ONE PENNY



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WEEKLY.

# The Ferrer School by Prince Hopkins.

When I first visited the Ferrer School in New York, it was housed in some abominable little quarters down by St. Marks Place, just off the Bowery. After that, it moved to quarters far uptown, but which were almost equally inadequate.

My impressions were not good. This resulted in the first place from the fact that the idea of a school based upon liberty was new to me, I was unwilling to make allowances when I saw certain things neglected which the ordinary school places in the first rank of duties, but which, as judged by the standard of real life, are useless or harmful. Among such things are the stereotyped order of studies, the tomb-like class-room silence, and the exaggerated respect paid to the authority of the teacher.

But there were also some other defects, which resulted from other causes. The cramped quarters, the poverty, the fact that the children came in largely after having fatigued themselves with a full day in the regular city schools, were great handicaps.

But in spite of all obstacles, by the sheer driving power of the idea of a school based upon freedom, and the selfdenying idealism of Harry Kelly and a few other devoted comrades, this little effort survived to the day when its backers, borrowing funds, subscribing a few dollars out of their small working-class wages, and boldly trusting the future to wipe out the remaining deficit, purchased a piece of land at Stelton, New Jersey. The school was made the centre of the

The school was made the centre of the new colony The community, however, was not merely school. It was a place to which anarchists and heretics of all kinds could come, and live more cheaply than in the city, at the same time that they enjoyed not only the country air, but the society of others of like minds with themselves. Withal, Stelton was near enough to New York so that members of the colony whose work was in the great city could, if they wished, go back and forth daily.

This combination of school and colony proved a very fortunate idea. The colonists sent their own children to the school. They also had friends out over week ends, who became interested in the ideas of the school and sent children to it. On the other hand, the school provided an excuse, and a nuclear idea, for the colony. So the two grew together.

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In some ways the site might have been more wisely selected The country around Stelton is about as dreary and uninteresting as you could find anywhere. The colony certainly didn't attract anyone from the artistic standpoint. Cheapness was its sole recomendation. Nevertheless people came, and set up their little wooden shacks. With only a few boards to shut out the cold blasts of a climate to which England has hardly anything to compare in winter, these hardy pioneers stuck it out, vear after year.

year after year. The lack of funds drove the members to one measure, which I for one have always deeply regretted. Under the pressure of circumstances, they yielded to the advice of the individualistic faction among their membership, and declared for private ownership of land. Lots were sold on the freehold principle, and passed out forever from the control of the Community. Recently a cooperative store flourished for some time in the colony, but during the great part of its history, the only common enterprise was the school itself. From the beginning, as I've said, the central principle of the school was that of

From the beginning, as Ive said, the central principle of the school was that of complete liberty, limited only by the equal liberty of others. This has been maintained not merely in principle, but in practice, with very great consistency. When the school moved from New York to Stelton, and became a place where the children lived and boarded, a number of problems arose which made the adherance to this rule very difficult; and some slight infringements of the letter of unqualified freedom were conceded to the realities of the situation. For instance, on an ice winter morning, many, if not most, of the children would undoubtedly have remained in their warm beds, were they not goodnaturedly but firmly pulled out of them. Neverthelem

Nevertheless, according at least to my own reaction, the school would have benefiitted by more discipline rather than by less. In particular, I had the feeling that all should be made to do their share of the unpleasant tasks about the place, and to be more responsible for the communal property. I once or twice sent a present of garden tools or other materials to the children, only to find that by the time of my next visit, they'd all been lost.

Another regard in which the libertarian principle seemed to me to have received en excessive emphasis, came up in the classes and conferences of the children, when some issue was being discussed in which all were greatly interested. At such times, all members of the group would talk at once, regardless of whether there were any to listen, or of how much each prevented anyone else being heard. Any suggestion that a chairman be appointed, or an order of speaking be decided upon, always met with strong disapproval on the score that it would infringe personal liberty.

In the sphere of academic progress, the effect of liberty was a mixed one. The children naturally objected to much in the ordinary school program, as having not the slightest bearing upon real life; at least as life touched them. If a teacher hadn't the power to make a subject entertaining, the younger children shunned it in favor of other occupations which had a greater appeal. The immediate result, therefore, was a program of studies which departed radically from that of outside schools. When, however, these children came of

When, however, these children came of an age beyond which the Ferrer School was unprepared to carry their studies, so that it was a question of their attending, soon, the high-school in the neighboring city of Patterson, a change came over them. Their attitude seemed to become suddenly highly purposive. They began to work very hard, of their own accord, upon the subjects, in which, they knew, they were deficient according to the common school standards. At the time of my last visit to Stelton, this had resulted in their so thoroughly making up their deficiencies, that the Patterson school authorities, passing upon the standing of Stelton graduates who were in their charge, had made special mention of their excellent preparation.

This would certainly seem to be a very complete vindication of the free method, from an accademic standpoint. Furthermore, there are other evidences of true education which the authorities of the common schools are all too prone to minimise. One of these is, that, in contrast with

One of these is, that, in contrast with children who have been graduated from a school in which reading, writing, and'rithmetic are "taught at the end of a hickory stick," the child from a free school goes forth with real interest in these subjects for their own sakes. Never having been driven to them, but only led, he has formed no unpleasant association between them and enforced penal servitude in a foul aired and hard-benched schoolroom. The strongest evidence of this at Stelton was the tremendous interest of the children in all forms of art, and perhaps especially in good literature. I never visited the school without being asked by eager children to read some of the great English poets, or hearing them voice their original yet thoughtful appreciation of masterpieces in various fields of human endeavor, This of course, in a wholy unaffected, naive, way. Another trend taken by the conversa-

Another trend taken by the conversation of this school, as compared to that of almost any other, was about public affairs. This had an evil side as well as a good one, the children retailed all the scandals of the colony, which were by no means the less numerous because in theory its members justified freedom of every individual in all that didn't interfere with others. But this topic of conversation was, for the children, only one of many wider and more wholesome ones in which they were interested. One heard from them the most divergent views on all matters of the day, partly quoted from their elders, of course, but also obviously formed as the result of considerable reading and — best of all — of independent thought.

It is the capacity for this last which is, I think, the most valuable contribution which the Ferrer School has made. I was much puzzled, on one occassion of my visiting the school, and after I had listened to a speech from one of the pupils in the Current Events class which was, to be sure, somewhat unbalanced in its boyish ardour, to have the teacher profusely explain to me that the school didn't teach such dogmatic views. This fact was sufficiently obvious from the views of the other pupils. I have since found an explanation for it, in a struggle which was at that time

### THE WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT.

THE WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT.

Continued from page 1.

evidently going on in that teacher's own unconscious mind. He left the Ferrer school shortly afterward, and became one of those communists more bitter than observant of human nature, who preach that the working class should embue their children with economic theories dogmatically, instead of developing their capacity think for themselves. Just as if children didn't frequently turn against the dogmatic views of their fathers for the precise reason, that they are the views of their fa-

This teacher although he started as a minister, was one of the pioneers in America of modern progressive movements. He tairly wore himself out, fighting for them. Without his efforts, speaking for the Ferrer idea, and raising funds, it could hardly ave struggled through its early years. But the effect of it all upon himself, was to sour him. The school never came into real success until more recent years, when there were appointed its present heads, Mr. and Mrs Ferm. Although no longer young, this couple brought with them both a power of organization, and a great love of children and belief in the possibilities of free humanity, upon which largely the present success of the school are founded. There are now about two hundred pupils in daily attendance. Some of these are boarders, and others are children of the colonists. I can't say what are the proportions of each. I believe that the courses are still carried up to the beginning of high-school only, but this is because of lack of resources, which it is hoped time will remedy as it has slowly remedied many of the deficiencies of the past. Harry Kelly, has met the first tentatives of success in a campaign to get the backing of the more class-conscious of the labour unions. He is endeavoring to show them, that this is essentially a school of the working class, worthy of their financial support. He has as his ultimate aim, to see a genuine Workers' College at Stelton, of which the school for younger children shall be only one department.

