.00
29356 E. Podgornym, Sec. I.W.A., Harvardhill, Mass. 2.50	29387 M. Michailovsky, Maspeth, L. I. 2.00	29419 Tom O'Rourke, Klondyke, Ohio 2.10
29357 Marianna Gay, Petersham, Mass. 2.50	29388 Anna L. Brodsky, Washington, D. C. 4.00	29420 C. Garfinkel, Chicago, Ill. 10.00
29358 Anna Hamer, Roslindale, Mass 2.00	29389 S. E. Colbe, Huntington, Ind. 2.00	29421 Paul Dobkowitz, San Francisco, Calif. 2.50
29359 Lipner & Goldenberg, E. Boston, Mass. 5.00	29390 C. W. Kaley, Huntington, Ind. 2.00	29422 Mary Waters, East Liverpool, Ohio 10.00
29360 Matulevicuis, Great Neck, N. Y. 6.00	29391 W. J. Conarthy, Calumet City, Ill. 2.00	29423 Louis Laine, Providence, R. I. 4.00
29361 Julia Risegari, Seattle, Wash. 4.00	29392 Samuel Pevsner, New York, N. Y. 1.00	29424 Axel H. Johnson, Chicago, Ill. 5.00
29362 I.W.A. (New York Conf.) New York, N. Y.1323.11	29393 Mr. H. Pertson, Seattle, Wash. 2.00	29425 Daisy, Barteau, Minneapolis, Minn. 9.00
29363 I.W.A. (M. J. Cunovi, Sec.), Gary, Indiana 58.95	29394 Frank Herzog, Ft. Wayne, Ind. 2.25	29426 Emery Myers, Los Angeles, Calif. 4.00
29364 Miss M. M. Hughes, Pasadena, Calif. 3.00	29395 J. H. Oltmann, Berkeley, Calif. 3.00	29427 Phil Mrochko, Cleveland, Ohio 8.00
29365 Dr. A. R. Melnicoff, Philadelphia, Pa. 2.00	29396 W. H. Marshall, Flint, Mich. 1.00	29428 V. Wendzinski, Cristobal, C. Z. 24.00
29366 E. M. T., Chicago, Ill. 1.00	29397 F. Sudakoff, Sanatorium, Colo. 2.50	29429 F.S.R. Local Chicago, Chicago, Ill. 50.00
	29398 Zusman Feirstein, New York, N. Y. 5.00	29430 Mrs. Hilda Tuori, Victoria Mine, Ont.70
		Total..... 3,041.71

FINANCIAL STATEMENT of the Friends of Soviet Russia [Committee of International Workers Aid] National Office.

COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' AID FORMERLY KNOWN AS FRIENDS OF SOVIET RUSSIA AND WORKERS GERMANY
National Office, 19 South Lincoln Street, Chicago, Ill.

Statement "A"
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
Third Fiscal Year—Nine Months Ended April 30, 1924.
PURPOSE: "To extend aid through friendly acts to Soviet Russia, basing all appeals upon distinctly working class interests." NOW—FOR RECOGNITION!
PAST ACHIEVEMENTS:
FIRST FISCAL YEAR: August 9, 1921 to July 31, 1922: Functioning primarily as a famine relief organization, first for relief, second for reconstruction and always for understanding based upon facts, we raised funds and collected clothes and shipped food, clothes and tools to Soviet Russia.
SECOND FISCAL YEAR: August 1, 1922 to July 31, 1923: A year of transition in which, although funds and clothes were raised and applied for relief and reconstruction, we placed the emphasis upon the dissemination of information friendly to Soviet Russia.
SUMMAR—TWO FISCAL YEARS, ended July 31, 1923:
(a) Clothes, medical supplies, etc. collected in kind and shipped (exclusively of shipments by Locals): Weight, 393,544 lbs.
Worth in America, in excess of \$250,000.00
Worth much more in Russia.
(b) **Financial Statement:**
Funds raised \$ 932,907.48
Used for:
Relief and reconstruction..... \$665,459.49

