

CLASS FRICTION

AMONG RUSSIANS

New Economic Policies Develop Strike, Wage Controversies and Arbitration.

Moscow, Aug. 28.—"The old class struggle begins again in Moscow, now that we have the new economic policy," said Melnichanski, chairman of the Moscow Trade Unions. "The man sitting in that chair as you entered was a factory boss, and I was telling him how to arbitrate his troubles with his union."

"As long as the government ran the industries and the workers ran the government there wasn't any class struggle. But now we have it all again—division of interest, collective bargaining, wage scales, arbitration, even strikes and picketing."

"Just like the United States" I asked, for I knew that Melnichanski—under the simpler name, George Melcher—had lived and worked six years in New York as a member of the Brotherhood of Metal Workers. He knows unions in America and Russia, also. Now he sits in Moscow, in the beautiful building which was once a nobleman's club and is now the hall of unions. I passed through rooms upholstered in silk and velvet, to reach his simple, comfortable office, as brisk and businesslike as anything you find in the United States.

Russia has thousands of these "returned Americans," and she owes them a great debt. They bring American ideas of efficiency—American organization, American speed. They are organizing Russia's industry, labor unions and even parts of Russia's government. You can tell them when you meet them by their easy decision and orderly punctuality.

"Not like the old United States—quite" smiled Melnichanski. "In the United States we always expected the government to take the side of the bosses. But a lot of things we strike for there are settled here by law already. Eight hour day—the factory inspector can put a man in jail who violates that. He does so every little while. We have safety regulations and working conditions and minimum wage established by law. But, of course, we have to have a bigger wage than that bare minimum, which will scarcely buy bread—so there our contests start—mostly over wage scales."

"When a strike occurs—well, of course, in government industries these things get settled by arbitration, though arbitration is voluntary, not compulsory. But in the private shops we have some strikes. Last one I remember was in a metal-working shop, and the boss brought in some scabs. Not professional scabs, for there are no such creatures in Russia, but simple village boys who didn't know a thing about labor organization. Our pickets simply went over to them and explained what the strike was about. It didn't take long to convince these boys. When the strike was settled the boss had to pay us the eight days' wages we lost in striking."

"Are your unions organized the same way as in America?" I asked.

"We have industrial unions here instead of craft unions, if that is what you mean. Instead of the hundreds of unions there were in New York there are only 21 in Moscow province, with eight hundred thousand members. The textile workers lead, with over a hundred thousand."

"That wasn't what I meant," I said. "We hear outside that membership in unions is compulsory and that unions are governed from above—in short, that you are a sort of labor army."

"The unions are governed by their members," said Melnichanski, "and membership is voluntary. It has never been what you could really call compulsory in the sense of a decree compelling men to join. In fact, we even used to have 'cleanings' to get rid of members who were not real workers. Lots of bourgeois joined the unions to get the privileges of workers and had to be weeded out every little while."

"How about unemployment?" I asked in closing.

"Lots of it in Moscow," said Melnichanski, "from demobilization, reorganization of industry and the famine. We are flooded with unskilled workers. But no skilled mechanics are out of work."

"Then, of course, we have unemployment benefit—enough municipal work, so that a man need not starve. And our law is free to the unemployed all municipal services, such as a bath."

"We hope that a good harvest will absorb some of these people, there are 37,000 of them this month."

DIALS NEWS

Dials, Aug. 28.—The past week has been marked by an unusual amount of "doings" for this community—outings, reunions, and picnics being all the "go".

The first of these was that of Tuesday afternoon when a party of forty-six young people chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Curry and Mr. and Mrs. Julius Curry motored to Stone Lake where they enjoyed the afternoon and evening. Supper was spread in one of the lake shore pavilions, and the time passed all too quickly in viewing the beauties of nature, rowing and riding in the motorboat. While the music proved an added attraction to all.

