

War Danger Grows as U. S. Tries to Line Up Great Britain Against Mexico

As the situation now stands between the United States and Mexico a break in diplomatic relations seems inevitable.

Two very sinister developments point in this direction. 1.—The United States is preventing as far as possible a break of its own nationals in the direction of yielding to the new Mexican laws peacefully.

BACK DOWN? Do you get the full purport of this? The Coolidge-Kellogg administration is encouraging American owners in Mexico to break the new Mexican laws; IT IS LINING THEM UP SOLIDLY TO TAKE A STAND THAT WILL MEAN THE CONFISCATION OF THEIR PROPERTIES.

2.—ALTHOUGH BRITISH NATIONALS ARE WILLING TO AGREE TO THE NEW MEXICAN LAWS, AND ARE SIGNING AGREEMENTS, THE WALL-STREET-OWNED ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON IS TRYING TO PREVENT THIS AND IS TRYING TO INDUCE GREAT BRITAIN TO JOIN THE UNITED STATES IN THIS AN-

SAULT ON MEXICAN SOVEREIGNTY AND INTEGRITY. From the same dispatch quoted above, we quote the following:

"In an effort to line the British government up with the American government in the controversy with the Mexican government over the alien land and oil laws, Ambassador Sheffield this week will begin conferences with Edmund Ovey, British minister to Mexico. 'THE DISPOSITION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE APPLICATION OF THE EL AGUILA OIL COMPANY FOR CONCESSIONS UNDER THE NEW MEXICAN LAW, IS TO ACCEPT THE LAW. El Aguilá is the principal British interest operating in Mexico. Its land holdings obtained through purchase in fee simple of lease and concessions exceed those of any other oil company and constitute a veritable kingdom.

The Texas company and Waters Pierce interests are the two American companies which have elected to record their profits to the titles, apply for the concessions, abide

by the Mexican law, and agree before the ministry of foreign affairs not to invoke diplomatic intervention of their own government.

"Ambassador Sheffield believes that Great Britain and the United States will, on the showdown, act in unity against the land and oil laws. In oil circles the opinion prevails that notwithstanding any assurances Mr. Ovey may give Mr. Sheffield, El Aguilá and associated British oil interests in Mexico will be allowed a free hand."

Never before in the history of this country has American capitalism and American imperialism become so nakedly and brazenly and brutally bold.

Never before in the history of this country has an administration, calling itself the representative of the American people and the champion of American democracy, surrendered so completely, bent its back so lowly, crawled in the dust so shamelessly and licked the feet of capitalism and imperialism so disgustingly as the Coolidge-Kellogg Republican Party regime.

prevent other American interests from obeying Mexican laws.

Not satisfied with fighting merely for the interests of American capitalists, it is attempting to get British capitalists to break agreements already signed and to get the British government, which is satisfied and peacefully disposed, to join it in wrecking Mexican laws and Mexican sovereignty and in looting wholesale the Mexican nation.

This stand is so unusual, so unjustifiable, so monstrous, that one cannot account for it, except as the result of an effort to cover up and protect an amazing amount of property stolen from the Mexican people by crooked means, as reported by Marc Lewis in last week's issue of the American Appeal.

It is highly probable that an incredible amount of property covered by fake titles will revert to the Mexican people as a result of the enforcement of the new Mexican land and oil laws, and that Wall Street through its agents in Washington, D. C., is engaged in a desperate and reckless attempt to save these stolen goods, even at the risk of war.

Shall we go to war for such a cause? The American people can give a decisive and final NO to this question by the assertion of a public opinion with which the militarists and imperialists of this nation will not dare to tamper.

Socialists of Maryland Gain Legal Standing

Official Count Shows Good Gain Over Vote Cast in 1923

S. M. Neistadt, Baltimore, Secretary of the Socialist Party, Maryland, reports as follows on the election results in the November election: Allow me to correct the statement of the vote-cast for the Socialist Party candidates in Maryland. The vote in Maryland for the first time in the last few years showed a marked gain.

