

ENGLISH LABOR PARTY HOLDS A BIG CONFERENCE

(Continued From Page 1.)

whereby Labor party membership will cease to be based exclusively on affiliation with a trades union, but will be open to any voter agreeing with the party's program.

"When the scheme comes into operation it will provide the people with the means of effecting a completed revolution in the control of the state. The revolution will have the thoroughness of the Russian revolution, but will avoid Russia's disasters. The British people have learned how to operate free representative institutions. They are skilled in the practice of political democracy.

"No people clings more stubbornly to rooted traditions, is more jealous of any infringement on liberty, or is more opposed to any change for the mere sake of novelty; yet no people has a stronger grasp on the realities of life or is capable of going so fast or so far when the signal moment has arrived.

"That moment is rapidly approaching; the war has stirred the British people to its depths; it has evoked a new vision of constructive possibilities; it has revealed essential defects in the structure of society; it has given democracy a consciousness of power. Political democracy will have no patience with any party or leader that seeks to serve the interests or preserve the privileges of a class against the common interests of all.

"The new constitution leaves the Labor party solidly based upon the organized working class movement. From the trade unions which are the mainstay of the party—the bunkers, in fact—neither their right of representation nor their voting power can be taken away. The party does not abandon its original basis as a federation of societies—trade unions, socialist societies, women's organizations, trades councils, co-operative societies.

"Becoming a national party we broaden the definition of the word 'Labor' to make it include all who produce, whether by hand or brain, as distinguished from the classes that live on rent or interest, without making any productive effort to add to the wealth of the community."

Henderson said this appeal to others than trade union members had met with a wide response throughout the country. Young men of education and training in great numbers have indicated that they find this opening to political effort attractive.

"What part do you think the new Labor Party will be able to play in case of an election this spring?" Henderson was asked.

"With us," he said, "it is not a matter of winning the next election or any particular election. I know there is a certain expectation that Mr. Lloyd George will spring a general election on the people at the first seemingly favorable opportunity, notwithstanding the objections he once eloquently voiced to the principle of a 'shaki election.' An election on a stale register or even a new register during the war should only be held if inevitable.

"We shall be organized and, no doubt, able to place three or four hundred candidates in the field whenever the election takes place. The country is alive. Old habits of thought are in the discard. Young and enthusiastic candidates of education and experience will enlist with us to assist our Trade Union and working class Socialist Parliamentarians. The new National Labor Party will exert a national influence, and whatever may be the result of a general election, whether it come soon or late, there is little doubt that the Labor Party will play a very prominent part in future political events. The new Party will be a People's Party and as such will be the Party of the future in National, Inter-Dominion and International Politics."

NATIONAL CONFERENCE IS HELD THAT IS LIKELY TO HAVE IMPORTANT RESULTS

Big Step Forward in British Politics May Be Taken—Coalition of Co-operative Societies and Labor Party Give Them 4,500,000 Votes.

By LOWELL MELLETT (United Press Staff Correspondent)

NOTTINGHAM, Eng., Jan. 22.—The Labor Party met in a National conference today that is likely to have consequences affecting the next several generations of British politics. The chief question before the three-day meeting is whether or not the Labor party shall cease to be simply the representative of organized labor and kindred societies and become instead a full-fledged political organization.

The Red Cross Drug Store
The PRESCRIPTION STORE

seeking votes wherever they may be found.

The decision is expected to be in favor of the big step forward. The Party's executive committee has recommended it. They believe the Labor Party, now 17 years old, is destined to play a big part in the present century as the Liberal Party played in the Nineteenth century. Their goal, frankly admitted, is a labor government and they have confidence that the goal, is not as far distant as it may seem.

The recent alignment of the big co-operative societies with the Labor Party, bringing the number of votes represented up to about 4,500,000, is one cause for this confidence. Broadening the party's program still further, the leaders claim, should give them sufficient votes to sweep the country.

Aside from this predominant question, the conference has many live issues before it. One is whether or not Labor Party representatives should withdraw from the present Coalition government. There are several resolutions, variously worded, to this effect before the meeting. The British Socialist Party offers one reading in part:

"This conference holds that the methods employed to remove Mr. Henderson from the War Cabinet when acting in perfect accord with the decisions of the Labor Party, prove that participation in the government and fidelity to the labor movement are incompatible."

The Willesden labor party has a resolution putting the question in this blunt fashion:

"This conference demands that all members of the Labor Party resign their ministerial offices under the present government."

The East Ham Trades and Labor Council's resolution calls for withdrawal "in view of the continued barefaced robbery of the people by the food pirates and the open support given by the government to this action."

