

# THE FEDERATED PRESS RELIABLE NEWS

## PRETENDED ASSISTANCE OF FARMERS A CAMOUFLAGE TO GOUGE GOVERNMENT

(By The Federated Press)  
Washington.—How the war finance corporation conspired with the bankers in big western cities to defraud the government of hundreds of millions of dollars, while pretending to assist the farmer, was told to the senate agricultural committee Dec. 12, by John F. Sinclair, Minneapolis.

The witness, who is president of the John F. Sinclair banking corporation, appeared in Washington as spokesman for 310 small bankers in the farming districts of Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Montana. When the senate authorized the war finance corporation to assist the farmer, he said, it was urged and generally believed that the man who tills the soil would derive some benefit.

"This was the process," he said, "A was the small town banker who had loaned money direct to the farmer. B was the city banker who took the farmer's paper from the little banker. When the bottom fell out of farm prices, farmers were going bankrupt and the federal reserve board under Governor Harding refused to make more loans, it looked for a while as if the village banker and the city banker would both suffer along with the farmer who could not pay."

"Then came the big swindle. It was decided that the war finance corporation should step in and save the day. But no money went direct to the farmer. The city banker, B, said to the little banker, 'You owe us \$40,000 and you got to pay.' The little banker asked how he should pay. 'Very simple,' explained the big banker. 'You have some securities; turn them over to the war finance corporation, and on our recommendation the war finance corporation will advance you \$40,000, if you promise to use that money to repay us.'"

"In four northwestern states," Sinclair announced, "the war finance corporation gave the little banker loans of \$60,000,000 on condition that they would use it to pay their debts to the big city bankers. The farmer got none of it; he owes more today than he ever owed. All that happened was that the U. S. government now holds the worthless farm paper unloaded upon it by the city bankers of the west."

According to Sinclair, farm mortgages in the four states he speaks for have increased from \$169,000,000 in 1910 to \$530,000,000 in 1920. Taxes paid by farmers in that region have increased from \$99,000,000 to \$206,000,000 in the same period.

Short-time loans raised by the farmers at high interest have swelled from Seven Hundred Million dollars to One Billion, Two Hundred Thousand dollars in that time.

"Consider this staggering load of present obligations," Sinclair told the committee, and you will see that what the farmer needs is not more credit. His land and labor won't pay for what he already owes; why give him more credit?"

"The farmer needs and must have a bigger price for his commodity. Prices must be stabilized at a decent level. We are here to urge the passage of some law like the Christopherson bill, which empowers the government to purchase in advance the estimated surplus of non-perishable products (to resell them at leisure at the best price) and shield the farmer from speculative raids."

The Norris and Ladd bills contain stabilizing features which Sinclair endorsed.

## THE KING CAN DO NO WRONG

(By The Federated Press)  
Scranton, Pa.—A 20 years' fight by the people of the anthracite region has been defeated by the decision of the U. S. Supreme court declaring unconstitutional the Pennsylvania law forbidding the mining of anthracite coal in such a way as to cause a cave-in of the surface of the ground. The law was enacted last year.

Under the supreme court decision, coal companies can—and of course will—continue their policy of reckless mining which has ruined millions of dollars worth of property and endangered many lives during the last 20 or 25 years.

## THE SHAME OF CALIFORNIA

(By The Federated Press)  
Oakland.—There are 75,000 illiterate persons in California, 25,000 of them native born, according to statistics compiled by Superior Judge Lincoln S. Church of this city.

## ENGLISH LABOR PARTY GAINS

(By The Federated Press)  
London.—The new Labor party made a vigorous start in the house of commons. On the very first day of the new session, labor, now recognized as the official opposition led by Ramsay MacDonald, with J. R. Clynes as deputy leader, made a fine attack on the whole policy of "tranquility," on which the Conservative party got returned to power.