Table with 2 columns: Year (1923, 1924) and various counts (Governor, Comptroller, Clerk of Court of Appeals, Attorney General, etc.)

Muscle Shoals to Be Big Issue in Present Session

Bills On Calendar to Turn Big Public Industry To Private Interests

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The long pending Muscle Shoals issue may reach a showdown at this session of Congress. The bill providing for acceptance of the offer of a group of southern power companies for the purchase of the Muscle Shoals plant from the government as recommended by the joint congressional commission headed by Senator Deneen (Rep., Ill.), is on the calendar in both houses. It will be called up for action in the senate early in the session. Various substitutes will be offered by those who oppose the acceptance of the offer of the southern power companies, and the outcome of the matter is uncertain.

Cool legislation, which has been talked of for many years without result, promises to be a live issue at this session.

Laborite Wins In By-Election

HULL, England—Labor won a notable victory here yesterday in a parliamentary by-election, when Commander Kenworthy, a convert to the Labor party from the Liberal party, won a seat in the house of commons over Admiral Ernest Gaunt, Conservative, and Col. Charles Kerr, Liberal.

Emergency Law May Shut Workers From Radio Use

An emergency law impends in the short session of Congress this winter which will forbid the granting of any more licenses for broadcasting stations until permanent legislation on the use of the air is passed.

Representative White, Republican, of Maine, who is in charge of radio legislation, has announced that he has already drafted a resolution providing that until otherwise provided by law NO LICENSES OTHER THAN RENEWALS OF EXISTING LICENSES shall be issued for radio broadcasting stations and that he intends to introduce this early in the present session of congress.

The passage of this measure now would mean nothing less than the shutting out of labor and progressive movements from the use of the radio with the single exception of the Chicago Fed rally of Labor, until the impending monopoly of the air is perfected and legally entrenched.

That the labor and progressive elements are actually facing the closing of the radio to them as an instrument of enlightenment—that one of the greatest and most effective weapons of propaganda is about to fall into the almost exclusive use of the capitalist class appears from the following facts:

There are only 39 wave lengths—39 channels of the ether suitable to broadcasting.

Experts are of the opinion that there should not be more than two 500 watt stations to each wave length, and that these two should be at least 2,000 miles apart. According to this calculation, there ought not to be more than 178 broadcasting stations operating in this country. There are now 615 licensed and operating.

With this situation before them, the interests seeking to control the air expect to encounter easy sledding in obtaining legislation that will shut out the workers and all who oppose the existing industrial system from the use of the air.

Private property in the air was recently ruled legal by a Chicago district judge. Legislation backing up this court ruling WILL INEVITABLY APPROPRIATE THE VERY LIMITED NUMBER OF WAVE LENGTHS AMONG THE INTERESTS ALREADY IN CONTROL OF THE FIELD.

There is not a ghost of a chance for the workers to use this avenue of communication to broadcast their cause, unless they gain a foothold in the air before such legislation materializes, or unless they establish a democratic public right in the use of the air.

7 Per Cent On "Present Cost" Is Legalized

U.S. Supreme Court Hands Utility Firm 7 Per Cent On More Than Twice Its Investment

The corporation which supplies Indianapolis, Indiana, with water has involved about \$7,000,000 in its plant. Last week the Supreme Court of the United States decided that on January 1, 1924, the "value" of the plant was \$1,000,000, and that the company is entitled to rates which will yield a 7 per cent return on that sum.

That means that the water consumers of Indianapolis must pay the water company 7 per cent per annum on \$10,000,000 more than the amount actually invested in the enterprise.

This will be equivalent to a tax on the water consumers of Indianapolis of \$7,000,000 a year.

This ruling creates a dangerous situation for the consuming public of the United States. It establishes a precedent which can be followed in the case of other private corporations owning public utilities.

The principle of "present cost" as a basis of valuation, if applied to the railroads, would make their "value" at least thirty billion dollars—and probably a great deal more—in place of twenty billions, as fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Seven per cent interest on thirty billion dollars would guarantee the railroad owners \$2,100,000,000 out of the pockets of the American people every year.

