

THE LITERARY PRAMA

Concerning Russian Women

BY IDA DAILES.

MANY of us have "learned about women" of Russia from Tolstoy, Dostoevski, Gorki, Chekhov, and other great Russian writers of the years preceding the 1917 revolution. To us, generally speaking, the Russian women fall into three broad groups: the serene, amorous woman of society as typified by Anna Karenina; the victim of the willful patriarch described to us by Gorki; and the interesting prostitute who seemed to be a fascinating subject for most of the Russian writers. There was much of the glamour of romance about these women, not only because of the latently romantic types which were described, but also because they were viewed by the rest of the masters who presented them.

HOWEVER, I have just finished reading a little pamphlet entitled "Work Among Women," which contains a number of reports on various phases of the work of the Russian Communist Party and the Soviet government among the women of Russia and the Russian Republics. And it seems to me that there is more romance in the facts, figures, analysis and plans contained in these reports than there is in all the work of all the masters of Russian literature. Here the words are laced not with literary genius, not by the urge of the artist to express himself, but by the simple necessity of dealing with what has been done, what the conditions are and what must be done. And it is truly remarkable to learn what has been done under the terrible heritage that was left to the Russian working class, and especially the working women of Russia, by czarist oppression, war, revolution, blockade and famine.

I fit me quote from an introductory explanatory note:

"In the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, Communism must concentrate all its talents and energies on a constructive work, on the social reconstruction of the Russian working women to the economic and social reconstruction of their respective countries. The mixed agonies of centuries are to be made good over night.

"The reports of our women comrades are nothing but records of hard, practical and fruitful work. This work may seem to many humorless, even 'formalist.' But those whose souls and minds are open to the great symphony of the class-conscious march towards Communism, they will be able to detect revolutionary chords even in this everyday work. They will realize that these reports are a record of unflinching self-sacrificing and skilful work and a reflex of the creative forces within the women's movement. All this characterizes not only the leading women comrades, but also the millions of women among whom they work."

The reports contained in the pamphlet are:

1. "The Position of Women in the Soviet Union."

2. "The Position of Women in the Soviet Republics."

3. "The Position of Women in the Soviet Far East."

4. "The Position of Women in the Soviet Middle East."

5. "The Position of Women in the Soviet West."

6. "The Position of Women in the Soviet South."

7. "The Position of Women in the Soviet North."

8. "The Position of Women in the Soviet East."

9. "The Position of Women in the Soviet West."

10. "The Position of Women in the Soviet South."

11. "The Position of Women in the Soviet North."

12. "The Position of Women in the Soviet East."

able to read the following:

The Russian Communist Party at work among women. Methods of approaching working women. Women's delegate meetings. Mass methods of work. The press as a means of bringing the proletarian women. Methods of approaching the working women thru the unions. Forms and methods of work among the women of the Soviet East. Protection of mothers and infants. The women worker and the communal dining rooms.

HERE is also an appendix, outlining a program for working women's study circles, dealing with questions ranging from factory production, technical equipment, etc., to the history of the world revolution and the Communist International.

When I read the report on the work among the women of the Soviet East, I thought of the Negro problem in the United States. The contrast between the Soviet method of dealing with the enslaved Negroes of the East and that of the United States is dealing with the enslaved Negroes is very striking. Both groups were freed formally by their governments. But in Soviet Russia formal decrees are not enough. The problem of bringing these women up to the economic and cultural level of the advanced sections of working women is being tackled vigorously and practically. Among other things, eastern women are being drawn into the Communist university and then sent back to the seat to carry on theoretical and practical education and reconstruction among their countrywomen.

WHERE the Communist Parties of the western countries have entirely different problems to meet in their work among women, every Communist can read this pamphlet with interest and profit. The women of Russia will have much to contribute to the western proletariat in the way of practical experience when the workers' movement building up the Communist society in their own countries.

"The Processional"

A Cross Section of American Life, Forty-Ninth Street Theater, New York.

THE THEATER GUILD have once again turned the conventional and long-established. Last season we had the "R. U. R." and the "World We Live In." Now we have "The Processional" a jazzy cross section of American life upon which the critics are furiously disagreeing.

The scene is laid in West Virginia with a strike "a soldier in a shirt" a heart reporter (who is sorry for everybody but can't do a thing about it) "a Yiddish business man afflicted with a jaw-rod daughter (not satisfied with the "Victoria" that her father has bought for her) "a Pa'naki, the Polish-born leader who welcomes a week with the hero "Dynamite Jim" in a cellar as a golden opportunity to realize the workers' position in

history." There is our old friend the President of the "Law and Order League" the Sir Galahad of 100 per cent morality who wages the heroic strike. We have the "the ku klux man" in solemn konklave assembled sitting in judgment on "outlaws of the strike." We have the "the ku klux man" who sentenced the heroine to a good whipping and the tar and feathers. The wog present when the outrage took place.

