

PEOPLE OF FRANCE WILL SUFFER BY RUSSIA'S DEBT REPUDIATION

(By Associated Press.)
 PARIS, March 1.—The repudiation by the Bolshevik government of Russia's entire bonded debt caused some anxiety among French people who held at least half of the debt of the empire outstanding at the beginning of the war.
 Eighteen billions of francs of Russian bonds, at the price of issue, were listed on the Paris bourse. Twelve billions, according to the lowest estimates, and fifteen billions, according to other calculations, were bought by the French public.
 Servants in white aprons, bareheaded market women, domestics of all categories and men in the blouses of the peasant and the laborer made up the long lines of investors in front of the wickets whenever Russian loans were offered for sale.
 "I haven't a sou invested in Russia," a millionaire Parisian said to the Associated Press, "but every one of my servants has one or more Russian bonds. Another millionaire said the same was true of his household. Instead of hitting the count-

ing house and the salon, the Bolsheviks are hitting the servants' hall and the backstairs."
 There is no little apprehension in Socialist circles as to the effect of this heavy blow the extreme revolutionary element in Russia has delivered at the extreme liberal element in France. A peasant or workman who may overlook or disbelieve news of Bolshevik excesses or misconstrue their effect will be unable to doubt the evidence of his own despoilment.
 Until now the holders of Russian bonds have been reassured by the payment of the January coupons which the French treasury assumed. It doesn't appear yet, however, whether the French government will assume the burden indefinitely and if the bankruptcy of the revolution is allowed to become effective, the greater number of the smaller investors who have been financing the Russian empire since 1888 will be ruined.
 A contrast is drawn here between

the action of the Bolshevik and that of the French revolution. The Maximalists pretend that the money loaned to Russia was used to buy arms to keep the people in subjection. This was true to a far greater extent of the money borrowed by the French monarchy prior to 1789, yet the convention made it a point of honor to take those debts to the account of the republic.
 The claims that money furnished by France brought no benefit to the people of Russia is also contested. It is possible to trace the money through the official list of the loans floated in Paris and it is found that more than three-fourths of the capital represented was employed to buy railroads, to build them, or to develop industry and agriculture.
 Russia had improved only about a third of her land at the beginning of the war and the question is asked how the peasants to whom the unimproved land is turned over will find means of improving it if Russian credit is forever destroyed by the repudiation of her debts.

SAMUEL GOMPERS APPEALS FOR THE 8-HOUR DAY IN PACKING HOUSES

(By Associated Press.)
 CHICAGO, March 1.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, made an appeal in behalf of an eight-hour day for employes in the meat packing industry at the stockyards wage arbitration. He appeared as a witness for the employes and his testimony was eagerly listened to by "Mother" Mary Jones, an organizer for the United Mine Workers, and several hundred other representatives of organized labor from all sections of the country.
 After tracing the history of the fight for a shorter working day he read from a number of reports and quoted various large employers of labor to substantiate his contention that the eight-hour day in actual operation had proved profitable to the employer and highly beneficial to the men.
 In defining the attitude of organized labor toward the war the witness said:
 "Labor will make every sacrifice for the successful prosecution of the war, but it will not make any sacrifice for private profiteering during the war."
 "I advocate the eight-hour day on

the ground of economy, health and morals," he said. "Men should be only required to work overtime in times of the greatest emergency or for the protection of life and property."
 "That is why we demand time and a half for overtime and double pay for holidays. We think this penalty of added expense prevents the employers from asking their men to work overtime except when it is really necessary."
 He declared that saloons in the "back of the yards" district was an argument in favor of the shorter work day and higher wages and that if these demands are granted by the packers the money spent by the stockyards employes in these drinking places will materially decrease.
 He ridiculed the contention of witnesses for the packers that shorter hours and higher wages might increase saloon receipts.
 He said experience in other industrial centers had proved the reverse.
 "It is the long hours with low wages that drive the men to drink," Mr. Gompers said. "This is shown to be an economic truth. The fairly well paid workman who is not required to work more than eight hours a day finds more pleasure and comfort at home or visiting a theatre than he does in going to the saloon."
 Mr. Gompers said he was present when John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, presented the demands of the stockyards employes to President Wilson at Washington, previous to the agreement to arbitrate the dispute, and remembered Mr. Fitzpatrick stating that there was no shortage of packing plant labor and that if necessary the men would work "naked and without pay," to meet the government's war needs.
 At the close of his testimony, Judge Aischuler, the arbitrator, stated the argument of the packers that it is impracticable to install three eight-hour shifts in the large plants and two eight-hour gangs in

the smaller houses and meet the government's war demands without making extensive building alterations, and asked if Mr. Gompers had any concrete suggestions regarding the practical application of the shorter day basis in the present emergency.
 The witness said he had little technical knowledge of the details of the packing industry, but added he believed it could be worked out if there was a real desire on the part of the packers to do it.
 "I would not ask you, Mr. Arbitrator, to find for the eight-hour day in this dispute if I thought for a moment that it would hamper, hinder or interfere in any way with the winning of this war by a single day," said Mr. Gompers. "I know it is physically impossible to decrease the production by shortening the hours of the basic working day. The eight-hour day will help win the war by increasing production and mobilizing the good will of the working men of America. Heaven knows this needs to be done. Unwilling employers, I find, never accept the requests of their men for shorter hours and higher wages without raising objections.
 "They have a way of thinking in their own language. They get in a mental rut from long practices. They want to conduct their business without any suggestion from their employes as to the number of hours