The descendants of Gideon and Annie Yeargin met at the old homestead Tuesday and enjoyed the day. This is an annual affair and is greatly looked forward to by all the clan, to whom the traditions of the past are ever dear. A large crowd was present, many of whom had journeyed from a distance, and the sumptuous picnic dinner spread under the ancient trees was all that an epicurean could ask for.

Mr. and Mrs. Robbie Hellams, and Miss Virginia Hellams, of Greenville, were the guests of Mr. D. D. Harris and family Thursday.

Mrs. P. M. Hellams and little daughter, Virginia, have returned from a delightful visit with relatives in Honea Path.

Mr. and Mrs. James Sumerel and Misses Rosa Sumerel, Grace and Nell Bolt, and Mr. Kenneth Sumerel, were the spend the day guests of Mr. D. D. Brownlee Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Curry, Misses Maggie D. and Annie Lou Curry visited at the home of Mr. Steuart Peden's, of Fairview, Tuesday. Mrs. Eileen Peden and little David, Jr., accompanied them home.

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Armstrong, of Greenville, spent Sunday with Mr. James Armstrong and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Davis and children, of Greenville, were the week-end guests of Mrs. Mary Curry.

Master Jack Harris spent the week-end with friends in Clinton.

Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Harris, Miss Emma Harris, and Mr. Ernest Harris, accompanied by Mr. Lloyd Harrison and Dr. Marvin Harris, of Greenwood, composed a party that motored to Duncan last Sunday where they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Harrison.

Mr. J. M. Owings and Miss Cecil Owings, who are teaching over in Greenville county, spent the week-end with homefolks here.

Miss Lilly Thomason has returned from a visit with relatives in Fountain Inn.

Miss Jennie Belle Watkins has returned to her home in Greenville, after enjoying a brief visit with relatives here.

Mrs. Lipscomb and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Lawson and children, of Greenwood, are visiting Mrs. H. Y. Simmons and family.

The Young People and Junior Missionary societies, of which Mrs. Florence Rupp is the efficient superintendent, together with their parents and friends enjoyed a picnic at Pinewood Lake Saturday, August 26th. This picnic is an annual affair and nothing is withheld that goes toward making it a success. The day was an ideal one and was pleasantly spent in social intercourse and enjoying the aquatic sports afforded by the lake. Nothing happened to mar the festivities and the day was greatly enjoyed by all present. A bounteous picnic dinner was served with plenty of ice tea to go with it.

Those who make up the personnel of the societies, all of whom were present, are as follows:

Mrs. Ropp, Supt., Misses Veda and Martha Campbell, Lucile Campbell, Sarah and Helen Harris, Louise Curry, Nell Harris, Sarah Alice Curry, Emma Brownlee, Ethel Curry, Frances Gray, Flora and Lydia May Graydon, Eva and Leitha Graydon, Virginia Hellams, Mavis Clare Curry, Guy Campbell, H. Y. Simmons, Fred Armstrong, Jack Harris, Gene Curry, Haskell Gray, Jr., Claud Harris, Janie Hellams, Justin and Peden Gene Curry, Joe, John and Dick Harris, Richard and Alton Curry, Boyd McCall, Gray Curry.

Nash Gray, Coke Curry, The visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Curry, Mr. and Mrs. Julius Curry, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Gillespie and children, and Mary Davis, of Greenville, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Curry, Mr. and Mrs. Haskell Gray, Mrs. Willie Harris, Mrs. Mary Curry, Mrs. Sallie McCall, Mrs. Beatrice Gray, Mrs. LaFle Owings, Mrs. Jas. Armstrong, Mrs. Festus Curry, Mrs. Elna Harris, Mrs. Townes Curry, Mrs. States Curry and Misses Cecil Owings, Mrs. P. Armstrong, Sallie Brownlee, Kathleen Moore, Laura Hellams, Stella Owings, Annie Belle McDowell, of Fountain Inn, Nell and Grace Bolt, of Hickory Tavern; Messrs. John Simmons, I. M. Owings and Henry Owings, of Fountain Inn, and John Hellams,

Owing to the absence of the Rev. C. W. Watson, Mrs. Watson and little

Margaret, who are visiting relatives in Saluda, no preaching services were held here Sunday.