"Dynamite Jim" is the desperate idealist who is the center of the piece. He lands in prison on the 4th of July because he does not feel like kissing "Old Glory" as he lies with it in the gutter. Having built up a reputation locally as an infernal nuisance the ruling class decided that a hanging was in as good a way out as possible. They provide the coffin but Jim escapes and in doing so he kills a soldier. With the aid of Pa'naki he escapes to his mother's home—leaky barn—all that is left to the family after a hundred years pioneering in the West Virginia hills. The melancholy Pa'naki really talks Jim to death. Eventually Jim is caught "by the seat of the pants" by the soldiers. He is turned over to the 100 per centers and they put out his eyes. His teeth are then thrown into Charleston jail. He rejoins the strikers who are trying to trade union representatives with the Pa'naki see the latter disappear, for as Pa'naki says "Nightriders don't work with the law." Jim loses his company, and in the forest he meets a girl, the daughter of the Jewish business man who is now carrying a child of the forest. The forest reporter shows a way out. "The killing of a few people is essential to organize the Communist child is a serious matter," and proposes marriage.

Jazz plays thru the play, the action is rapid, making the gamut of comedy, pathos and tragedy. Some of the critics call "The Processional" as a truly great play, an effort to portray the individualism, lawlessness and general irresponsibility of life in the industrial America. The playwright, John Lawson, knows his West Virginia and its problems. He mixes his words and burlesque bric-a-brac and very often which are calculated to make the average playgoer quite uncomfortable. The casting has been done with the usual Theater Guild thoroughness, the players interpreting their parts with sincerity and understanding.

"The Processional" started at the Garrick and then went to the Comedy. It is now at the Forty-Ninth Street Theater. It should be upon its merits destined for a long run. It has the placid and easygoing and is by no means entirely flattering to the radical. It stings and lashes and plays havoc with Babbitry, conservatism and radicalism.

If you are just a big town person and see it, you'll view another American, an industrial jungle with its inhabitants. When the sky covering

Party Construction in C. I. Sections

(Continued from page 1)

has been done in connection with the formation of Communist fractions in non-party mass organizations of the working class and in connection with placing Communist fractions under the control of the party. And yet the few Communist fractions which exist mainly in parliaments are, because of their short-comings a source of much harm to the party.

CENTRAL and local committees of a considerable number of Communist parties do not pay sufficient attention to this question. The minute instructions of the E. C. C. I. of February 1924 on the organization of Communist fractions in their work and their relations with party organs compelled on the basis of the experience of the United States Communist Party and other sections of the Communist International, have hitherto remained on paper, and in the meantime the actions of individual members of the Communist fractions are doing great harm to the Communist parties.

In many countries Communist members of trade unions, co-operatives and other workers' organizations are not yet coordinated into Communist fractions. Hence it is easy for the trade union and co-operative bureaucracy of the workers to do their utmost to hinder the movement and certainly did nothing to encourage it. As yet there was one who could have exposed all these Judases to the factory workers, for the Communists among them were not revolutionaries, they had no uniform leadership and were not all of their working for the same end.

And Germany provided examples in the first half of 1924 during the big strikes in the Ruhr and the Hamburg district which showed clearly the difference in the leadership of the movement in factories, mines and commerce wherever nuclei existed, the leadership of the movement was entirely in the hands of the nuclei while in factories where no nuclei existed, Communist action against Communists and in some places Communist chairmen of meetings refused to put to the vote resolutions proposed by Communists.

THE same might be observed lately in Italy, in Milan and Turin. In works and factories with properly functioning nuclei the latter became the leading centers of these works and factories. The recent demonstrations of the Milan metal workers against the agreement of their fascist trade union with the metal industry employers were under the guidance of the factory nuclei of our party. Big workers' meetings which take place in Italy when the workers leave their factories at the end of the day's work and which are frequently attended by as many as 5,000 workers, have only become possible after the organization of nuclei in the factories for it is they who organize these meetings and carry them thru.

ON the other hand, where factories exist but have no party nuclei, or where these nuclei are very weak or active, there are no meetings, no demonstrations against trade unions and other fascist organizations.

Everything has been done by the Communist International and the Communist parties of Europe and America relative the importance of creating correct forms of organization. The theses and report of Comrade Zinoviev on the role of the party in the revolution presented at the Second Congress of the Communist International, Comrade Lenin's statement on the same question and nearly every one of the 21 conditions adopted at the same Second Congress gave to the serious of the Communist International minute instructions on the

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—Karl Marx.