One thing which has undoubtedly militated against the Ferrer school and colony, the fact that membership isn't more broadly representative. The most intellectual, the most progressively alert, America's imigrants, are undoubtedly the Jews. They contribute an essential support every forward movement; and inevitably they were the backbone of the Ferrer Modern School at Stelton, and of its offspring, the Walt Whitman School in Los Angeles. But both these schools became predominantly Jewish, that many workers came to look upon them as purely orthodox Jewish institutions. It was probably for this reason chiefly that the Los Angeles effort came to grief; and the mother institution at Stelton has undoubtedly suffered from it. How to handle this situation, is an unsolved problem.

Another question before the colony today, is that of how far the plan of liberty in the school should be followed to its logical extreme, and how far it should be trimmed to meet the bare requirements of school-system. As might be the outside expected, the community is split into two factions on this matter. I believe the Ferms told me they are heart-sick at having to put what pressure they do today upon the children to attend regular classes and prepare themselves for the conventional outside world. On the other hand, there is an increasingly large group among the colonists, who desire chiefly that their children shall be prepared to earn a living. their perusal as well. To them, the principles of freedom are "When nothing objectionable could be often only verbal formulae. They practice found in these papers, the officials repre-

them when convenient. For the time being, I can only say that the institution is in good hands.

I know of few more delightful expe-riences, than to take the seven o'clock train from New York, arriving at Stelton before the big bell summons all the children to the neat new schoolhouse (constructed by the common labor of the colonists and their invited guests over many a week-end). Mrs. Ferm takes her seat at the piano, and commences to play inspiring music. Some of the children remain outside, spinning tops, or amusing secret themselves; but over half of them enter lost. he room, and, for an hour or two, go through various exercises and dances, collective and individual, some formal, but as many, original. Some of the children of course drift from one of these groups to the other.

Then classes form themselves outdoors or in various rooms. Nearly all of these have some constructive basis. Some children are making a magazine, and they must write articles for it, select the most pleasing, illustrate them, and finally mahage either to set up the type for printing, or produce the magazine on a heckto-graph or mimeograph. Other children are earning to paint - and an exhibition of their works, held annually in New York, excites great interest and admiration. The older children will be asking for help on, correction of, their lessons in the standard school subjects.

Above all things one notices these two - universal creative delight, and universal mutual helpfulness. Fill the world with the spirit of these two things, under freedom, how it would be changed !

(This article has been supplied by Miss Hodson, The Communist Life, 36, St. Peter's Hill, Grantham.)

### NEWS FROM INDIA.

The Society of Rajasthan Sewa Sungh in India is one which binds the villagers together for mutual service and to resist injustice, especially the hated system of Begar, a kind of forced labour which is either unpaid or ill-paid. The Society has been non-violent and Law-abiding, but the Rajputana authorities have endeavoured to destroy it.

The following complaints against the action of the authorities are made by the

"Peaceful and unarmed men and women were suddenly attacked and beaten with lathies at Amergarh. In the districts of Parsoli and Basi and in several of the vil-lages of the Kachola district. The case was brought to the notice of the Mahakma Khas, but no public enquiry was instituted although several people were wounded. Some of them had their hands and feet broken, and one man actually succumbed to the injuries.

to the injuries. "Peaceful people were fired on twice at Begun. On the first occasion it was the Jagir authorities themselves who had the poor people shot down, although they had no right to do so, because they never got permission from the Newar Governm The people who were the authors of these atrocities were never taken to task and thus they were incessantly being encour aged in their cruel deeds.

The Sungh was searched on the pretext that there were some seditious papers that were required to be exposed. All the written documents, printed papers, correspondence, books, etc., were taken away the police without preparing any list enjoined by law. There were illegalities in

enting different States were sent for, and all the papers were laid before them, so that they might note down the names and addresses of the correspondents and helpers of the Sungh, in order to cause them trouble, and if possible to file cases against them. But they could discover no such material.

"It was not until Mr. Pathik protested against the official high-handedness and there was a strong agitation in the press, that these surreptitious and illegal proceedings were stopped. But as a result of these secret exploitations several papers were

'The British police and C. I. D. were offered to Bundi, Udaipur and other States. Taking advantage of the "No law régime" of the native States, they arrested many people and sentenced them without giving them facilities to defend themselves kept them on remand for the prolonged eriod of one year, and sometimes of two. For example, one could cite the cases of Pandit Nainie, Dam Sharmu, Bhanwar lallji Visharad from Bundi, and those of Pandit Gopi, Iall Sharma, Swami Perma-nand ji and Sri Lakshoni narayan Bhat

After the arrest of Mr. Pathik, Srijut Ram naries Chodhri and Sobba lall Gupta were carrying on the work of Sungh. They were the only persons who could effectively help Mr. Pathik in the case intituted against him by the Mewar State ow they too are arrested under the pre ext of publishing two articles in the Taru Rajasthan, although as a rule, a warnin considered sufficient on the first o asion. The police have been authorised t charge them under any other section as well if they choose to do so."

The subscribers register has been taken possession of by the police, consequently the press and the paper are suffering

Mr. K. Rahat writes :-

Mr. R: Ranat writes .— "Mr. Pathik is being tried at Chitton rh. If the Commissioners are left t arh themselves there is every probability being acquitted, but there are int ested parties and there are wire pulle behind the scenes who are too influent to be ignored. It seems that the Briti fficials and the State authorities hav formed a clique and they are out to cru this Rajasthan Sewa Sungh, which is th institution of its kind in India. they succeed in throwing these gentler nto prison, they are expected to laund at upon a policy of wholesale repressi "Could you manage to get a question raised in Parliament through some frien

about these illegalities and tyrannies

### DREADNOUGHT £1,000 FUND

Brought forward £222-0-112. G. Bro 6; S.N. Ghose 5/; I. A. Cahill 10 Palmer 1/- (monthly); R. Jacobs 1/ Office Collecting Box Total for fortnight £1-3-41. Total £22 \*

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# GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE

By The Man With The Hoe We find the inhabitants of this earth

divided into two great masses; the peasant paymaster — spade in hand, original imperial producers of turnips, and waiting them all round a crowd of polite per sons modestly expectant of turnips, ome too often theoretical service, as John Ruskin savs.

It is because those of us who get our ing on the soil can see the truth of Ruskin's words, that we protest against the economic and social crime committed against the most useful of all citizens, and vithout whom not only the present civili-ation, but Society itself could not exist. No occupation or industry of any kind

as the number of critics that the food producer has, and the set of critics know is little about the subject at issue as those who criticise him. Unfortunately the great mass of our critics find it much more renunerative to write articles, or make peeches in Parliament than to take a farm show us how to do the job.