There are others. Objection to withdrawing from the Coalition Government is voiced by many leaders, however, because they believe refusal to participate in the government in a time of national danger, would be fatal to the Labor Party's great hopes for the future. They favor swallowing their resentment toward the present government while getting on with the war and developing their own plans.

Several local unions will urge immediate steps toward a peace by negotiation. On the other hand the Chesterfield Trades Council offers this one: "That the members of the so-called Pacifist Party shall be given to understand that they are not to have any voice in the setting up of peace terms beyond their representative strength."

The utilization by the government of the great resources and distributive equipment of the British co-operative societies, as a means toward preventing profiteering, is demanded in more than one resolution. Action along this line is sure to be taken by the conference.

The women's Labor League asks for the abolition of conscription.

The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives suggest the abolition of the House of Lords.

Electoral reform will be considered by the conference, the disposition being to regard the government's proposals in this direction as merely a compromise.

Soldiers pay and pensions are due for considerable thought. More than one delegate carries in his pocket memoranda on the pay of U. S. troops and the U. S. insurance scheme. The Independent Labor Party will urge a resolution providing that soldier's pay shall be based on rates of civil wages and shall respond to the great rise in the cost of living.

Taxation questions have brought a flood of resolutions. The retention of excess profits tax after the war is proposed on the one hand and an immediate levy on capital on the other, by different organizations. Proposals to raise the minimum income subject to the income tax are numerous. The present minimum is \$550.

"That the party press for the nationalization of all means of production, distribution and exchange," is asked by the Great Yarmouth Trades & Labor Council and the same idea is put forward by the London Trades Council and the Edinburgh Labor Party, with special emphasis on the nationalization of the land.

MILITARY PARTY AT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL

JOSEPH, Jan. 23.—(Special.)—The Military Party given by the Sophomore class at Joseph high school last Friday evening was a big success. On the invitation was the notice to register at Jo-Hi on Friday, January 18. When the guests arrived they were registered and a selective draft put into operation and the scheme was carried out during the whole evening, the games being in the form of examinations. During the party a huge played reveille, mess call and taps, making it seem more like a military camp as did the Red Cross nurses and boy scouts who appeared upon the scene. Just before "taps" as Miss Gladys Lane started to sing "The Star Spangled Banner," the lights were switched off and the stage curtain raised revealing two little tots dressed as Uncle Sam and Liberty. Then "taps" was sounded and all retired to their homes.

Shipyard Strike Called Off

BEAUMONT, Texas, Jan. 23.—The shipyard strike in Beaumont has been called off and the men returned to work today. The decision was reached after a conference with Mediator Rogers.

Clayton Ingle Tells of Christmas In France

The following is a letter received by Mrs. Stella Ingle from her son, Clayton, with the Hospital Unit now in France. The letter is evidently in answer to one requesting that he mention some of the other boys.

With the A. E. F., Dec. 22, 1917.

Dear Mother:— Three days 'till Christmas—my first Christmas away from home. We are at a rest station now, on our march. How far we have to march, I don't know and how far we have come I can't say. We can't write when we are marching or traveling and under other conditions so if you don't hear from me for some time don't worry—I'm not dead and I don't want you to think I am. I'll write whenever I can so don't worry.

Mother, you know my great failing. Well, I want you to get me two of those cans of salted peanuts and send them to me on the 1st and 15th of each month. We can't get them here at all and that is all I want.

I haven't received any of your packages yet. It seems queer but I guess it can't be helped.

All the fellows are still in the game. Old Bill Silverthorn is still called Lord Baron Whiskey Thistle because he had a cold while back and his nose is still extremely red. Cap Currey is storming around because he doesn't get more letters from the Old Town in America. Willie W. is peeved because he left his razor in his barracks bag (so did I), and can't shave for inspection. Kenneth Carpy is peeved because he hasn't any scouring soap to wash his pants with (he is on the K. P.). Melvin is raving around because his sister "went and got married." Harve says "cheer up fellows, it might be worse."

Hap Moon hates the Frenchmen more every day. Sidney Happersett—Lieutenant Colonel Happy, the "Man of the Hour," "Observer Reporter," and other things—receives his beloved paper and we all read it—verily we appreciate it. Anything printed in English looks good to us. This everlasting "wee, wee," "non," "Money," gets tiresome and grinds on our ears. A good English paper helps us to stand it.

We have averaged about one month at each stop from the time we were mobilized. Uncle Sam sure believes in showing us the country, but pretty soon he will have something for us to do, I guess. The fact is we are all anxious to get into action. We are all real good soldiers now. We can "crab" like veterans and as that is all we have to do, we sure grow proficient in the art.

Sheehey Alford dropped in on us the other day. He is driving an ambulance for base hospital 15. It was sure good to see him.