Party Construction in the C. I. Sections

By OSSIP PIATNITSKY.
(Continued from last Saturday.)

IN this article I will limit myself to a few facts from the German experience. In 1923 factories and workshops in Germany were with a few exceptions mainly party nuclei, but in the big factories and workshops Communists were members of factory and workshop committees.

As there were no nuclei even in the factories where Communist secret organs or factory committees, there was no lead or control of the committees. They were merely organs of the party. Besides, the Communists in the factory and workshop committees had no definite status because they had no proper support to the fact that the Communists in the factories were not coordinated into one body. THE result was that the discontented workers of these factories and workshops were led and controlled by trade union representatives and members of the social-democratic party who played up to the mood of the workers, profiting radical resolutions, etc. But when these hunches were given the leadership of the movement by the workers they did their utmost to hinder the movement and certainly did nothing to encourage it.

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building up of party organizations and on the nature of their tasks. The question of organization was also very prominent at the Third Congress of the Communist International. The theses on organization which were elaborated with the help of Lenin, explained very minutely why nuclei and other forms of organization are necessary, how they should work, etc.

At the Fourth Congress of the Communist International Lenin pointed out that the theses on organization adopted by the Third Congress had remained on paper, although delegates to the congress had voted in favor of the theses. The reason of the failure of some active workers of the sections of the Communist International to understand the importance of the organization of Communist International, carried out by any of the foreign sections of the party of countries which previous to 1917 had formed part of the Rus-

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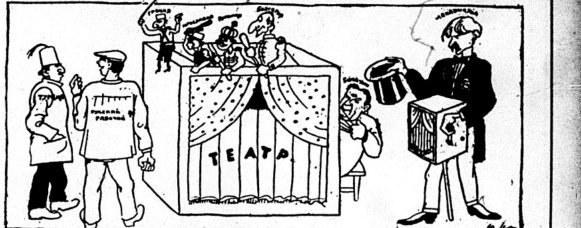
SECOND SECTION
This magazine supplement will appear every Saturday in The Daily Worker.

officials and candidates to elective posts are able to carry thru anything they like at the party meetings which they convene.

THE above-mentioned elements are, and quite rightly, the nucleus of the party organization, their co-ordination according to districts in big towns and on a city scale in the smaller towns, the end of the almost unlimited control which they exercised in the party organizations. In Italy, in Turin and in some French towns after the organization of nuclei in the workshops the leadership of local organizations went entirely into the hands of workers recommended by the nuclei.

Turn the failure of some active workers of the sections of the Communist International to understand the importance of the organization of Communist International, carried out by any of the foreign sections of the party of countries which previous to 1917 had formed part of the Rus-

The International Marionettes



The British imperialists have organized an anti-Soviet Russia and anti-Turkish bloc of the little Balkan puppets. Baldwin is seen pulling the strings while MacDonald is grinding the organ. The Russian worker is saying to the Turkish worker: "Sometimes we may be able to thank Mr. Baldwin for this comedy." (From Molodaya Gvardia, Odessa Young Communist Daily.)

plan empire. What is the explanation for this?

Many critics comrades that the nucleus which had been readily adopted in Russia, could not be mechanically transposed to other countries because conditions in these countries differ from conditions in Russia. And finally there is the force of habit.

There are even now Communists who imagine that the destruction of the old form of organization would also mean the destruction of the Communist Party. They see in the organization of nuclei the destruction of local party organizations.

THERE is also another element which resists, and quite conclusively, the reorganization of the party on the factory and workshop nuclei basis. This element is not workers but it is the supporting Communists by members of social-democratic parties and by opportunist trade union officials.

And yet in spite of all the difficulties, this year has witnessed the practical reorganization of the party on the basis of factory nuclei in the big industrial centers of Germany, Poland, and America. Communist fractions are being in the matter of supporting Communists by members of social-democratic parties and by opportunist trade union officials.

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Under the existing old forms of organization party members are not active. They only meet when they are summoned to meetings before elections, or campaigns connected with elections. Party members do not discuss and make decisions on all party questions, they very seldom meet among themselves, and therefore the above-mentioned party

It should also be stated that in Germany and France nuclei publish periodically papers for their or several kindred factories, which have, in addition to political articles, also special columns which deal with factory life. These newspapers are varied and interesting. In Italy the party organizations publish a weekly or bi-weekly newspaper small leaflets on various subjects, which are distributed among the party organizations. In Germany, France, Italy and Norway workers' correspondents from factories and workshops have begun to function and have already achieved a certain amount of success.