With parrot-like devotion to formula, the Labour Party from MacDonald downvard tells us that if we will only copy the methods of Denmark and Germany, organisation through cooperation, we, they, will get over all our economic ike they, will get over all roubles in production, and the consumer will gain. Of course none of these wise men tell either us, the producers, or the industrial consuming public that neither of those countries has been allowed to degenerate into the dumping ground for all the sweated goods, food, raw material. that has made it possible to build the industrial capitalist system for profit this country, to the detriment of the

Both Denmark and Germany protect the interests of their first producers, because they are wise enough to see that the country which depends on its commercial ompetitors - which are always its political national enemies in the case of warterribly handicapped to start with. Therefore Bismarck and every succeeding Chancellor in Germany have seen the wis dom of a strong, virile rural organisation to grow all the food possible, despite the antagonism of the industrial capitalist class. This class, like its English predecessors, wanted cheaper food, in order to get cheap wage slaves to produce cheaper commodities, to enable them to capture oreign markets, in competition with Enland especially.

In the case of Denmark, the Governnent of this agricultural country has, for the last forty years, given assistance to produce and collect the production as eco-nomically as possible, and to export, for the most part to this country (England). Thus co-operation has been encouraged to very large degree. But what none of these people tell us producers whom they what economic standard of life the prolucer and distributor of food in those countries obtain, measured in hours and wages. I make bold to suggest that the ost of production and distribution of food stuffs in this country in wages and overhead charges, is 60 to 75 per cent higher than in either of these countries. Most of that extra cost is on distribution and not on actual production at all.

The one thing above all others that per-

agricultural industry and production. I expect every Labour M.P. in the East Why, after the example of workingmen's associations, as the teacher is resposible to the Academic Council, should not the End, as well as in other parts of London, a member of the London Co-operative Academic Council, be appointed by the ciety. If they look at their balance teachers ? ets they will find over £4.000 loss Thus even with the present system of he farm for the last half year. Enfield Society shows the same. Woolwich Society instruction, the university centralization in a democratic society is an attack upon hows a loss for the half year on 118 acres of land of over £3,500. Here you paternal authority, and a confiscation the rights of the teacher. But let us go to the bottom of the nave two of the biggest distributive sociematter. Governmental centralization in puwaiting for every pennyworth produced, blic instruction is impossible in the indu with the best means of transport and mastrial system, for the decisive reason that instruction is inseparable from apprenticevery producer not only a wage earner. ship, and scientific education is inseparable from professional education. So that the teacher, the professor, when he is not himself the foreman, is before everything the man of the association of the agricultural or industrial group which employs him. As the child is the pledge, pignus, between farms throughout the the parents, so the school becomes the bond between the industrial associations and the families: it is unfitting that it should be divorced from the workshop, eople who tell us ordinary folk how to

ties in England, with a retail customer chinery for production and distribution: but a shareholder in the concern, and yet there is a loss. If the whole of the money invested in these farms had been interest free there would still have been a big loss. What has happened to these London societies has happened on 90 per cent of the co-operative country. The Wholesale Co-operative Farm in Lancashire lost in 1921-22 over 97,000 pounds each year. And yet these are the and, under the plea of perfecting it should be subjected to external power. do our job !

In distribution the Co-operative Society To separate teaching from apprentice ship, as is done to-day, and, what is still more objectionable, to distinguish between has been a huge success when in competition with other distributors who the same rate of wages as themselves. With regard to production, they come inofessional education and the real, serious, daily, useful practice of the profession, is o competition with food commodities proto reproduce in another form the separaduced under other economic standards of powers and the distinction from the Dane to the Ryot of India classes, the two most powerful instruments and the Coolie of China. Then they fail of governmental tyranny and the subjecjust as we other producers fail, only their tion of the workers. failure is greater, despite their advantages Let the working class think of this. If the school of arts and crafts is anyof cheap money and up-to-date methods production and distribution. thing but the art or craft taught, its aim As a Communist I stand now, as I will soon be to make, not artisans, but ave stood for years, for the confiscation directors of artisans, aristocrats.

all land, factories and the means of ife whereby the people live (my own but the store, the counting house, it will land and implements included). precarious is the agricultural industry in this country, owing to the unfair competition imposed upon it by industrial in its own economic interest, that if all land were rent free to the producer and capital were lent him at half his pre sent payment of contract, he could neither himself, nor pay his man Hodge an economic existence equal to that of the road sweeper in Poplar or West Ham.

### PROUDHON ON EDUCATION

A community needs a teacher. It chooses one at its pleasure, young or old, married or single, a graduate of the Normal School or self-taught, with or without a diploma. The only thing that is essential that the said teacher should suit the fathers of families, and that they should be free to entrust their children to him or not. In this, as in other matters, essential that the transaction should be a free contract and subject to competition; something that is impossibile under a sywant to copy Denmark and Germany, is stem of inequality, favouritism, and university monopoly, or that of a coalition of Church and State.

In a real democracy, in which each nember should have instruction, both ordinary and advanced, under his control in his home, this superiority from schooling would not exist. It is contradictory to the principle of society. But when education is merged in apprenticeship; when it consists, as for theory, in the classification of ideas; as for practice, in the specialization As for the so-called higher education. work; when it becomes at once do not see how the protection of the matter of training the mind and of appli-State is needed, any more than in the cation to practical affairs in the workshop former case. Is it not the spontaneous reand in the house, it cannot any longer sult, the natural focus of lower instruction? Why should not lower instruction be cendepend upon the State; it is incompatible with government. Let there be in the Re tralized in each district, in each province. public a central bureau of education, anoand a portion of the funds destined for it ther of manufactures and arts, as there is be applied to the support of higher schools now an Academy of Sciences and an Of plexes me with this argument about co-operation here, is the fact that almost teaching staff should be chosen from that Longitude. I see no objection. But again, what need for authority? every Labour Member of Parliament, as of the lower schools. Every soldier, it is Why well as Cabinet Ministers, is a member of some co-operative society. Evidently most of them take about as much interest in their society as they have real knowledge of the such an intermediary between the student and the school room, between the shop and the apprentice, when it is not admitted between the workman and the em-

If the school of commerce is anything not be used to make traders, but captains of industry, aristocrats

the naval school is anything but actual service on board ship, including even the service of the cabin boy, it will serve only as a means of making two classes, sailors and officers

Thus we see things go under our system of political oppression and industrial chaos. Our schools, when they are not establish ments of luxury or pretexts for sinecures, are seminaries of aristocracy. It was not for the people that the Polytechnic the Normal School, the military school at St-Cyr, the School of Law, were founded; it was to support, strengthen, and fortify the distinction between the classes, in order to complete and make irrevocable split between the working class and th upper class.

### THE WORLING' DREADNOUGHT.



### Workers' Dreadnought Founded 1914.

Editor: SYLVIA PANKHURST.

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Our Diew.

The experts' proposal on Reparations are, as was to be expected, iniquitous. They will have a crushing effect on the German workers, and by depressing the standard of life in Germany they will help to depress the economic standard of workers in other countries. The reparations payments, whether made in goods or money, will have an injurious effect on trade in other countries. The Labour Party has itself argued that reparations can only be injurious to this country, yet it accepts the Experts' Report. The pressure on the side of acceptance is as strong as was the pressure to accept the Versailles Treaty and the War itself. The Labour Party has succumbed to the pressure in spite of its previous declarations. The German have previous declarations. The German have accepted the report because they are held down by the Allied Military control, which, by the way, was re-imposed largely through the instrumentality of Mr. Ram-say MacDonald a few weeks ago. The German Chancellor, Dr. Marx, has

that the Experts have fixed the scale of annual payments impossibly high. The Payment of £125,000,000 from the year 1928 would mean such an increase n exports as would seriously interfere with foreign markets.