The decision was written by Justice Pierce Butler, Justices Stone and Brandies vigorously dissenting. Butler, a Minnesota railroad corporation lawyer, was appointed to the Supreme Court over the vigorous protest of the Farmer-Labor and progressive elements of Minnesota. It was charged at the time that he was put on the Supreme Bench by railroad influence.

Under the ruling, of the total annual income that will now come to the corporation, which will be \$1,350,000, \$500,120 will go to the bondholders who put up every dollar that the plant cost. The rest, \$829,875 per year goes to the holding company which has the common stock, which apparently does not represent a dollar of actual investment.

Big Socialist Gain In German City Elections

Big Business and Landowners Lose Everywhere Except in Southern Municipalities

PARIS—Yesterday's city elections in Germany have repeated the recent British municipal elections. Labor parties have everywhere made huge gains, chiefly at the expense of liberals, such as the Democratic and Populist parties.

In such big cities as Dresden, Leipzig and Chemnitz, and the port of Kiel, the two workers' parties have control of the city governments.

The fly in the ointment here is that the larger party, Social Democrats, is being savagely opposed by the Communists, thus imperiling labor control.

Big business and landowners' parties lost everywhere except in south Germany.

Immediately following the elections, the big business chancellor (or premier) of Germany made another bid to fetch the Socialists into his local government. Without the Socialists the cabinet is going to have a hard time surviving.

The hive of industry is infested with drones and robbed by parasites. The boys still leave the farm, just as the Israelites left Egypt—to escape bondage.

Socialists of Italy to Rebuild Party in France

Million Italians Will Uphold Banner of Movement in Neighboring Country

Zurich, Switzerland, Headquarters of Labor and Socialist International.—The Socialist Party headquarters of the Italian Socialists are to be moved in all probability into France to escape the murderous terrorism of the Fascists in their latest debauch of violence and pillage and their suppression of all opposition parties, all opposition publications and all opposite views from those of the Fascists.

There are more than a million Italian workers in France already, many of whom are fugitives from Italian Fascism. The Socialist Party of Italian Workers has already been organized.

At a recent meeting the leaders of this party passed a resolution, which, among other things, says:

"Henceforth it is futile to nurse the illusion that the Socialist Movement can develop in Italy its own action, and in consequence, the Socialist emigrants are bound to take upon themselves the public representation of the movement itself with all the duties and responsibilities therein implied. The comrades who have remained behind under the terrorism of the murderers of Giacomo Matteotti are entitled to be relieved of political functions which are tant to a martyrdom without any possibility of triumph."

(Continued on page 3)

General Fries, Here Is Your Answer

General Fries, you attempted to get a high school teacher separated from his job because he asked in a magazine contest six questions of a critical nature regarding the present industrial system.

In your letter to this man's principal, you attempted only a partial answer of one of the questions. Dr. Flury asked, "Why do little children still toil in factories?" In your letter you admit that there is some child labor, but you assert that it is disappearing.

Here are the facts taken from the recent report of the present Secretary of Labor, John J. Davis: Says this report: The Children's Bureau of the Department studied conditions in plants in Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New York and Wisconsin. The institutions investigated employed 50,000 persons. Among these were 3,257 children under 16 years of age and 1,092 under 11.

The Bureau found a great many children in eastern industrial centers were employed out of school hours, in real jobs that could not be classified as "chore." In the city of Newark 7,500 children under 16 were thus employed; in Patterson, 2,000. Detroit made the worst showing of any city in the employment of children.

The report says, "MANY CHILDREN WERE EMPLOYED EXCESSIVELY LONG HOURS AND NIGHT WORK WAS REPORTED FOR A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER."

And, now, this one, Gen. Fries, is for "patriots" like you, who cannot stand to hear this industrial system criticized: STATISTICS GATHERED BY THE BUREAU SHOWED THAT IN 23 OUT OF 28 CITIES HAVING A POPULATION OF 100,000 OR MORE THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN BETWEEN 11 AND 16 WHO WERE ENTERING REGULAR EMPLOYMENT FOR THE FIRST TIME, REVEALED AN INCREASE.