ALL this is most decidedly the right way to the transformation of our broader sections of the Communist International into mass parties supported by large sections of the urban and rural proletariat.

New life has been put into the party organizations of the above-men-

tioned countries. They have become imbued with the revolutionary energy of the factory workers. The recent demonstrations of the Paris workers, with whom the Paris party organization has come into direct contact thru the factory and workshop nuclei, have shown how much the latter were needed and how important they are for the proletarian and revolutionary Communist Party.

WE have chosen the right path. The experience of the Communist International in the great and absolutely proved that there are not something peculiarly Russian, not adaptable to European and American conditions. They have stood the test, also under western conditions.

It is necessary to overcome the difficulties and to organize nuclei in all the factories, works, offices, shops, barracks, estates, etc., etc., in fact wherever there are wage workers, whether they be men, women, young workers, mobilized soldiers, sailors,

Nuclei should be coordinated into wards and districts, the latter on a town or suburban scale, and these in their turn on a national scale. If something has been done in connection with the organization of factory nuclei in factories and workshops and in connection with the creation of some party organizations in the industrial centers of some countries, very little

(Continued on page 8)

Singing Jail Birds

A Drama in Four Acts
By Upton Sinclair

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Letters From Soviet Russia

How We Live.
DEAR COMRADES: I do not know whether our comrades abroad know how we live. Anyhow I think it is worth while to tell them about the life of the young Bolsheviks. We live in a bay, a very swampy place where Wreghit had one of his main strongholds. Our division drove Wreghit out by attacking him from the rear and thus settled his fate. Hence our division is called the Strash Division.
 As to our life, I will not waste words over our everyday routine. We live with the main features of our life. **DISCIPLINE** is very strict, but it is secured by continually and in every opportunity moment explaining to the Red Army men their rights as well as their obligations, their role as the defenders of the Soviet Union. For this purpose we have, in addition to military training, political education classes two hours daily.
 During these classes Red Army men study the Soviet constitution, the history of the Soviet Union and the history of the Red Army and the Civil War.
 The Red Army men are also taught geography, reading and writing, arithmetic and agriculture. In our artillery regiment we have an illiterate, but there are illiterate people in our infantry regiments.
 They are formed into separate groups or squads and are taught to read and write being set free from drill and other work.
 It is more than half of our regiment consists of Ukrainians they are drafted into separate groups in which they are taught in their own Ukrainian language. I suppose you have nothing of the kind in your country.
 Military subjects are taught only in the Russian language, courses varying from 5 to 9 Red Army men. Red Army men are placed in groups according to their standard of development. The group system is the best for military training.
 Details hours are given to general physical training and to the study of mathematics and physics.
On the whole six hours a day are given to study and the rest of the time, if Red Army men are not among the masses they pass at their own disposal and may spend it just as they like if they inform their immediate chief.
 For their recreation there is a club with a number of circles, a school for political education, a dramatic circle, a circle for general education, etc. The club has a library and reading room, it publishes a wall newspaper which does not even appear the commander of the regiment if he has been at fault in any way. There is also a military correspondence circle in which all Red Army men who contribute to the paper belong. In this circle they learn how to write for the press, how to inform the masses, and we also have "youth" social, "military" social, etc. The club works for the whole year. We must admit that the club of our regiment is not as efficient as the clubs of other regiments.
In addition to all this we have a Lenin "corner" with various sections in every battalion of the regiment. In these "corners" there are small libraries and about 8 different newspapers. Readings and informal talks take place in these "corners," as well as party, Young Communist and general Red Army meetings and general meetings are held once a month for the whole regiment.
 Very frequently (every week) we are taken to the cinema. We also visit the workers in the factory which is our partner. It will deal with patronage in my next letter. We also visit museums and aquariums (there is a very good one in Nikolaev). This is just the general outline of our army life. Also we are taken away from the base at least once a week to the front. The Red Army which is a proletarian army is a school, and

young peasants are right when they say we are a school.
 "We must study otherwise we will come back to our villages just as we left them, and what would be the use of that?"
 And we get a military training and become and become more efficient as we go on. Thus your brochure will never be able to take us out of the main straightness.
 There is still much to write about our economic situation, our short-ages, the link between the workers and peasants, etc. But I will leave all this for my next letter, that is to say, for another issue of it and if I receive a reply from you.
TODAY I want to describe just one of our facts. Not so long ago I received a reply from you.
 I was in the regiment the trial of the commander of the platoon. He was charged with having compelled a Red Army man to run about 15 minutes wearing an anti-gas mask as a punishment for some misdemeanor. The revolutionary military tribunal sentenced him for exceeding his powers to 12 months' solitary confinement and most observe strict discipline. G. Koten, Red Army man of the 15th Artillery Regiment, Nikolaev, Ukrainian, S. S. R., Jan 20 1925.