As Communists we must desire to see the setting aside of all such iniquities as indemnities and reparations, with the whole of the financial system to which they

'No annexations; no indemnities," remains a good slogan. Communists can have nothing but abhorrence for such brutal visitations of conquest as the Treaty of Versailles and the present Reparations proposals.

Many of those, like the Labour Government, who accept the Experts' Report, have raised an outcry about the Ruhr occupation; yet there are some who consider the experts' proposals even more disastrous for Germany, (one of these, by the way, is the Daily Telegraph, "Political Observer"), and meanwhile M. Poincaré sign of relaxing the French grip on the Ruhr

### HOW LONG WILL THE LABOUR **GOVERNMENT LAST ?**

Mr. Lloyd George is on the war path attacking and threatening the Labour Government. He demands that the Labour Government shall consult the Liberal Party before it takes action, and shall ascertain what measures the Liberals are willing to support. He further demands that the Labour Party shall not oppose Liberal candidates in the constituencies.

and shall introduce proportional representation.

Meanwhile Mr. Garvin, on behalf on the Tories, is demanding, in the"Observer" truce, under which the Labour a tri-party Party shall legislate by consent of the other two parties until January, another General Election would when take place

Mr. MacDonald, on the other hand, has voiced his intention to remain in office, declaring that the nation desires the General Election to be staved off, and that sees no reason why the country should be bethered with another General Election for two or three years." Apparently Mr. Asquith is still disposed

to allow the Labour Party to remain in office on terms, but the Lloyd George faction is determined either to secure bet-ter terms, or to turn the Labour Party out. Probably the present "wait and see" position is too slow for the mercurial tem-perament of Mr. Lloyd George, who desires to see something moving.

Mr. MacDonald is apparently satisfied with the present rate of progress — if it can be called progress. He says :

"It will take at least two years to put Europe on a peaceful footing, to the programme regarding the carry out League of Nations and to get industrial relations established in anything like a normal way."

The programme called up by phrases of Mr. MacDonald is of a capitalism restored to health and normalcy. We who believe that capitalism is approaching its latter stages, do not believe that that programme can be fulfilled

Moreover, we do not desire it to be realised - we who desire that capitalism shall be brought to a speedy end. If Mr. MacDonald meant by his phrase : "to get industrial relations established in a normal way." that the capitalist system should be made to give place to a Communist system, we should be with him; but neither he nor we would set so brief period as two years for that great work. Obviously Mr. MacDonald is referring to some hoped-for peace between Capital and Labour, between employer and employed. Such a peace never will be. The strife of opposing interests is inherent in the wage system. The strife must inevitably grow more bitter as the workers gain in consciousness and the expansion of capitalism narrows the sphere of markets and intensifies competition.

Whilst Mr. MacDonald is striving to rebuild the capitalist system, shaken by the War, hampered by its own prolific growth. we are looking impatiently for its end.

### THE INDIAN IMPASSE

The non-co-operators who decided to join the Indian Legislative Councils in order to practise obstruction have placed themselves in a peculiar position. They rejected the budget. As a result Lord Lyt They ton has restored the votes for the expendi-ture the British Government desired by certificate, including the salaries of Ministers, whilst refusing to restore the votes for the salaries of officers in the Medical and Educational departments. 1.200 of these officers have been given notice. These departments, though their administration may leave much to be desired, are departments in which Indians are interested. Were it the Army or the Air Force which had been thus denuded of supplies, the matter would be different. Indians would rejoice in that case. As it is the British Government has endeavoured to cause the action of the obstructionists to return like a boomerang against its authors. To a certain extent the Bri-tish Government has succeeded in this

effort: but if the obstructionists are intrepid they will persevere, and the independence movement will apply itself to providing the educational and medical services which British Government has withdrawn.

For our part, we always advised the independence movement against participation in the legislative councils. Complete non-co-operation was the strength of the movement, which has now been split into factions, because various sections of it have decided on various sorts of compro

In the Central Provinces the Governo has replied to the obstructionist tactics by dismissing the Ministers, and governing autocratically without regard to the Go-vernment of India Act. As it is euphemistically put, he has "suspended the

### THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT SCANDALS

Parliamentary and Cabinet rule is certainly being shown up in a most unfavourable light by recent events across the Atlantic. The United States Government scandals are scarcely brought to light and other even more serious cases of cor ruption are beginning to be unveiled when similar Canadian scandals begin to show their heads. The Provincial Treasurer of Ontario is under arrest for corruption in connection with the Horne Bank, and dilosures in the Highways and other Dep artements are preparing. A week later it is announced that no less a person than the ex-Premier Newfoundland. Sir Richard Squires, is under arrest, charged with of 120,000 dollars from the Li quor Department and with improperly receiving 43,000 dollars from the Dominion Steel Company. The former Minister of Agriculture the former Liquor Controller, and a former clerk in the Crown. THE REAL

### THE I. L. P. CONFERENCE.

Pacifism has been the outstanding fea-ture of the I. L. P., since 1914. Pacifism has had a set-back at the Party's York Conference, when the conference endorsed the foreign policy of the Labour Government and rejected a resolution calling for opposition to all expenditure on arm-

The carrying of the previous question a resolution calling for the abolition of religious teaching in the schools was a re

trograde step. The I. L. P. Conference adopted the confused and reformist agricultural policy put forward by its Executive, and thus repudiated the practicability of Se

THE TEACHERS' CONFERENCE. Year by year the conference of the ational Union of Teachers register an National deal of public service, which is an excellent augury for the day when the oc-cupational Soviets shall take over and run all industries and services. Year by year the Teachers' Conference earnestly devotes the greater part of its deliber ations, not to questions affecting own salaries and interests, but to the well fare of their pupils. Schools meals for necessitous children, medical and dental treatment, smaller classes, the raising of school age, better equipment, more highly qualified teachers, improved school buildings and many question affecting the child, both in and out of school, are discussed with whole-hearted zeal by the teachers.

### IMPORTANT

You believe in the policy of the "Workers' Dreadnought," and there are many people who think like you who would like to have th paper, only they have not heard of it Will you help us to bring it to their notice by send ing us a donation towards advertising it? need a minimum of 25s. a weak for this

### FROM THE PUBLISHERS

lism for women by Minnie Pallister 6d.) Mainly reformist, but with socialist tendency other pamphlets ories

One Union for Railway Workers by P. Higginson (I.L.P. 2d.) Contains some gestions which improve on the present itution of most Unions; but it still oses a Union, not the Workshop

Transit of Nan by Freda Barrow. Co., Sydney and Melbourne. Found in an old Box by Frances Fraser.

thian Co., Sydney and Melbourne. Poor Relief in Scotland by Alexander acCormack, M. A., (Wyllie and Son. rdeen, 5s.). - This is an interesting cal record, gives an exhaustive hisof the monasteries, charities and Poor history chiefly of Aberdeen. From riginal documentary evidence it gives graphic details of the affairs of the Church and people. The author an Act of 1555 restricting various s of people to a certain nun at meals, and an Act of 1551 dethat no lambs might be killed for years and that no "lapronis" or "pontis" might be killed except blemen with hauks.