Gathering funds and clothes and spreading information.....	198,777.91	
For Soviet Russia	864,237.40	
Business Office Expense 7 per cent	63,256.61	927,494.01
Unexpended Funds, July 31, 1923		\$ 5,413.47

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
Third Fiscal Year—Nine Months Ended April 30, 1924.
CURRENT PERIOD:
INCOME, partly from the Local proceeds of informative films toured by National Office: Receipt number 22,721 to 28,605 published monthly in detail in "Soviet Russia Pictorial" \$101,939.03
Interest on Bank Balances 151.77
Total 102,090.80
Deduction from income, being charges not initiated by National Office: General—Bank charges, returned checks, etc. 153.33
Local expense paid by National Office 2,325.39
Movie Department—Local costs paid by national office 1,995.74
Expense on Toys 26.00
GROSS INCOME 4,500.46
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS 103,003.81

THIS APPLIED:
(1) For recognition of Soviet Russia:
(2) To spread information:
(3) To gather funds through working class appeal:
Through Movie Department, Statement "B" 28,247.34
Through Publicity Department, Statement "C" 29,145.89
Other appropriations for Recognition 1,530.47

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
Third Fiscal Year—Nine Months Ended April 30, 1924
(4) For Relief and Reconstruction Through Arbeiter Hilfe Auslands Komitee (The Workers' Aid, Foreign Committee) Berlin:
Remittance to \$ 18,331.07
Shipments through 156.05
†(5) For co-operation with similar organizations in other countries and with Russian Soviet Government for control of relief and organization of further aid 3,261.16
Total for Soviet Russia and Workers Germany 80,671.98
(6) For self-defense against attacks on our organization—Professional services, etc. 278.47
(7) For Business Office Expense—Statement "D" 12,737.81
93,688.26
Unexpended Funds, April 30, 1924..... 9,315.55
Represented by:
ASSETS:
Cash on hand and in banks 4,848.84
Deposits, Electricity, Telephone Switchboard 210.00
Advance to Speakers and Locals 1,030.14
Collectible Advances (chiefly for placing Russian Art Films) 2,156.00
Books and photographs purchased for sale (less sales) 251.64
Advance for printing in process..... 1,505.71
Office Furniture & Equipment (Cost, less reserve for depreciation) 1,768.94
LLIABILITIES. Accounts Payable 11,771.27
2,455.72
9,315.55

Statement "B"
MOVIE DEPARTMENT
To Soviet Russia and Workers' Germany
†Wages—Director and Organizers \$ 7,354.70
†Wages—Office and Shipping 1,627.60
Traveling—Speakers and Organizers 5,500.66
Demonstration Equipment, Films, Slides, etc. 4,788.86
Supplies, etc. 352.62
Cuts, Mats, Cartoons, etc. 238.65
Advertisements—Newspapers and Periodicals 2,967.81
Leaflets and Circulars 1,443.94
Posters and Show cards 2,120.98
Postage, Express and Cartage 1,153.97
Shipping Supplies and Expense 109.19
Telegrams 497.78
Telephone 90.58
Total Cost \$ 28,247.34

Statement "C"
PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT
To Serve Soviet Russia and Workers' Germany
†Wages—Speakers and Organizers \$ 75.00
†Wages—Addressers 4,482.49
†Wages—Publicity 577.50
Traveling—Speakers and Organizers 266.61
Cuts, Mats, Cartoons, Etc. 641.38
Information Service 14.00
Advertisements—Newspapers and Periodicals 5,664.48
Leaflets and Circulars 6,119.39
Posters and Show Cards 233.30
Bulletins 335.30
Organization Supplies 13.00
Envelopes and Wrappers 1,404.08
Postage and Express 2,506.11
Shipping Supplies and Expense 136.51
Official Organ—"Soviet Russia Pictorial" subsidy 6,081.97
First "Dollar Drive"—Free Trip to Russia awarded to John T. Taylor, Detroit, Michigan 507.15
Telegrams 87.62
Total \$ 29,145.89