Red Army Man Writes Home
 Editor's Note: In view of the interest which the workers of western countries take in the life of the Red Army of Soviet Russia, we think that the enclosed information will not be out of place. This interesting document is the copy of a letter written by a young Red Army soldier to his people at home.
 "I A RED ARMY MAN of the crack 4 squad of the N. H. H. regiment, and who is interested in the Communist League of the Dorsk Nucleus. In this letter I want to tell you about our life in the ranks of the Red Army, about our life and doings in that army. As soon as we arrived at our post we were given our full ration and fitted with cloth uniforms. We are now full dressed Red Army men and the first time we had a short time ago. We write to order, we drill, we take care of our rifle and most observe strict cleanliness. After a few days we got accustomed to the new life and to the barracks and the commanding officers and the commanding officers. We give two hours a day to our political education and the remaining hours to the study of special military subjects, for that is our specialty. In the evening we read newspapers, attend lectures, go to the club and are frequently taken to town to theater and excursions, and so on. We have heard all soldiers say that there is no comparison between the carlist and the present army. What then has happened? Now we are all equal, the commanding officers are our comrades, in our ranks we treat them as our comrades, but when off duty as our comrades. We ourselves deal with our officers and talk with them as for some economic commissions. In the theater we sit side by side with our officers and talk with them as with comrades. Was there anything of this kind in the carlist army? What was the soldier there?
 There is of course a big difference.

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Wages in the enterprises	725 rubles.	812 rubles.
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Average pay per worker	44 r. 75 c.	87 r. 65 c.
Wages of skilled workers, unskilled workers and apprentices.	4,179 rubles.	5,402 rubles.

Thus the pay of a skilled worker is considerably higher.

THESE figures speak for themselves and show what can be done with proper organization, by reflecting credit on the works production commission which was appointed by the workers' production conference.
 The organization of the production commission and conference is the following: Every craft (we have 23) appoints a craft production control com-

BELGIUM
BRUSSELS: At an extraordinary congress of Belgian miners recently held to discuss the wage question, the delegation from the Knights of Labor, the miners' organization, affiliated with the R. I. L. U., was refused admission to the session. Four members of the latter organization which was holding a conference at the same time, entered the congress hall with the following communication addressed to the executive committee of the reformist organization:
 "We renew our proposal for a joint congress of all miners' organizations with the following conditions: that means for struggle to be used against the mine bosses' attack on wages."
 "The delegation of the Federation of Miners' Unions, the Knights of Labor, the Knights of Labor demands to be allowed to participate in the work of the congress, and the right to speak in defense of the stand taken by the miners organized in the national Federation of the Knights of Labor."
 Upon the return of the delegation with the answer of the reformist chiefs, the congress of the Knights of Labor launched an appeal to all Belgian workers, and particularly to the miners, to support the proposals for united resistance to the wage-cut adopted, calling attention to the propaganda carried on by the committee of action, Communist and Knights of Labor for preparing the miners for united resistance against the mine-owners and against the reformists who ignored the proposal for a united front.
 But except Wage Cuts.
 The militant elements have been excluded from the congress of the Miners' Union the chiefs had no difficulty in getting the delegates to accept an appeal to the miners to all represented the new 6 per cent wage-cut announced by the mine-owners. It is no longer the bourgeoisie of the Miners' Union forced the Belgian miners to accept a 6 per cent wage-cut by submitting a list of 100,000 signatures, which lasted for three months, and in which the miners' organizations and the fighting spirit and such steady resistance to the governor declared martial law in the industrial district, and the result reached a great pitch at the time and now a widespread revolt is expected against this latest piece of treachery.

BULGARIA
SOFIA: The relentless hunting down and persecution of the Communist Workers and the Peasants' Party by the Bulgarian government, and the utter impossibility of carrying on any local action of any sort whatsoever, has resulted in the flight on mass of workers, peasants and intellectuals to the mountains from which, or ganized in "chetas," they are carrying on unceasing guerilla warfare against the government. These "chetas" are composed of groups of 30 to 50 men, organized on a military basis, under the leadership of an elected commander. A systematic struggle against the fascists and the government is being carried on by the "chetas," weakening and disorganizing the government apparatus, and in these fighting groups the masses have a real and effective voice against their oppressors.
 Bands of this kind have been formed in all parts of Bulgaria, and the government has never yet succeeded in capturing any of them. The peasants and workers aid them in every possible way, thus rendering the government's pursuit of them difficult in the extreme. Recently the government adopted a new method in its efforts to capture these revolutionary bands: proclaiming reward of 20,000 to 300,000 leva for every member of the "chetas" taken. The Bulgarian government has already appropriated 20 million leva for this purpose.