author says of the Church : While the Church of the Middle es possessed a very large share of the ealth of a poor country, we find com-aints recorded among the clergy of misand of corruption. Bellenden, the us Archdeacon of Moray, admitted in 533 that the endownments of the hurch had brought no less damage of e commonwealth than of perdition of bod religion . . . . . Hector Boece Boetius Scotorum Historia 1575), first incipal of King's College, stafed that income of the Black Friars' Mo-astery had fallen from their original into every species of luxury and gence. . . Bishop Gordon, a son dulgence Earl Huntly, ... by his immoral nduct brought upon himself the writ-

condemnation of his own priests such licentiousness the poor unubtedly lost a share of their endow nts, seeing that their share was the plus or balance. . . . The hospital St. Peter gradually lost its valuable owments at the hands of several

hen the Reformation came, the Aberans appear to have been lukewarm t it at first, but bands from the south up to despoil the Church of its The Earl of Huntley, brother to licentious bishop, came forward to apion the Church, but carried off all aluables of the cathedral for himself eformers had to content themselves the lead and woodwork. The greater of the Church property fell into the s of the lairds and did not pass to new Church

1st January 1558, the "Beggars' monds' was issued by the blind, the ked, the bedridden, the widows and ans, and all unable to work, calling the monks to remove themselves the buildings and hospitals they oc-The New Church was ordered to de for the poor, but the order was satisfactorily carried out. y ordinances against able-bodied

rs are given and a most interesting of records is brought down to the time. Very illuminating, as showhe truculent spirit of the time, are rules from the Kirk Session Records oor must attend divine service every

### THE WORKERS' DREADNOLIGHT.

from the town and deprived of their alowance for ever. A conviction for swearng deprived them of their allowance for a week, a second conviction for ever, and brought corporal punishment upon them.

### WOMAN IN UTOPIA

changed and developed a good deal per-haps, since he wrote "A Modern Utopia." The views therein expressed are typical of many a Socialist who is not quite a Socialist, and of many a man who cannot quite bring himself to accept the equality independence of woman, although he be-

In the Wellsian Utopia everyone is to be registered by thumb print, and a re-gister of his or her doings will be con-The views of Mr. H. G. Wells have stantly in the making from birth till death. When two people propose to marry, each party to the marriage will be given the record of the other, including previous marriages, legally important diseases, offspring, domiciles, public ap-pointments, registered convictions, registlieves that he has done so. In the Wellstan Modern Utopia there ered assignments of property.' tending spouses, each in the absence of the other, would have to hear the record are money and wages and there is a "voluntary nobility."The author cannot entirely rid himself of belief in class distinctions, of the prospective partner read over although his Utopia is happily a servant-less one. He divides the population into four classes, the Poietic, the Kinetic, the Dull and the Base, and apparently his voluntary nobility, the Samurai, who are the presence of witnesses, after which an address of Counsel would be read. Then would occur an interval for consideration with the opportunity to withdraw from the marriage. Should the parties go forward with their project, "should they persist in their resolution," as Mr. Wells nervously puts it, then the local official the rulers, classify and legislate for the rest of the people upon that basis. As to woman, Mr. Wells is persuaded that she is "unable" to produce as much must be notified and an entry made in value as a man for the same amount of the registers.

work, and that "almost every point in which a woman differs from a man is an economic disadvantage to her." believes in a woman's incapacity for great stresses of exertion, her frequent liability to slight illness, her weaker initiative, her inferior invention and resourcefulness, her relative incapacity for organisation and combination

Mr. Wells is only willing to permit woman an equal place in society on the assumption that "motherhood is a service to the State and a legitimate claim to a We Communists would assure to living." everyone a right to a living apart from specific services, but Mr. Wells has other

He would give the State of his Modern Utopia the right to sanction or forbid motherhood

He proposes that every woman who is under legitimate sanctions becoming or likely to become a mother, that is to say duly married," should have a wage to be paid by her husband and a State gratuity on the birth of her child. She will also receive from the State periodical payments so long as her child is up to the minimum standard of health and de-

velopment Mr. Wells proposes that the State should

pay "more upon the child when it rises markedly above certain minimum qualificoffender" a woman who was unfaithful in marriage. A husband's infidelity, on ations, mental or physical" in order to the other hand, is of no consequence to the State, he says; but he would allow make motherhood a profession "worth following. the wife to terminate the marriage on that account. The old Adam is apparent here. He would forbid the industrial em-Wells seems to forget that the husployment of married women unless they band's infidelity will take place in conare in a position to employ qualified substitutes to take care of their children. nection with some woman who will there-He would make motherhood the "norby fall under the ban of his Utopian mal and remunerative calling for a wo-

man" and a woman who had "borne, bred, and begun the education of eight or nine well-built, intelligent and successful sons and daughters would be an extremely prosperous person quite irrespective of the economic fortune of the man she mar

Marriage settlements and the legal liability of a husband to support a childless wife, Mr. Wells will not tolerate in his ried Mr. Wells adds with some caution "She would need to be an exceptional woman and she would need to have cho-Utopia. Mr. Wells has evidently some prejudice against the childless woman, rules from the Kirk Session Records sen a man at least a little above the aver-4th June 1621, which prescribe that age as her partner in life, but his death, inder his rule woman Samurai who are married, must bear children oor must attend divine service every or misbehaviour or misfortunes would not are to remain married as well as in the perforf forfeit their week's allowance. They ruin her." Apparently the Wellsian State Order — before the second period for not receive or entertain any person, would only permit the woman to bear so terminating a childless marriage is

rich or poor, without permission of the many children were she exceptional and Magistrate, on pain of being banished her husband above the average. her husband above the average. Mr. Wells adds that the man must be

in receipt of an income above the mini mum wage before a marriage will be sanctioned, and the prospective parents must be in good health and condition; they must possess a minimum education, the woman being at least 21 years of age and the man 26 or 27.

Should a man and woman persist in uniting in spite of the State's refusal to sanction their union, or should they do so without obtaining permission, the benevolent Utopia of Mr. Wells, will refuse the aid in maintaining the offspring that it will grant in approved cases. It will impose upon the parents a "life assurance payment" and "exact effectual guarantees against every possible evasion' of parental responsibility. Apparently the State will seize the offspring and compel the parents to maintain it, sending the parents to prison if they fail of their contribution. This is anything but utopian in our opinion. The unfit who have brought a child into the world will be sterilised.

In the case of a wife who proves un-faithful to her husband, Mr. Wells would divorce her and release both her husband and the State "from any liability for the support of her illegitimate offspring." Mr. Wells would thus visit the alleged

sins of the parents upon the children "Even in Utopia women, at least until they become mothers, women are likely to be on the average poorer than men," says Wells. The divorced woman would Mr thus have a struggle to maintain herself and her child. Mr. Wells would divorce as a "public

Childless marriages be would cause to lapse at the end of three or five years, but he would permit the childless spouses re-marry each other, should to choose

### (Continued from page 3.

Having made it clear that every woman who has children will be decorously mar-ried by the State in his Utopia, Mr. Wells indeavours to show his unconventionality by assuring us that his Utopian State "out of respect for Plato," will not refuse its permission to a grouped marriage of three or more freely consenting persons, but that the proposal will be so rarely made as not to matter

Against his ideas put forth in his "Mo-rn Utopia," we set the ideal of Plenty dern Utopia, for All, and a world people co-operating without wagedom or individual profit to produce the requirements of all.