Statement "D"
BUSINESS OFFICE EXPENSE
To Conduct the Organization
†Wages—Secretary \$ 1,632.50
†Wages—Staff 5,656.65
Rent 1,875.00
Office Space—Alterations, expenses, etc. 215.17
Loss on Sale of Furniture, etc. 300.74
Depreciation of Furniture and Equipment 288.38
Repairs to Equipment 117.73
Supplies 909.49
Printing and Stationery 142.65

Outside 'phone calls, carfares, etc..... 104.82
Postages 406.74
Telegrams 51.06
Telephone 152.55
Auditing and Accounting Charges 1,099.49
Total Ordinary \$ 12,952.97
Extraordinary:
Removal expense—office and part of staff New York to Chicago \$ 951.34
Less—Donated therefor..... 200.00
Net Cost 751.34
Add Removal Cost to 19 So. Lincoln St. 388.66
Total 1,140.00
Credit:
Insurance refund 59.81
Food Draft and Package Department refund (net) 620.35
680.16
459.84
Of which the Official organ—"Soviet Russia Pictorial" bears for proportion of office ren and upkeep 675.00
Total \$ 12,737.81
†(Referring to Statements "A", "B", "C", and "D") rate of wages has never exceeded \$50.00 per week.

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE
I have examined the accounts of the National Office of the Committee for International Workers' Aid (formerly as Friends of Soviet Russia and Workers' Germany) Chicago, Illinois, for the two fiscal years from the date of organization, August 9, 1921 to July 31, 1923, and for nine months of the third fiscal year to April 30, 1924.
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 for shipment are not made a part of the financial statements.
The above financial statements, "A", "B", "C", and "D", are of the National Office 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 acknowledgment and disposition of funds collected.
In my opinion the above financial statements, "A", "B", "C", and "D" are drawn up to present a true and correct view of the transaction for the period, and of the state of the funds as at the close of the period.
J. W. COLLINGS WOODS,
Chartered Accountant
299 Madison Avenue,
New York, New York,
June 9, 1924.

The Stenographic Ad Verbatim Report of
THE INTERNATIONAL DEBATE OF THE DAY!
BERTRAND RUSSELL versus **SCOTT NEARING**
Subject—Can the Soviet Form of Government Take Hold of America, England and France?
Mr. Russell says NO. Mr. Nearing says YES
Debate Held in New York City, May 25, 1924
PRICE \$1.00, POSTPAID
THE LEAGUE FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION
500 Fifth Avenue, Dept. L., New York

CONRADI A DOPE FIEND.
Conradi, the assassin of Vorovski, the Soviet representative to the Lausanne conference, was freed by the Swiss court. His crime was glorified. He was pictured as an avenging angel who only proved his saintliness by his deed.
But now some interesting news reaches us from Switzerland. Conradi turned out to be a dope fiend. The source of his saintliness is a hypodermic needle. Under the influence of dope he threatened to shoot guests and employees of a Geneva cafe. After some bloodshed he was finally arrested.
This time Conradi's victims are not representatives of a Workers Republic but Swiss policemen. So he is sure to receive some punishment. But what about the instigators of Conradi's murder of Vorovski? What about those who bought Conradi and shot him full of dope so he would be courageous enough to murder the Soviet mission to the Lausanne conference?

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Official organ of the Young Workers League
1113 W. Washington St. Chicago, Ill.

Name

Street and No.....

City..... State.....S. R. P.

BISHOP BROWN'S BAD BOOK

Bishop William Montgomery Brown was recently summoned to appear before a Court of the Protestant Episcopal Church at Cleveland, Ohio, to be tried for the twenty-three outrageous heresies embodied in his book entitled

Communism and Christianism

In reply to his summon Bishop Brown said in part: "My heresy does not consist in rejecting the theology of the Christian interpretation of redemptive religion but in emptying it of its traditional supernaturalism and filling it with scientific naturalism. In this way I still hold to the Gods of the Old and New Testaments, but I empty them of the Mosaism and Paulinism and refill them with Darwinism and Marxism."

A copy of "Communism and Christianism," 224 pages, now in its 125th thousand, together with a copy of "Heresy," a magazine about the trial, revealing the bankruptcy of Orthodoxy, will be mailed for 25 cents.

Bradford-Brown Educational Company, Inc.,
Publishers, Gallon, Ohio.

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