GERMANY
MUNICH: The central organ of the German Communist Party published information revealing the preparations being made by the government against the working class in anticipation of a general strike in all the leading industries. The whole navy is in readiness, the army is well equipped with ammunition, and submarines are patrolling the coast. Agreements in the mining, metal transport and a number of other industries are just coming to a close. The government is favoring a referendum in favor of the Luther government against the merciless exploitation of labor under the Dawes plan in the form of a general strike. It is tremendous momentum among the rank and file of the German workers. The government is being urged to jettison the Communist leadership and smash up the Communist Party. The great and the small "Chetka Trial" before the storm broke, and the press is broadcasting warning against the Bolshevik danger, and throwing out dark hints about yet more "Zinoviev Letters."
 Shop Committee Congress.

The session was marked by an incident significant of the distillation meant and disgust with the social-democratic leaders that resulted upon revelation of their treachery and corruption in spreading among their former working class supporters among the workers who took the floor was a member of the social-democratic party, who works in one of the plant's great metal concerns. He declared that many workers now perceived the treachery of the social-democrats. The Ebert trial had finally opened his eyes. In the huge establishment where he worked there had been no meeting of the shop committees for a year and three months, owing to social-democratic sabotage. In conclusion he said: "We want to work with you. We want to re-establish trade union unity in the coming interval, because this gives the only possibility for the proletariat to get out of its present misery."
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GERMANY
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AUSTRIA
VIENNA: The Austrian social-democratic have become involved in the same sort of unclear mess as the German social-democrats and their brethren. A scandal is coming to light, the Sklar scandal, which promises exciting revelations quite as the standards of the Barstai affair. With the aid of the social-democratic ministers, Sklar and his accomplices stole about 200 million Austrian crowns which they used to further a number of crooked deals. The ministers most deeply involved in the affair are Matsala and Schaefer.
 The social-democratic press has not breathed a word about the matter, but the Communist Vienna Rote Fraue has been making up for the omission. For some time that they are protecting these grafters, the social-democratic authorities are using the forces of the German social-democrats. Just lately they raided the secretariat of the Austrian Communist Party, and seized the Red Soldier, the Communist paper for distribution in the army.
 The Communist Party, which has just been reorganized on a firmer base, recently held a great demonstration against the Ramek cabinet, and against the expulsion of the Polish comrade, Baral, condemned to death in Poland, who has been living in Vienna for the past four years.

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 DENTIST
 645 Smithfield Street.

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The Housing Situation in England

By J. Tarnor

If we need any proof that British capitalism is crumbling, it is quite evident from the fact that it has not failed to produce a report on the housing situation in England. Prior to 1914 the situation was pretty bad but has since been aggravated by the lack of building of the terrible overcrowding that has followed.

Our mining villages and industrial towns are a stinking disgrace to the civilized world. They are a blot on the map of the world, a blot on the map of the world, a blot on the map of the world.

Who can read the grim story of the squalor, over-crowding, and insanitary conditions in which a vast part of our mining population lives today, without a sense of shame.

Long rows of one-roomed houses, built of the stone of the locality, in which sometimes a ladder was afterwards added, were there generally no window or door at the back, the only door being that which led into a side-courtyard—a terrace in winter. An open gateway, the entrance to the street, was at the front.

At the beginning of the war, the housing situation began to grow more acute. Thousands of workers flocked into the industrial centers, until it was almost impossible to get a room. The authorities erected wooden huts as a temporary expedient, but these were not sufficient to relieve the situation. Rents soon soared but as a result of organized opposition on the part of the workers, the rent restriction act (1915) was passed, forbidding the increase of rents.

What arose out of the situation, the press said, "To the housing workers. This was untrue. The material were under the control of factory workers. The threat of government to force prices up to the highest possible limit. The following tables are a comparison:

THE rent restriction act (1915) applied to the houses of not more than £35 annual rental, i. e., working class houses. No provision was made for furnished houses, with the result that many let, containing a few inferior articles of furniture, and landlords had complete control. This act remained until six months after the war, when it was replaced by a further act allowing 10 per cent increase in rent and covering houses up to £70. This was amended in 1920 by a bill to last three years and provided for an increase of 40 per cent and also included a clause making profiteering in furnished rooms illegal.

The position had now become so keen that "key money" was often paid for a house, and thus being the authorities up to their eyes in the matter, they had to pay for the key of a small cottage.