We do not aim at parenthood by State regulation, at compulsory sterilisation of some people, at compulsory birth rimit-ation for others, at unlimited childbearing as a source of profit for others. We should regard all that as unnatural and gruesome in its ugliness. It smells of the surgery from which we all rightly wish to keep away, unless we are stricken by serious disease, and by the morality-monger who by discovering immorality

Wells declares that the slums are the outcome of present-day failure to en-force compulsory birth control and sterilisation of the unfit. We reply, that the slums are the inevitable product of capitalism. It has been shown in innumerable instances that the children of the slums can become hardy, vigorous, able members of society if removed at an early age from their debilitating environment. They etimes achieve success in spite of the drawbacks of their surroundings. The same was as true, or truer, of their parents; The slums are the embodiment of poverty. They lack the requisites of healthy, comfortable, human life. It is not the physical or mental unfitness of their inhabitants which created the rack-rented, insanitary slum dwellings.

Mr. Wells' conception of maternity as a trade is an unpleasant outcome of an a trade is all unpleasant outcome of an age in which everything has been com-mercialised. His notion that he will induce the woman to breed better children by paying her more for exceptionally wellbred specimens is not only ugly, but realy silly. The woman who is in the abyss of economic misery would probably obey h instructions as that she must take her child to the clinic at stated intervals, or follow a certain routine of diet or hyene in order to earn monetary grants, will do so with rebellion and loathing of the institution which imposes the The woman who is not in the byss of poverty will resent interference and probably defy the right of anyone to assess the worth of her children. Were it otherwise, the proposals of Mr. Wells Utopia, proposals which reflect the ideas of certain Fabian economists now more and more worming their way into the social fabric, would be more harmful than is actually the case. Could mothers be induced to regard motherhood primarily as a trade, primarily as a wage work; it would be a bad day for the children. The vast inspectorate, which would no doubt exist in the Wellsian Utopia, would actualbe required. Fortunately the maternal instinct is strong enough, in the vast maority of cases, to persist even in the most dverse circumstances

The average mother, though debilitated poverty, still toils unselfishly for her by poverty, still tons unsensity to have by hot shake your near in doubt its children and even the deterrent influence of inspection by the relieving officer fails the capacity to produce more than it can to embitter her. Give the average woman the opportunity to provide for her childto rise to the occasion. Give her the know-ledge and training which will fit her to

her part. With the miserably inadequate resources she is constantly working marvels. Society has no right to reproach the mother for her failures, it is the mother who is entitled to reproach Society having done so much to hinder, so little to assist her.

As to the multiplication of the unfit, so much discussed in many quarters - poverty, economic anxiety and war create infinitely more lunatics and imbeciles than any which come of mistakes by old mo-ther nature. If all whom the doctors might declare to be physically or mentally unfit at birth, or even at five, ten or fifteen years of age were sterilised, nevertheless the unfit would continue to multiply, because the present social conditions perpetually creating unfitness in those who would otherwise be fit.

would otherwise be ht. Communism alone will stamp out the conditions which creat the unfit, Communism alone will fully emancipate man and above all woman.

The first essential of Communism is the assurance to all of material plenty. The free use of the supplies and services of the community must be assured to all and all must co-operate in maintaining them.

The man, the woman, the child must alike be assured of sustenance and service from the common stock. A wage from the husband to the wife is as unthinkable under Communism as a wage from an em-ployer to a workman. That a woman ployer to a workman. That a woman should be dependent for her sustenance on a man, or on the services he may render to the community is equally unthinkable

Our ideal for woman is not, as in the Wellsian Utopia, that she should be a pro-fessional breeder. We desire her to be an intelligent, interested co-worker and co thinker in a community of workers. We do not desire that her horizon of interest and activity should be bounded by sex, maternity and domestic cares. If and when, however, she undertakes motherhood, - and a proportion of woman will always decide otherwise - we would have her do it willingly, of deliberate choice and surrounded by every material comfort

The mutual admiration and affection of the parents, when uninfluenced by economic considerations, would be a better guide to parenthood than any officialdom. Under conditions of economic security the would be a better cult of idealistic mating and parenthood would require little stimulation. Parents will find no difficulty in instilling it into their children : it is already latent in every one. Even those who marry for money do so with reluctance. In an equalitarian so-ciety of co-workers, where usefulness and intelligence present the greatest claim to distinction, the parasitic and feeble types which to-day may evoke admiration, will cease to be tolerated.

We sympathise with Mr. Wells in his desire for labour-saving contrivances in or der to produce a servantless world. We look forward to these as a means of emancipating millions of women from a mass of tedious toil, which produces little and shuts away from them the opportunity for acquiring higher skill and knowledge. We desire to see all the finest devices that science and invention can produce intro-duced into the houses of all.

Do not shake your head in doubt, felthe capacity to produce more than it can consume. Therefore with proper distribu-tion and organisation abundant plenty may the opportunity to provide for the and organisation abundant plenty may ren adequately and she is but too eager be assured to all. Not merely material

rear them wisely, she will not fail to do us. The stories of the Arabian Nights not so wonderful or splendid as the f assured to the entire human family mutual aid and production for use replace the present system.

## PARLIAMENT AS WE SEE I

### Our Parliamentary Extracts and Comm are based on the Official Verbatim Reports.

Mr Richards, Under-Secretary for dia, again declared there is no censor of English and American publication India. We know the answer is not curate.

### NECESSITOUS AREAS.

Mr. Mills (Lab.), again appealed vain for Government grants for nece tous areas. He said that men are strar without employment in Dartford who would return to other parts of country were housing available. The stick of capitalism

### UGANDA RAILWAY.

Excess of revenue over expenditure 1921: £36,523; 1922: £124,066; 19 £364,656. So capital grows, but the on of those who do the work ren stationary.

### COUNSEL REFUSED

The right to be defended in capital other grave charges is refused to nati in Nigeria in the Provincial Courts, Ashanti and the Northern Territories the Gold Coast. North Borneo has fo wed the example of Nigeria and withdr the right; Gambia, Basutoland and Bec naland restrict the right. All these under British rule.

So much for Capitalist justice. Mr J.H. Thomas is making enquiries

BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION Parties of children visiting the Ex tion will be charged 5/- a head per for board and lodging at the hostel, meals and a packet of sandwiches are cluded. A child's tea costs 1/6 a h but the Y.M.C.A. outside the Exhibit gate has come to the rescue and substantial meal on 1

### ORDNANCE SURVEY WAGES

At Southampton the Ordnance Department has engaged labourers at said Mr. Maxton (Lab.). Mr. Buxton, nister of Agriculture said the wages from 35/2 to 43/3 The men can plain through the Whitley Council if tisfied. No doubt they are dissatisfied

PASSPORTS FROM CANADA The Labour Government refuses low Canadian subjects to enter this try without passports !