## FARM-LABOR GOVERNOR FOR POPULAR INAUGURATION

(By The Federated Press)  
Oklahoma City.—Two thousand farmers are expected to gather here Jan. 8, from all over Oklahoma to discuss agricultural measures with Gov. Walton, who was elected for the coming term by the Farmer-Labor Reconstruction league on the Democratic ticket. Walton has invited all Oklahoma locals of the Farm-Labor union, the big agricultural organization of the southwest, to send delegates. Individuals have also been issued invitations.

## GREEDY TAXICAB COMPANIES RESPONSIBLE FOR DEATH TOLL

(By The Federated Press)  
New York.—The frightful death-toll from street accidents in this, the largest city in the world, is a result of the greed of the taxicab companies, whose chauffeurs are compelled to work on a commission basis, or on exceedingly small salaries which must be pieced out by tips. William F. Kehoe, secretary, Central Trades and Labor council, in a letter to Mayor Hylan and to the members of the board of estimate and the board of aldermen, urges regulations to do away with this condition, and the revocation of the operating licenses of the companies which fail to obey.

## THE UNIVERSALITY OF GOOD WILL

(By The Federated Press)  
Washington.—Love for all, regardless of sect or social status, was the keynote of an address by Archbishop Michael J. Curley before the Catholic charities organizations here this week.

"Love the Jews, love the Protestants and love those of your own faith," he declared. "This has been my program in the past, and I am asking you men of Washington to take it up and carry it on."

Speaking of the poor and needy, the archbishop said: "Nowhere in the world is there more inequality in the distribution of worldly goods. Vast wealth is in the hands of the few, and a small proportion is in the hands of the many. It leaves us with many to care for, many who are poor and need our help. I ask you to be good to the poor of all sects."

## MALT SYRUP IN DISFAVOR WITH ORGANIZED WORKERS

(By The Federated Press)  
Chicago.—Union bakers asked to remember that the malt syrup manufactured by the Pabst Brewing Co., of Milwaukee, is made under non-union conditions, the company being at odds with the International Union of Brewery, Flour, Cereal, and Soft-Drink Workers.

"This malt syrup is being principally sold to bakery proprietors," declares the official organ of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' union, "and being an unfair product it ought to be avoided by our members as much as possible."

## WHAT USURY DOES

(By The Federated Press)  
Sydney, New South Wales.—An analysis of the private wealth of the Australian people, based on the return made by all adult males and females, shows the following results:

359,724 persons possessed nothing  
925,461 persons averaged \$150  
314,514 persons averaged \$800  
374,108 persons averaged \$2,500  
203,125 persons averaged \$13,035  
13,718 persons averaged \$92,465  
997 persons averaged \$338,575  
466 persons averaged \$988,465

Thus 4% of the people possess 60% of the wealth, and 96% possess only 40%. Over 15% of the people have nothing at all save the weekly wages they earn.

IT IS WORTH YOUR WHILE to study our Pure Food Ads, and get a sample crate for your use. It your health is worth anything, you should eat pure foods.—Llano Pure Foods Dept.

## AN EGYPTIAN HEGIRA FROM PROFITEERING-COMMERCIALISM

(By The Federated Press)  
Cleveland.—Action to resist the high cost of living is laying the foundation for a permanent cooperative movement in Egypt, according to the All-American Co-operative commission.

In 1919, when profiteering merchants raised their prices to impossible levels, native students began to copy the British co-operative systems. Since that time, the movement has spread throughout Egypt, and is now composed of 26 societies, with a total capital of \$2,500,000 and a membership of more than 345,000.

The center of this Egyptian movement is the pioneer store at Damietta, which has been so successful that it will pay back all borrowed capital within three years, meanwhile providing food for the people at prices they can pay.

## CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FOR OKLAHOMA VANGUARD

(By The Federated Press)  
Oklahoma City.—Demand for a constitutional convention to be called in Oklahoma before Nov. 1, 1923, was voiced by the legislative committee of the Farmer-Labor League of Reconstruction and seconded by the demand of the Farm-Labor union in state convention at McAlester, Okla.

The taxation program of the league involves abolishing the ad valorem tax and substitution of a tax on the gross receipts of corporations, similar to the California tax statute. This can be accomplished only by constitutional amendment. It is planned to distribute the tax to school districts according to population, instead of to counties in proportion to their wealth.