WHILE the rental, the return on property was small compared to those of industry, and much of the property found the way on to the market. Many of the workers bought their own houses, only to find that they had paid a fictitious price for them.

Building and Legislation
It became quite apparent, after the conclusion of the war, that there was no hope of private enterprise supplying the necessary houses, and the government took action by passing the housing of the people act (1919).

	Central District	Pct.	Outer
Back-to-back houses	51.67	27.47	0.13
Total death rate, 1914-18 (per 1,000 population)	19.3-21.8	13.1-18	9.4-10.9
Infant mortality (Death rate per 1,000 births)	134-171	94-128	60-78
Measles (death rate per 1,000 population)	0.564-0.7	0.324-0.46	0.04-0.12
Diphtheria and pneumonia (death rate)	3.63-2.68	2.33-2.12	1.19-1.62
Phthisis	1.63-2.63	1.1-1.4	0.67-0.89
Infant summer diarrhoea	29.57	19.56	3.9

making it compulsory for the local authorities to supply the shortage. Thousands of houses were built as a result, but on the grounds of economy, the subsidy was curtailed and operations almost ceased. The loss on the build-

ing, which was being borne by the state, was estimated at £10,000,000 for the year, the cost of the houses being £1,100 each.

Where did the money go? THIS was the Moneys question which arose out of the situation. The press said, "To the housing workers. This was untrue. The material were under the control of factory workers. The threat of government to force prices up to the highest possible limit. The following tables are a comparison:

	1914	1918	Increase	1920	Increase
Bricklayers (per hour)	10 1/2d.	1 6d.	71	2 1/4d.	165
Laborers (per hour)	10 1/2d.	1 1/2d.	120	2 1/4d.	216
Cost of living	100 pct.		125	176	
Bricks (per 1,000)	23 0d.	28 1/2d.	21 1/2	31 1/2	184
Iron pipes (per ton)	47	58 1/2	6 1/2	82 1/2	232
Slates	1 1/2d.	6 1/2	4 1/2	22 1/2	222
Iron Bars (per ton)	£9	11 1/2	3 1/2	24 1/2	154
Nails, 2 1/2 pct., tinner 300 pct., bath					

OTHER material had risen in a similar manner, and it is clear that the scheme failed because the workers exploited the situation. The result was that the rents of the houses were so high that the workers could not afford to pay them, and most of them were compelled to take to the streets and thus being the authorities up to their eyes in the matter, they had to pay for the key of a small cottage.

ensuing the German workers, to exclude the workers at home, and the cost of the work to be increased by him in the Chinese industrial movement. He was an uncompromising foe of western imperialism and the Kuomintang party, under his direction, accomplished wonders in uniting the Chinese masses. He was a staunch friend of Soviet Russia and was largely instrumental in forming about the alliance between the two nations.

(Continued on page 5)

the evictions, and by force of numbers, often prevented the eviction of the tenant, or replaced the furniture of the tenant and left them in a state of destitution. They in no way helped the tenant, and in fact, they were successful in getting the notice of eviction cancelled, and the members were homeless, there were in many localities, houses standing empty, and the workers, who often had their own hands, and very often the houses and put their members there, while the landlords tried to move them, often let them stay.

Another tactic used successfully by the unemployed was to change over the tenants against whom the notices were served, so that when the officials came to carry out the evictions, the person against whom it was so did not live in the house, and so it was impossible to go over the whole of the proceedings afloat.

The workers have often come up against the police in these matters, and have been severely injured and imprisoned for the part that they have taken in the struggle.

Rent Strikes
THE revolt also found expression in rent strikes which took place in various parts of the country. A Tenants' Defense League had been established, and the rent restriction courts against evictions, and illegal increases of rents. The league was controlled by the social democratic element and was most careful to keep well within the law. In Manchester, a rent strike took place. Two streets were involved. The landlords had not given the necessary notice to the tenants, and the tenants, relying on the support of the league, had a clear case. The league refused to give its support as they did not see that the advantage should be taken of a small error to deprive the landlord of his rights, and so the strike failed. In London and other centers, strikes took place, with varying degrees of success, and in some instances, the decision was given in favor of the tenant, and although it was carried to the county sheriff, the court

of appeal, and in October, 1920, to the house of lords, the tenant still had the victory.

allowing the tenant to keep the unpaid increase, but made no allowance for the return of those that landlords had received illegally. It also allowed the right of appeal to the county of the sheriff for the removal of any "bona fide" errors or omission that may have been made. This was fought on the grounds that the errors made were not "bona fide" and as yet no settlement of the position has been reached and all the increases are still illegal.