### A little n ore Czarism I PENSION REFUSED

An unfortunate fellow suffering bronchitis and debility due to war se nitted suicide. Pension was refuse

### his widow and childen

INDIA'S BURDEN FOR BEING HELD UNDER MILITARY R

In 1923-24 India paid £1,700,0 raising and training in England recru quired to hold her down. India als £100.000 to the Air Ministry to airmen to coerce her. No Indians m officers in the Artillery, Tank Corp Air Force

TEACHER'S SUPERANNUATION In 1918 a new Superannuation Ac teachers was passed. This cost more was anticipated because the teache cured an increase of salary. Therefo 1922 the Government carried an Ac cing upon the teachers a 5 per cer duction of salary as a contribution to

nment has not had time to make up what to do in the matter. Therehad decided to extend the present rement to April 31st. 1926. s a long period in which to consider teachers will say. We raestion, the hink the decision will lose the Goent a few votes next election.

teachers should realise the impor of the Soviets in which they w ge their own affairs, since it takes the dent of the Board of Education so to make up his mind on a question kind. Oh money, money; what a nce it is ! How nice it will be to be it in the Communist reign of

RADE FACILITIES EXTENSION BILL was ponted out that the Trade Fa-Act is being used to give guaranto great firms which would be able to noney on their own account in any though they would have to pay interest. This gives great concerns her advantage over their competitors. Government in granting the guaranakes no power to regulate the condi-under which the workers are em-

G. Hardie (Lab.) pointed out that States. Harland and Wolff, who have Mr. ed by the guarantee, are buying up firms in Clyeside and neighb Labour Government has inherited extending this capitalist measure to private enterprise with public money-

### LEWIS RELIEF SCHEME

for Scotland, said he had authorised crease of pay of 20 per cent.

Ir. Mills (Lab.) asked for an investiament. The proposal was refused by Government. The inspectors had inveated, that was enough. Members pro-ed that 20 girls had been crowded in e. under should have been employed and ned that this was a whitewashing t The report says that every reasoautions of dumping the gunpowder keeping wet floors and benches were

save a little money the lives of ny girls were horribly destroyed. The tives are being offered  $\pounds 20$ , and the posal Board, which was responsible for

factory methods refuses responsibility ppensation. REPARATIONS COMMISSION

nity between the Labour Government the Tory Party was expressed on the ect of the Report of the Committee of perts on Reparations. Mr. Baldwin, the y Ex-Premier asked if the Labour Prehad any statement to make, and MacDonald replied :

His Majesty's Government have nt with the greatest satisfaction of the gislation to prevent the attendance of nimous signature of these Reports by unqualified women except in emergency, experts of America, Belgium, France, y and this country. The Reports constiin our opinion, an unbiassed and carethought-out endeavour to aid the ernments concerned in their task of g-standing problem.

### THE WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT

ost of superannuation. This measure The practical value and applicability of s on May 31st. The President of the the experts' conclusions, and of the me-The practical value and applicability of of Education said that the Labour thods which they recommend, have, moreover, received prompt and unreserved recognition, by their unanimous recognition by the Reparations commission 11th April, subject to the willingness by the Reparations Commission on the German Government to collaborate in their exec His Majesty's Government feel that

Reports, supported by such authority, must command general assent, and that there will be a universal desire to use the opportunity which such authoritative ments give to end the existing unsettlement. One feature deserves especial emphasis. It is explicitly stated in the Report of the First Committee that it is an indivisible whole and the signatories in terms re nounce all resposibility if certain of their recommendations are adopted, and others rejected.

His Majesty's Government attach so much importance to agreed recommenda-tions, which can be brought into immediate operation, that they are prepared, for their part, to support the scheme in its entirety, provided that all the other parties concerned are willing to take the same course, and on the 10th instant they communicated that view to the Governments concerned, including the United

Mr. Ealdwin : May I ask the Right Hon. Gentleman if he is not aware that in the attitude he is taking up he will have the united support of the British people ?

Maxton (Lab.) said Lewis uneming it vocal now. yed are paid 4d an hour making and airing roads. Mr. W. Adamson, Secre-

### SLADES GREEN EXPLOSION

on into the explosion by Members of the Explosives Act, only precautions were neglected. They precaution was taken, yet the usual

of new ships. could be extended to co-operative societies or trade unions to advance deposits to their members to purchase houses was resisted by the Labour Government and defeated

Another Liberal motion to put two representatives of Labour and two of ployers on the advisory committe which grants the guarantees, was also resisted by the Government and defeated.

### BIRCHING IN THE NAVY

Mr. Ammon said the Government will not abolish the birching of boys in the Navy. MATERNITY MORTALITY

Maternity mortality has remained sta-tionary for 20 years at about 4 per 1,000 births. In midwives' cases it is under 2 per 1,000

or under medical direction.

BETTING

"considerable" concern and will receive a rests" on the subject.

The Prime Minister : I imagined that that would be so, but I arn exceedingly obliged to my right hon. Friend for mak-

### AGRICULTURAL WAGES

Some agricultural workers are getting as little as £1 a week in Wilts and Berks.

### TRADE FACILITIES BILL

When the Trade Facilities Bill was in Committee, certain shipping interests secured a promise that whilst freight low, not more than £20,000,000 will be allocated to facilitate the building

Liberal motion that the guarantees

# 1 000

Mr. Wheatley offered no hope of le-

Mr. MacDonald views betting with

A MUNICIPAL DRINK MONOPOLY

The Municipality of Nairobi has taken over and monopolised the manufacture sale of heer to natives. It is said the beer the natives brewed for themselves was much better.

74 HOURS FOR YOUNG PERSONS Young persons may be employed for 74 hours a week in shops. No hope of

amendment this session

### HOUSES

100.000 houses a year are required to accomodate the growing population and t replice those that become uninhabitable. In 1923, 38,545 houses were completed or are in course of construction. than half of these being for sale.

In Scotland there is a shortage of at least 100,000 houses. 57 houses were completed under the 1923 scheme and least ,280 houses are under construction.

On the adjournment of the House for Easter Mr. Masterman (Lib.) said that the Building Committee which has reported to the Government, proposes to set up a Housing Trust, to stamp out competition to prevent the migration of labour from one district to another in order to stabilise prices. It refuses to prevent luxury building in order to provide more labour for working class houses, it lays down no scale of wages, but it desires the Minister of Health to lay down a standard wage rate. He asked what proportion of the building costs were to go to labour, what to profits. Liberals are anxious to mselves as the workers' friend. When in Office they did not prove so.

The Building Trust, he said, does not guarantee, or even suggest it can produce houses enough to make good the housing shortage. 200,000, he said, are required each year to make good the shortage and keep abreast with the increase, yet the Building Trust only promises 200,000 houses in 10 years time, during which period the present shortage will have grown by half a million houses. Something igger than that is needed, he declared He suggested a building allowance to the municipalities. Apprenticeship, he said, is to be extended up to 20 years of age, but he did not think it takes four years to train a builder, and he did not see why men over 20 should not be taken in. He instanced what was done in engineer ing during the war, and was met with Labour reminders of the consequent low wages and unemployment in that industry. The Building Trust further asks for re strictions against the use of foreign manufactured goods under the scheme of which it is to have the monopoly.

Sir Kingsly Wood (Con.) said he could not see why the Minister of Health was pleased with the Building Committee Report. He complained that under it emplovers would only be permitted to pay trade union rates - neither more nor less — on housing, but on other buildings they could pay what they liked. An employer putting up a commercial building could attract men to it by higher wages, but one building houses would be prosecuted for doing so if this Report were Sir Kingsly Wood jeered at Mr. Wheat-

ley for having said at the Building Exhibition at Olympia : "I appeal to manufac-turers to increase their capital invested in the building industry." This said Sir Kingsly Wood, was a curious appeal to come from the onetime leadre of the rent

Indeed it is Everyone should make up ching a settlement of this vital and deputation of "moral and religious inte- his mind as to whether he will pin his faith to private enterprise or Socialism

### THE WORPERS' DREADHOUGET.

SHELTERED BY THE POLICE The Secretary for Scotland said that in the two years before the War the pro-ceedings taken to secure eviction in Gla-sgow were about 10,000. In 1923-4 such proceedings numbered 23,531.