A constitutional change will also be necessary in order to have an adequate workmen's compensation law on the Ohio plan.

## WHO IS THY NEIGHBOR?

(By The Federated Press)  
Charleston, W. Va.—Families of evicted union miners are living in tents without flooring in some of the tent colonies of Cabin Creek, Coal River, and Elkins fields. Frank Keeney, president, District No. 17, U. M. W. A., has called on all locals to pay up their assessments promptly so that the union may provide so far as possible for its evicted members.

Continuing its appeal to the public to come to the aid of the miner families, The West Virginia Federationist caustically says:

"Donations both stupendous and small are being freely made for institutions of a religious, educational and benevolent character, funds, food, and clothing are being sent to the unfortunate of many foreign climes, but never a word or a whisper have we heard from those in charge of these social uplift drives ament the suffering and the misery of the several thousand little children who are living in flimsy and floorless tents in the Cabin Creek, Coal River, and Elkins coal fields of West Virginia."

## GOT UNDER BARROW'S SKIN

(By The Federated Press)  
Berkeley, Cal.—President Barrows, of the University of California, has shown that criticism of the university and of himself hit the mark. He has expelled Roy Chanslor, editor of The Laughing Horse, a campus satirical magazine. Chanslor was within six months of graduation when expelled.

## COURT HELPS POOR BANKERS

(By The Federated Press)  
New York.—The court of appeals of New York state has held illegal a tax from which the city of New York derived a revenue of \$5,000,000 a year. The tax on incomes of heads of families earning \$2000 a year? Hardly. The tax which the New York court has nullified is a tax of 1 per cent levied on the stocks of national banks. The banks feel greatly relieved because this much of the city's tax burden will have to be shifted to the taxpayers in general.

## A JUDICIAL FRAME OF MIND

(By The Federated Press)  
Stockton, Cal.—"If you don't stop talking I'll come down from the bench and give you a good beating." With these calmly judicial words, Judge W. G. Atherton, formerly an army captain, addressed J. Lyon, arrested as a vagrant and accused of membership in the I. W. W. Lyons was protesting against the injustice of his arrest.

## IS IT NO CRIME TO KILL UNION MINERS?

(By The Federated Press)  
Wellsburg, W. Va.—Two to 10 years is the sentence facing Peter Radkevitch as a result of the verdict of guilty of conspiracy returned by the jury against him Dec. 6. He was the second union-miner to be tried in the Cliftonville cases covering the mine battles in Cliftonville in which Sheriff H. H. Duvall and six union miners were killed. Over 200 miners were arrested but no arrests for the deaths of their comrades, shot by the sheriff's forces, have been made.

## JURIES REFUSE TO CONVICT; JUDGE DISMISSES CASES

(By The Federated Press)  
Oakland, Cal.—On motion of District Attorney Ezra Decoto, charges have been dismissed by Judge Samuels against J. H. Dolsen, J. E. Snyder, J. G. Reed, C. A. Tobey, Sr., and J. A. Regsdale. The defendants, members of the now defunct Communist Labor party, were recently tried en bloc for criminal syndicalism, and the prosecution-picked jury disagreed, standing seven to five for acquittal. Snyder and Dolsen had previously been tried separately, with hung juries resulting. Charges still stand against Edric B. Smith, now in Russia, and against C. A. Tobey, Jr., charged with circulating communist literature.

## WORKERS AROUSED AGAINST BAVARIAN REACTIONARIES

(By The Federated Press)  
Munich, Germany.—The workers of Bavaria are up in arms against the government for permitting conservative and reactionary organizations to hold meetings and propagate their faith in violation of the federal laws. They have sent an appeal to their fellow workers in other parts of Germany to support them in their protest.

One of the buildings that is now being guarded night and day by workers' guards is the plant of the Muenchener Post, the leading socialist newspaper of Germany. There is said to be a plan on foot to raid and plunder the building in much the same manner as workers' newspaper headquarters were wrecked by the Fascisti of Italy.