LIVES SAVED BY VOLCANIC RESEARCH

(By Associated Press.)
 HONOLULU, T. H., Feb. 12.—(By mail)—Volcano research, virtually the youngest branch of the sciences, has already saved many thousands of lives, according to a recent address by Prof. T. A. Jaggar, volcanologist of the Kilauea volcano observatory.
 The main object of volcano research, said Professor Jaggar, is to enable observers to predict volcano eruptions and earthquakes. Although there is still much to learn, material progress has been made along this line, largely through experimental work at the Kilauea observatory, which is situated on the brink of Halemauau pit.
 "Has anyone yet been saved?" the volcanologist asked. "Most certainly yes."
 At the West Indies and Agoshima, Japan, and right now in Guatemala City, where destruction of the same kind a hundred and fifty years ago led to improvements, where history has promoted earthquake education, where fresh disaster in 1902 kept fearfully alive the expectation, and now we learn that only a few hundred were lost of a population of 30,000.
 "So at Kagoshima, Japan," Professor Jaggar said, "when Sakurajima erupted and the earthquake came, people moved and returned, and not more than fifty people were killed."

Contrast this with the Messina straits in 1908, with 200,000 persons killed.
 "The lessons of St. Pierre, Mont Pelée with its rush of cauliflower clouds, its dome of lava and lava tower, all this mechanism marking danger; the discovery of moving earthquake rifts as at Nagoya, Japan; the statistics of recurrence, of time, of place, of distribution, topography and tidal control; the relationships between volcanoes and earthquakes; the marshalling of these facts according to mathematics of chance, the making of continuous measurements of changing features as at Kilauea observatory—the recognition of all this is not geology, but a new science of economy, earth law—these lessons of natural disaster have created a new era in the study of the inner earth."
 Professor Jaggar in the course of his address said that among other things learned by the observers at Kilauea is that lava is not liquid, as was previously supposed, but is in reality a hard, red-hot body. The steaming liquid is a foam of burning gases and of glass melted by them. This oxidation heat is mostly near the surface and the deep heat is perhaps only moderate.
 The theory that volcanoes act as "safety vents," making improbable earthquakes, was also denied by the

HOW GERMANY GAINED RUSSIA'S CONFIDENCE

(By Associated Press.)
 PARIS, March 1.—Count Nesselrode, one of the first Russians to respond to the people's demands for a better share of the world's goods by distributing among them all of his property except what he required for his own living, says the growing distance between the people of Russia and those of Western Europe is due to the neglect by the French and other leading nations, except Germany, to cultivate relations with the Russian people.
 He was exiled in 1905 by the government because of the bad example he set to the nobility in giving his property over to peasants. Since then he has resided in France and become a naturalized citizen of the republic. A personal friend of Kerensky, Count Nesselrode was a fervent adherent to the revolution and gave to the provisional government what aid he could from this end.
 "The French are astonished at the progress made by German influence in Russia," he says, "but they forget that the Germans are simply reaping the reward of persistent efforts that date back to a remote period."
 As an example Count Nesselrode points to the great number of Russian students in German universities where they were aided, encouraged and cultivated in every way. He puts the number just before the war at 35,000.
 Count Nesselrode has now been professor, who said that on the contrary earthquakes are more to be expected in the vicinity of volcanoes than anywhere else.

NORWAY AND GERMANY HAVE BUSINESS PACT

(By Associated Press.)
 CHRISTIANIA, March 1.—Vessels sailing between America and Norway outside the danger zone and not touching British ports lately have not been attacked by Germans, probably more in their own interests than for any special love for Norway. Germany for a long while has not been able to send food to Norway and as far as known has not promised to do so, even if Norway refused to accept American conditions for food export to this country.
 German vessels sailing to Norway must now have provisions, oil and kerosene for the whole round trip and will only in exceptional cases be allowed to get small quantities of Norwegian products.
 Some great Norwegian factories producing articles for export to Germany are run by German coal oil and kerosene, as are fishing vessels obtaining fish for export to Germany.
 Norway at present receives from Germany steel and iron for construction and is absolutely dependent on Germany for the import of potassium compound kainite which is used extensively for fertilizing.
 completely ruined by the revolution, the little property he had retained having been asked, devastated and appropriated, yet he keeps his faith in a final sane outcome of the revolution and he considers it a great fault for the nations of the entente to base their attitude toward Russia on any other hypothesis.

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