General Fries, where did you get your authority for saying that child labor is decreasing in the United States? Did you make an unqualified statement without any knowledge as to whether or not it was true? Who should love his position: you, or Dr. Flury?

Says Stockyards Again Turn Out Putrid Products

Lawyer Asks Upton Sinclair to Come to Chicago and Write Sequel to "The Jungle"

Upton Sinclair's novel "The Jungle" caused a cleaning up of almost unbelievable conditions in Chicago Packingtown before the war. The people of the United States, who nearly all eat the products of Chicago Packingtown, have been resting easy ever since in the firm belief that all is well with the big packers, since Mr. Sinclair and the government had compelled them to clean up.

That all may not be well—that the packers may be playing their old tricks on the public again,—is indicated by a letter from a lawyer living in the stockyard district to Mr. Sinclair. The letter follows: Mr. Upton Sinclair;

Dear Sir: It is time for you to write the sequel to The Jungle. Capital won't be good unless a "big stick" is held over it. The yards so far as tankage is concerned is back or is coming back to "old times."

We have Government Inspectors 'tis true but they are being rendered impotent in the same old way—going over their heads, going to Washington, cutting down their number in a plant so as to render their influence and service toward protecting the public a farce.

I'm not the man with ability to fight the battle. You whipped the "The mere matter of ships does not

Marine Engineers Want Uncle Sam to Operate Vessels

The mere matter of ships does not constitute a real merchant marine, and it is our firm belief that no real American merchant marine will ever be established except by the government acting through established agencies and maintaining essential and agreed trade routes until their commercial success is assured.

This statement was made by William F. Yates, President of the National Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, at the final hearing in Washington last week before the U. S. Shipping Board, which is preparing to submit a report to Congress on the disposition of ships now operated by the government.

The association for which President Yates speaks supplies most of the engineers to man American steamships on the oceans and Great Lakes.

President Yates advocated an American merchant marine owned and operated by the government in order that all citizens might benefit by the service and for the further reason that "private capital, looking first to profits for investors, will never accomplish what the government has done to keep open the channels of commerce for the benefit of all the people."

What Is Your Answer to This?

One of the greatest engines for the instigation of war with Mexico now in operation in the United States is the anti-Mexican propaganda organization of the Knights of Columbus.

Last summer the branches belonging to this body all over the United States, with a membership of 735,000, sent representatives to a convention in Philadelphia which voted to raise a fund of one million dollars to be devoted to propaganda against the Calles administration.

Then they turned to press propaganda. They took as their official spokesman "Columbia," the Knights' monthly organ, and started a series of articles, written by a renegade Socialist and a Jew, by the way, attempting to prove that Mexico is in the hands of the "Communists." Copies of these articles in pamphlet form were sent broadcast. The Knights have already distributed from their propaganda headquarters at 45 Wall Street, New Haven, Conn., two million copies of a pamphlet called "Red Mexico," and two million more copies of a pamphlet with the mystifying title, "Mexico?" The money has come in well. The members were assessed a dollar apiece and already more than \$700,000 is in the treasury. But they will not stop there. It is planned to panhandle wealthy individuals for larger sums.

In addition to the propaganda carried on by "Columbia," "America," the cleverly edited organ of the Jesuits, and the pamphlets, committees for propaganda will be set up in the various Catholic dioceses all over the country with orders to keep strict watch on the local papers and protest to the editors every time anything favorable to Calles appears. Plans are under way to use some powerful radio broadcasting station in New York and once a week send anti-Calles propaganda over the air. Experienced newspapermen who have read of the one million dollar fund are dropping in at New Haven in search of jobs with the hierarchy's bureau.

While the Mexican government is committed to a considerable program of socialization and is largely a labor and farmer government, the charge that it is communistic and is in league with Moscow is a grotesque falsehood calculated to arouse prejudice among the uninformed of this country and prepare them for any kind of an adventure in Mexico that may suit the purposes of American reaction.