One-Tenth Developed

In an address before the North Carolina Press Association last week, David Clark of Charlotte cited these facts:

"There are in the world today approximately 150,000,000 cotton spindles and of that number only 16,000,000 or slightly over 10 per cent are located in the South.

"We are entitled to a larger per cent of the spindles of the world and have advantages that cannot be denied."

"The New England cotton mills have their backs to the wall in a fight for their existence but they can not overcome the difference in the cost of living of the mill operatives or get away from the fact that wages bear a relation to the cost of living.

"New England operatives pay rents of \$5 to \$7 per week as compared to \$1.00 and \$1.25 per week in the South and their annual fuel cost is \$86.00 per year as compared with \$18.80 for Southern operatives. New England operatives have to buy more and heavier

clothing and to buy the vegetables which the southern operative gets from his garden.

"I estimate the southern operative has an advantage of \$7.80 per week which means that if the southern operative gets \$15.00 per week he can live as well as the New England operative who gets \$22.80 per week.

"If the New England mills establish the same wage scale their operatives will not receive enough to cover their living cost whereas if they pay the operatives enough to allow them to live upon the same scale as southern operatives, they cannot compete with southern made goods."

This is an illuminating explanation of the reason why textile manufacturing is forecasted to center in the South. Besides the advantages in the cost of living to operatives there are numerous other savings effected to the manufacturers in such items as transportation, fuel and waterpower. But the comparison Mr. Clarke makes of the number of spindles we have as compared to the number in the world emphasizes that we have not yet realized the possibilities before us. Situated in the largest cotton growing re-

gion in the world there is no reason why a majority of all cotton goods should not be manufactured here in the South. Only a lack of vision or poor manipulation will fail us of realizing such a goal.

It becomes evident upon digesting a situation of this kind that we must take care not to make legislation such that manufacturing plants will fail to locate in the South. This is the only factor that may keep them away for every other condition is distinctly favorable. Hostile laws may do positive danger to the textile development in South Carolina and other states. If we do not they will go elsewhere and thrive in spite of an untoward climate and unsatisfactory labor.—Greenville News.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect the Head

Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE (Tablets) can be taken by anyone without causing nervousness or ringing in the head. E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 30c.

Colds Cause Grip and Influenza

LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets remove the cause. There is only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 30c.

Calomel Good but Treacherous

Next Dose may Salivate, Shock Liver or Attack Bones

You know what calomel is. It's mercury; quicksilver. Calomel is dangerous. It crashes into sour bile like dynamite, cramping and sickening you. Calomel attacks the bones and should never be put into your system.

If you feel bilious, head-achy, constipated and all knocked out, just go to your druggist and get a bottle of Dodson's Liver Tonic for a few cents which is a harmless vegetable substitute for dangerous calomel. Take a spoonful and if it doesn't start your liver and straighten you up better and quicker than nasty calomel and without making you sick, you just go back and get your money.

Don't take calomel! It makes you sick the next day; it loses you a day's work. Dodson's Liver Tonic straightens you right up and you feel great. Salts necessary. Give it to the child because it is perfectly harmless and does not salivate.

AN INVITATION

To the Ladies of Laurens and Vicinity

You are Cordially Invited to Be Present

Thursday Evening, Aug. 31

7:30 to 9 O'Clock

Batson's Get Acquainted Opening

In announcing the formal opening of our Ready-to-Wear and Millinery Store in Laurens, we are anxious to have the ladies of Laurens and vicinity visit our store and inspect the stock which we have opened. A new and fresh stock, just received from New York, in all the latest modes and colors, will be ready for your admiration.

Music During the Evening
Souvenirs for the Ladies

Out-of-town visitors who are unable to attend Thursday evening are cordially invited to visit our store at the earliest opportunity.

BATSON'S

Ladies' Ready-to-Wear and Millinery

Former Switzer Co. Stand

Enterprise Bank Building