## A FOLLOWER OF ROOSEVELTISM

(By The Federated Press)  
New York.—Mrs. Dora Margowski, 36 years old, is the mother of 22 children. Her husband left her four years ago. She earns \$8 a week. She was arrested because her daughter, Leah, 15 years of age, didn't go to school. The magistrate scolded her, and then asked her what she had to say.

"It's pretty hard to watch all the children when you have 22," she replied. The magistrate looked surprised. She went on:

"When they were all home I often brought home 18 loaves of bread at night, and that was all we had to eat. Now some of the children are dead. Hebrew societies have five of them."

The magistrate reflected, then his face brightened. He suspended sentence.

"Your children must attend school," he said impressively, "but I wish Col. Roosevelt was alive to give you a medal."

## UNITED THEY'LL WIN; DIVIDED BE KNOCKED OUT

(By The Federated Press)  
St. Louis.—A new and solidified lineup of organized labor in this city is seen in a joint conference board perfected by the St. Louis Central Trades and Labor union and the Building Trades council. The joint body is composed of the president and the secretary of each of the two central bodies. The new organization will, its sponsors point out, weld the organized wage earners of St. Louis together for joint action in matters that effect their mutual interest. This get-together move eliminates a gap which for some years has existed between the two federated organizations of St. Louis labor.

"This is the first step to remove the friction which has existed for some years between these two central bodies," says Thomas McNamara, president, Building Trades council. "Labor will insist on receiving what it is entitled to. For these reasons, and with such a program, the conference board is organized."

## WOMEN JUBILANT

Washington.—Leaders of the National Woman's party here are jubilant over the Wisconsin supreme court decision upholding the state's equal rights law.

## JOBS AND FOREIGN MARKETS

(By The Federated Press)  
At the end of November, there were approximately 1,400,000 registered unemployed among the industrial population of England. This represents a considerable increase during the month. Announcement has been made that unemployment will be considered the principal domestic problem before the new parliament.

## NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT LEAGUE ORGANIZED IN NEW YORK CITY

(By The Federated Press)  
New York.—To advance human welfare "by endeavoring to assure to every man and woman, chiefly through the inauguration of public works by federal, state, and municipal governments when necessary in times of industrial depression, the opportunity for employment," the National Unemployment League, Inc., has been organized here. The organization call was signed by 100 men and women in church, labor, social welfare, and judicial and political circles of New York and of Washington.

The method to be used in setting in operation public works, the league announces, will be by legislation, the use of the police power, the right of eminent domain and taxation. "Neither bonded indebtedness, nor short terms, nor taxation for such sorely needed public improvements, would be felt by a people given the assurance of permanent employment."

## 100% PROFITEERING PATRIOTS IMPORT STRIKE BREAKERS

(By The Federated Press)  
New York.—The importation of strike breakers from Europe by the Lehigh Valley road and the New York, New Haven and Hartford, will be investigated by the U. S. department of labor, according to a letter received here from Secy. Davis to David Williams, secretary of the striking shop-crafts committee.

## MONOTONY OF INDUSTRY CAUSES OVER-FATIGUE

(By The Federated Press)  
Washington.—Shorter working hours to counteract the over-fatigue of body and dullness of mind resulting from the monotony of many of the industries in which women are employed, are advocated in a radio broadcast by the woman's bureau, U. S. department of labor.

## U. S. SENATOR JAMES COUZENS

(By The Federated Press)  
Detroit.—James Couzens, who resigned as mayor of Detroit to accept the seat in the senate left vacant by the resignation of Truman H. Newberry, is one of the most uncertain strangers to appear in Washington since the standard political parties became clubs for the leading lawyers.

He has had no legislative experience. In his executive experience as mayor of Detroit he enjoyed the free hand of a popular dictator, riding into office on a new constitution and a non-partisan ballot. His experience in organizing the street railway department, following the purchase of the traction lines, made him a confirmed proponent of government ownership of public utilities, at least on a municipal scale.