Workers of America, what is your answer to this campaign of falsehood and deception? There can be but one answer. Unite and meet it with the truth. Spread the publications that are telling the truth about this situation. The lives of our young men, our own liberties depend upon it.

On the income the average man receives he can't "pursue happiness" very far—even in a Ford.

Socialist Party News



California

Total official vote for state candidates Socialist Party of California...

Los Angeles

Beginning Dec. 16, Branch Central, Los Angeles, will hold its weekly meetings on Tuesday evenings...

New England District

The full report of the vote for Massachusetts has finally been published...

Ohio

Comrade John G. Willert, State Secretary of Ohio, calls the Socialist Party to task because of the inactivity of many of them...

DEBATE OF THE CENTURY!

"Is Capitalism A Menace To Democracy?"

Yes! SCOTT NEARING - Enough Said!

No! J. E. LeROSSIGNOL - Professor of Economics

in University of Nebraska; well-known

author of anti-socialist books

CHICAGO FORUM

Sunday Afternoon, December 19, at 3 o'clock

ORCHESTRA HALL—for this debate only

All seats reserved \$1.00 75c 50c

Tickets on sale at Box Office

Young People's Department

National Office. YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOC. LEAGUE 22 Townsend St., Fitchburg, Mass.

News of the Drive

ST. LOUIS, MO.—As is typical of St. Louis in all activities, they have entered the Organization Fund Drive with determination and zeal.

NEW YORK CITY.—We have a promise from Comrade Goodman, secretary of the Y. P. S. L. of Greater New York that work is under way toward topping the goal by December 21st.

FITCHBURG, MASS.—One blow is going to make the quota in Fitchburg. The Drive Committee, headed by Comrade Waaranen, has completed arrangements for dedicating the Annual Yipsel Ball returns entirely to the Drive.

JERSEY CITY, N. J.—The Jersey City Circle is the first to report reaching its full quota in the Drive.

NATIONAL OFFICE.—The drive is nearing the end, and from what reports we have had of the activities of the various circles, it will be the success we had so far.

Call to Nominate Chicago Alderman

To Branch Secretaries and Members At-Large of Cook County. Dear Comrades: At the recent City and County meeting of the Socialist Party, a City ticket was named for the spring election, and instructions given that all Branches be instructed to hold meetings in the immediate future for the nomination of ALDERMEN.

Philadelphia

The West Philadelphia Branch is planning to hold its first annual meeting on Thursday, December 16th, at 10 P. M. There will be a program of excellent music and full vocal ad dresses.

At the meeting of the National Executive Committee, Comrade Willert held a public meeting in your city on Wednesday, December 8th.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION THAT THE LEAGUE HAS CONDUCTED A DRIVE FOR FUNDS. THE MONEY IS WANTED NOW, WHEN THE FUTURE STANDS BEFORE US BEFORE PROMISES THAT NEVER BECOME REALITY.

Amalgamated Builds Cooperative Houses

NEW YORK.—Thanksgiving marked the beginning of construction on the first unit of six cooperative apartment houses of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

Learning from the Government

The people of the United States during the year just closed bought goods to the amount of \$5,500,000,000 in the installment plan.

Appeal Fund For the Week

The Appeal Fund dropped this week to the lowest figure for a long time. Three friends gave a total in new contributions of \$12.

The Sustaining Fund is very necessary until the Appeal circulation puts it on a self-sustaining basis. The Army is slowly developing.

The contributions for the week ended December 4, were: M. N. Bauman, Seattle, \$ 5.00; A. L. Combs, Detroit, 2.00; C. E. Peery, Loganport, Ind. 5.00

Help the Yipsels

The Young People's Socialist League is conducting a drive for funds in order to put out more literature and literature which is strong nation-wide Young People's Socialist League throughout the country.

Nothing absolutely nothing, can make the American Socialist movement a success. We all know we do not need an America, BUT THE INFUSION OF YOUNG BLOOD.