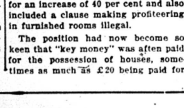
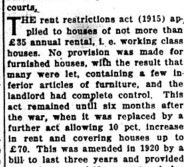
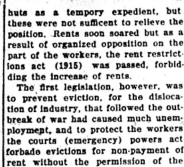
The struggle is still raging, and in the meantime the tenants are mounting up as it is necessary for the landlord to refuse the offered rent otherwise that would be to commence the agreed rent and he would have to commence the whole proceedings again. They cannot evict them, for the courts are still afloat.

THE labor council and protest are on the workers' side, although there are £70,000 owing in rates, while the landlords have so far lost £120,000, and the amount is growing at the rate of £50,000 per month. But the workers are determined to carry on the fight until their demands for the new standard of rent is granted.

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Turning on the Light



The Housing Situation in England

(Continued from page 4)

A dispute arose over the rates of pay of the men who were building them. The men employed in the erection were engineers, who received about £1 per week less than the building workers, and the Builders' Union claimed that these men should be paid the standard rate of the industry. Lord Wre refused to discuss the question, on the grounds that these men were members of the Engineers' Union, and received the agreed rates of that industry.

THE rings once more took advantage of the situation, and the Eight Counties Federation, the only body that need fear no competition, once more put up the price of their goods.

After the end of the war, evictions became prevalent. The control had to some extent been relieved and it was now easier for the owner to obtain possession of his house. Many of the owners were desirous of getting rid of it and in order to get a better price for the house, first got rid of the tenant. The unemployed, unable to pay their rent out of the miserable pittance they received, were the great sufferers.

THEY were however, well organized, and were not prepared to take the matter lying down. They rallied their forces to the scenes of

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Another tactic used successfully by the unemployed was to change over the tenants against whom the notices were served, so that when the officials came to carry out the evictions, the person against whom it was so did not live in the house, and so it was impossible to go over the whole of the proceedings afloat.

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SUN YAT SEN



THE death of Sun Yat Sen, leader of the Chinese people's party, Kuomintang, has brought to the attention of the world the mighty role played by him in the Chinese industrial movement. He was an uncompromising foe of western imperialism and the Kuomintang party, under his direction, accomplished wonders in uniting the Chinese masses. He was a staunch friend of Soviet Russia and was largely instrumental in forming about the alliance between the two nations.

(Continued on page 5)

High Prices and the Farmer

By IRA SIEBRASSE

WITH grain prices going up and up, the time for spring seeding approaches, and we are reminded that we need make an additional outlay for seed wheat.

While it is customary for farmers to save seed out of their last year's crop, we often sell short in the fall to meet pressing obligations. Then too a number of cases have come to my notice where neighbors have sold all their grain to get rid of weed plants that infest the grain since they do not have the necessary machinery for cleaning and the separation of food from the seed.

High wheat prices are laded at the benefactor of the grain grower. This is only a half truth, for few grain growers may temporarily benefit where they have not sold out at a time when an exceptional price is being offered. It is not our fortune. The producer is always the loser.

It is a time of peril for the grain grower, seed is high priced with the general result, that when seed is bought much seed is usually put in the ground. In the event of a good general crop of wheat it frequently takes several bushels of grain at the time of sowing to pay for one bushel of seed used at the time of seeding, this is especially true of spring grain seeding. So under present conditions it is very unprofitable undertaking. The grain grower is not the beneficiary in this transaction usually for grain and milling companies take their profit from the grain grower and the feeder who frequently are one and the same farmer.

So whichever way the wheel turns it is not our fortune. The producer is always the loser.

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price on anything he must buy. Consequently he invariably finds the many the best when he sells and up when he must buy. With no stability in prices the farmer has no control whatever over the cost of production. Often the farmer produces a crop that actually cost him more than he can sell it for. If he fortunately gains a little on one crop, he most assuredly will lose on some other.

As farmers, our only hope to get in is to join with the workers in the other industries for workers' control. There may sometimes be reason to question whether some farmer is acting rationally but to know the life that is lived there is no reason to think that he is not a member of the proletariat.

All power to the dictatorship of the proletariat.

'BEAUTY AND BOLSHIEV'
AT THE WICKER PARK
THEATER IN CHICAGO

The famous movie "The Beauty and the Bolshiev," which drawn a gathering of 7,000 people when it was shown in Chicago some time ago, is coming again to town for one evening only. It will be shown on the Northwest side, at Wicker Park, Theater 129 Milwaukee Ave., on Wednesday, April 15, from 6:30 to 11 p. m. continually. The success will be the Russian Workers' Aid, the International Communist Daily Noy Mir, and thus being the authorities up to their eyes in the matter, they had to pay for the key of a small cottage.