The people given lodging for the night in the cells by the police on account of destitution numbered

3,664	in	1920
15,223		
54,595	in	1922
51,598	in	1923.

These reveal hideous poverty.

### **EVICTIONS**

Actual evictions in Glasgow numbered 996 in 1923 and 1924.

In Clydebank there have been 12 evic-tions this year. Proceedings were taken in 1923-4 in 613 cases in Clydebank. The population numbers 20,000.

### AIR ARMAMENTS

Major General Seeley said that air raids are the most humane methods of keeping savage tribes in order. Nevertheless he would like to see an international limitation of air armaments,

### INDIA

Viscount Curzon declared he valued as "one of the brightest jewels of the British Crown," but he feared the jewel is "getting a little loose in its setting." He wanted to be quite sure that the Labour Government would hold it tight. Colonel Wedgwood, now Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, had made some statements when visiting India which caused the Vi-

scount some concern. He had said : "The British Labour Party is with the people of India in their desire for demo-cratic Swaraj."

It was immaterial whether it was Home Rule or independence. Colonel Wadgwood had been present

at the Indian extremist congress at Nagpr. Seditious speeches had been made. Colonel Wedfwood hat not protested, said Viscount Curzon, but Colonel Wedgwood protested that he had protested.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury had said :

COMMUNIST WORKERS' MOVEMENT Sunday, April 27th at 7.30 p.m.

# ELONARD'S ACADEMY, HIGH ROAD, LEYTONSTONE.

# SYLVIA PANKHURST.

### Meetings.

Sundays, 3 p.m., Hyde Park. N. Smyth and others.

Sunday, April 27tb, 7.30 p.m. Station Approach N. Smyth Bellingham.

**IRISH WORKERS' LEAGUE** Sunday evening, 7,30; 124 Walworth Road (near Elephant). April 27th. Ed. Harby (Society of Friends' Mission to Russia) Lantern Lecture, 100 slides. Soviet Russia.



### THE "ONE BIG UNION BULLETIN"

The One Big Union seeks to organise the workers on class lines. Read about it.

'In the fight for freedom and the completest form of self-government, the democracy of Britain is wholeheartedly with the Indian Nationalists." the

"British Labour had pledged itself to the application of self-determination in India

"The whole nation was behind Gandhi." A Labour Party Manifest of February 29th last had demanded that a Commission to revise the Government of India Act should be set up forthwith, and urged that representatives of various parties in India be invited to consult with the Go-vernment to accelerate full self-government for India.

Mr. Hope Simpson (Lib.) said the Go-vernment of India Act needs altering, but the Indian Government appears to think that nothing more can be done than small repairs.

Mr. Scurr (Lab.) said that he regarded India as the Brightest jewel in the British crown and wanted it always associated with the British Crown. He wanted provincial autonomy and the right of Indians to be trained for all grades in the Army.

Certainly a luke-warm appeal from a man who calls himself a pacifist and a Socialist, and who is or has been, an of-ficial of one of the pro-Indian societies.

### THE GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

Mr. Richards, Under-Secretary for Inia said there are many races and religions in India. Every Party in the House he was sure desires India to be a full-fledged Dominion some day, but he spoke of Democracy as something doubtful and dif-ficult. Even in England it was not clear The Government of how it was working. India Act was an attempt to train the Indians gradually for self-government. He tried to defend the Act, but having a sorry case, made but a poor show. He wanted a "real, generous attempt" to wotk it. The Government was investigating the Act to see what was causing it not to work smoothly. Representative Indians who had come to the Assembly in a constitutional way would be invited

to state their views. Earl Winterton asked whether the Indians invited would be those who are prepared to co-operate with the British Government, or those who are not. Mr. Richards said plainly he meant those who are prepared to co-operate. The Government would not agree, as suggested in a Liberal amendment, to a Commission to enquire what steps are now necessary towards fulfilment of the promise of ultimate Dominion self-government.

Earl Winterton (Con.) declared himself pleased with the answer of the Govern-ment. He was glad to know that the Government intended to carry out the Government of India Act, that any enquiry the government might set up would be merely an enquiry into the working of the existing machinery, and that evidence would only be welcomed from those who are interested in seeing the Act work suc-cessfully, not from those who had obstructed it.

Colonel Wedgwood said his Government colleague had not said so much as that, but we rather fear Earl Winterton has seized the main essentials of what the Government means to do, which is in effect nothing.

The Labour Government is following in the Old imperialist tradition. Some of The One Big Union seeks to organize the Winniper, class lines. Read about it. 10/- per year; 5/- six months. Plebs Buildings, 56 Adelaide Street, Winniper, mont. That would be easy; but the bulk

of the Liberal Party remains as backwar ever. The Indians must look not Parliament, but to themselves for advance ment.

ler, and a former clerk in the Crown a also facing charges of larceny which concerns a sum of 100,000 dollar Simpler charges are also made against the Accountant-General of the Post Offic who has escaped to Canada, whilst former magistrate of Placentia is facing charge of obtaining 12,000 dollars und false pretences.

### THE EVICTIONS BILL

V

Remarkable Government Action The Labour Government secured at amendment to the Evictions Bill of Mr E.D. Simon, a Liberal Member, a provision which, so far from providing additiona safeguards against eviction, appears to have removed a safeguard which the Bi already possessed. Apparently the Bill pro vided, or was intended by its promot to provide, that a landlord who acquire a house after July 31st 1923 might no obtain possession by evicting the tenan If the landlord acquired the house befor that date, the Court might grant possess ion, provided it was satisfied that, havin regard to the accomodation available for landlord and tenant respectively, greate hardship would be caused by refusing th order than by granting it. The Governmen Amendment made the possibility of obtain ing an order for possession apply to land lords who bought even after the passin of the Bill. Mr. E.D. Simon stigmatise the amendment as a measure to promot the eviction of tenants. The Amendment was carried. It is difficult to understan the attitude of the Government on the matter.

### THE GOVERNMENT'S HOUSING SCHEME

Everyone wants to see more house built, but no one wants to pay for the whilst the builders, money lenders an landowners are determined to get all the can. The result is a dead-lock typical the capitalist system. The Government the capitalist system. The doct deta obviously reluctant to disclose the deta of its scheme, lest there be an outcry fro to foot the bi who are expected to foot the Mr. Snowden has, however, been unab to resist the temptation to disclose, som been unab thing of what is contemplated to an Am rican Journal. He has stated that there to be an average loss of 6/- a week the proposed houses, two-thirds of the proposed nouses, two-thirds of while is to be borne by the State, one-third be the local authorities. When the full burde has fallen on the local authorities fiftee years hence, Mr. Snowden estimates th it will be equal to a rate of 10d in the We about not the automical work the We shoul not be surprised were the berals to oppose the scheme in order curry favour with the poorer people a ratepayers, and with those who are oppo ed to putting further financial burde upon the local authorities.

Under the private property system reform that assits in some measure <sup>0</sup> section of people, always places addition burdens upon another section.

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