Old people cannot adequately reach young people. We all know we do not need an America, BUT THE INFUSION OF YOUNG BLOOD.

It is a dangerous gain in the movement. A CHASM THAT WILL SWALLOW US. A BREAK BETWEEN TWO GENERATIONS THAT MUST BE MENDED IF WE ARE TO GO ON AT ALL.

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New Leader Starts Socialist Debate

The New Leader of New York, one of the leading weeklies of the Socialist Party, has started a new feature that is invoking considerable interest in the eastern states and among party members in general throughout the country.

By way of provoking discussion The New Leader hit upon the idea of inviting a former prominent party member to open the discussion and give him unrestrained opportunity to say what he wished.

Appeal Army Activities

The Army Record

The Army editor is able to report a good gain for the week. Last week the gain was \$5 over the week before last. This gain was all in suits.

Here is something to think about: If the Army should let the Appeal die, and the Army is the only force that can keep the Appeal alive, there would be no paper in the world that would carry on its masthead as the American Annual does.

Doubles

John Koplenak, Mt. Oliver, Pa.; Fred M. Lancaster, Calif.; Henry Hoesker, West DePere, Wis.; W. M. Martins, Chadron, Neb.; John Wagner, Terre Haute, Ind.; Earl Dickson, Brookville, Ind.; Helen B. Gillman, New Haven, Conn.

Bundles

Alice Stone, Blackwell, Boston, Mass.; R. W. Anderson, Los Angeles, Calif.; Martin T. Cook, Coldwater, N. Y.; John King, Hobart, Okla.

Prize Winners

The prize winners for the week ending December 4 make the same good showing that has been made for the last four weeks.

Council Will Protect Foreign Born Workers

NEW YORK.—The Council for Protection of Foreign Born Workers opened its 11th annual headquarters at 111 Madison Square Thursday evening.

Scott Nearing and Professor to Debate

An old-time debate on the fundamental principles of socialism will be conducted by the Chicago Forum for its regular meeting on Sunday afternoon, December 19th.

Singles

H. Rahner, Newport, Ky.; Joe Zahaska, Elkhart, Ind.; J. J. Gavor, Zahaska, Ind.; Charles Morris, Water town, N. Y.; A. Hennes, Oakland, Calif.; John P. Molloy, Boston, Mass.; I. A. Whitlock, Salt Lake, Utah, R. I.; Peterson, Ishpeming, Mich.; Fred Edling, Chicago, Ill.; D. Woodhouse, Chicago, Ill.; Ellis L. Fox, Cresco, Iowa; M. E. Vashor, Chicago, Ill.; George F. H. Hester, Chesterfield, Idaho; Herman Kronewater, Akron, Ohio; Lillis L. Stone, Redlands, Calif.; Anthon Shuler, Cross, Kansas; Max Wrochling, Pittsburgh, Pa.; A. M. Smolau, Detroit, Mich.; A. M. Froehling, Brockton, Pa.; John I. Aalto, Stoughton, Conn.; Edward O. Andrews, Nahant, Mass.; J. R. Ziegler, Canada; Harry McPherson, Abington, Mass.; William McKay, Grove City, Pa.; H. Goldberg, Chicago, Ill.; Dan King, Hobart, Okla.; Robert H. Gow, Fort Hays, Shadyside, Ohio; John Massillon, Ohio; Ray Rosenbaum, place.

Every Local and Branch Should Have

Application for Membership cards, 40c per 100; \$3.00 per 1,000; Red Membership Cards, \$1.00; Membership Card Pockets, .50; Party Constitutions, 4.00; National Platforms, .10; Minute Books, .10 each; Financial Secretary Account Book with 320 records, including cash book, ledger and stamp account record, 1.00 each; Same, with 610 records, 1.50 each; Emblems: Gold plated buttons, pins, stickpins, pencil clips, etc., 25c each; \$2.00 per dozen; Solid gold buttons, \$1.00 each, \$10.00 per dozen; Gun Metal watch fobs, 50c each; \$5.00 per dozen.

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THE NEW LEADER

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