## WILSON RESPONSIBLE FOR INVASION OF SIBERIA

(By The Federated Press)  
Tokio.—The United States, under President Wilson, is blamed for the beginning of the disastrous Siberian adventure from which Japan has now ignominiously withdrawn.

An American-owned and edited newspaper, The Japan Advertiser, makes the charge in an editorial entitled Vladivostok Russian Again.

## OFFICIALS VIOLATE STATE LAW

(By The Federated Press)  
Los Angeles.—Eighteen members of the I. W. W. have been arrested here and given sentences of 50 days apiece because they picketed employment agencies to inform prospective workers of the strike at the Southern California Edison Co. construction camp. The state law requires that strike conditions be mentioned; but the authorities refuse to recognize the existence of the strike because it is called by the I. W. W.

## PREMIER JAN SMUTS AND SAVAGE REPRESSION

(By The Federated Press)  
Johannesburg, So. Africa.—Petitions for amnesty bearing 35,000 signatures and asking for the release of strikers now in prison and the dropping of all charges growing out of the rising of last spring have been presented to the governor-general of South Africa.

The petitions read in part: "Arising out of the recent industrial trouble on the Witwatersrand, large numbers of citizens, British and Dutch, including a large proportion of returned soldiers, have been tried and are still awaiting trial in magisterial courts as well as in the special treason court appointed by your excellency and being held at Johannesburg.

"The sentences passed and the continuance of these trials are preventing an assuagement of the bitter feeling which culminated in the recent industrial trouble and which is still in existence.

"Your petitioners believe that a remittal of the sentences passed and the declaration of a general amnesty for persons awaiting trial in connection with the recent industrial trouble would tend to allay the bitter feeling which exists and would help to establish peace and happiness in the union of South Africa."

Prince Arthur of Connaught, the governor-general, agreed to receive the petitions after Premier Jan Smuts had refused to have anything to do with them. Smuts is conducting the savage repression which set in after airplanes had bombed the trades council hall and compelled the strikers to surrender.

## ITALIAN REFORM

(By The Federated Press)  
Rome.—The Mussolini regime has decided to make an assessment on workers' wages. Telephone services are to be handed over to private enterprises. Mussolini has guaranteed that socialist and communist deputies who were banished from their constituencies shall be reinstated. While the government has not definitely suppressed the communist papers, their further issue has been prevented "in present circumstances."

## EMASCULATE SHIP SUBSIDY BILL

(By The Federated Press)  
Washington.—If it consents to pay the price the Harding administration can probably jam the mutilated ship subsidy bill through the lame duck senate now in session. The price it must pay is a special session of the new congress, to be called immediately after March 4.

But a special session of the new congress is, above all things, what the Harding administration does not want. Moreover, the subsidy bill as amended in the house is no longer worth fighting for in the minds of its intended beneficiaries.

## FUR WORKERS WIN

(By The Federated Press)  
New York.—Following a four weeks' strike in Philadelphia, conducted by the International Fur Workers' union, 58 members of the Fur Mfrs. Assn. have signed agreements with the union to run for two years. These establishments employ 90% of all the fur workers in Philadelphia.

## ONE BIG UNION FOR PLUTES BUT COMPETITION FOR WORKERS

(By The Federated Press)  
St. Louis.—George White, former chairman, Democratic national committee, now a spokesman of Standard Oil, addressing the annual dinner of the American Petroleum Institute here, advised his fellow oil kings to "get into politics if you find yourselves the victims of unjust taxation and unwarranted government interference."

A. L. Beaty, president of the Standard Oil Co. of Texas, defended the idea of one big union of business. He spoke of the follies arising from competition. He mentioned the needless antagonism between companies constructing pipe lines and declared that pipe lines should be built and maintained under joint ownership. Other speakers denounced the trend toward socialism.

HAVE YOU A FRIEND WHO IS INTERESTED IN REAL CO-OPERATION? SEE THAT HE BECOMES A READER OF THE LLANO COLONIST AT ONCE. ORDER A BUNDLE.