I can't think of anything more to say.

Lovingly,
T. U. B.
S. O. S.—Please send me some American stationery.

Berlin Claims Victory

BERLIN, Jan. 23.—French attacks north of Soissons and northeast of Avescourt were defeated after hand-to-hand fighting. The infantry penetrated the French positions east of Melancourt and captured many.

sweater package yet, but will soon. Got those woolen leggings today. Don't know what they are for, unless we get boots, which seems doubtful. Helmets cost 8 francs, or \$1.00, over here. I haven't bought one of them, because I thought you would recollect that I had delicate ears.

When I sent the cable, the lady operator acted like I was a lunatic for spending so much money on a cable. They certainly think we Americans are spendthrifts, and we are to what they are. We are making them rich, but they don't seem to appreciate it, for they sting us every chance they get. I bought a small can of pine-apple and it cost me 70 cents.

I don't know very much French yet, but know as much as all but two. The stuff is hard to talk but easy to read. Can get almost anything I want by asking for it in French.

The letters are anywhere from a month to two months in reaching us. There are rumors of moving again soon. We are walking now. It sure made my feet sore the three days it took us to come to this town. We

Hospital Boys are Now Somewhere Else

OTIS PALMER WRITES OF THE ARRIVAL OF ARTICLES FROM HOME

Somewhere Else in France, December 19, 1917.

Dear Mother:— This is all the paper I have at my command at the present time (yellow wrapping paper) and as I understand we are only allowed to write one letter while here, this will have to do.

Yesterday evening was the most excitable one for quite a while. Several packages and several dozen letters came in when we weren't expecting a thing. Three of the packages and seven letters were my share. The packages contained candy, nuts, etc. I could hardly tell what articles were the most acceptable of the lot, but everything was suitable. I was about to die for a chew of gum, and candy is 5 cents a piece. The razor blades came in very handy.

I passed out most of the nuts among the boys, but will get a return later on. The flashlight was fine, too. Your letter was of October 19, and one from Grandma was of November 2, which is the latest I have received. They just drift in most any time.

It can get as cold as it wants to there and you will have nothing on it. It snows and blows here just like it does there.

We are in a barrack with five stoves in it, so we manage to live. We take a hike of a few miles every day to keep in good condition. Today we get new shoes, gloves and socks to help out.

You don't need to know where we are. Will give you my impression of the army and French in general when I get home; it would be censored now. I am keeping a diary. Gosh, we are leading a dirty life. We wash sometimes once a day, and our mess kit the same.

Just heard some of our outgoing mail was held up, so don't know when you will get some of it. I am as well as can be.

With lots of love,
OTIS W. PALMER.

Still Here, Somewhere in France, December 21, 1917.

Dear Folks:— Will send a letter after the cable I sent this evening; also have a letter to answer of October 24.

The cable cost 30 cents a word, address and all. Haven't received the

Canadian Officers Will Visit This Section

(Continued From Page 1.)

arms of the Carne type which permit of limited use of these members. Prior to leaving London for the special duty to which he is now assigned, Major Edwards had been invited by Dr. P. S. Kirk, of Belfast, to visit him at his home in order to see whether the pneumatic arm designed by Dr Kirk would not afford him greater relief.

While chatting with a group of Portland men after his arrival there among whom was Henry Kirk, of the Nehalem Timber & Logging Company, Major Edwards expressed his regret at not having been able to see Dr. Kirk, whereupon it developed that Dr. Kirk is a brother of Henry Kirk of Portland, to whom he has written briefly concerning his efforts to design an artificial arm that is light and flexible.

Dr. Kirk, while not in the British army medical service, long has been actively engaged in war work and in Belfast conducts a hospital of 450 beds for army convalescents. His attention early was called to the need of an artificial arm for men crippled in the front. The product of his efforts is a pneumatic arm weighing one and one-half pounds. It is made of fibre, the palm is fitted with leather, while spiral springs of aluminium wire give the fingers a flexibility and control that serve ordinary needs.

The first men thus fitted, who happened to be two British army officers, were able to hold a pen and write, and handle a knife and fork. Picking up articles, however, is the difficult accomplishment. So successful were Dr. Kirk's experiments with these two officers, who had lost arms both above and below the elbow that the pneumatic arm was formally called to the attention of the British war office and recognized as a valuable aid in reclaiming the wreckage of war.

Keneth Carpy Writes of Hospital Boys

December 23, 1917.

Dearest Mother:— I sent you a Christmas cable last night and I hope it reaches you Christmas morning. I am on guard tomorrow morning at 5:30 for 24 hours. I thought that I would be on guard Christmas evening. I will walk my post at 2 o'clock in the morning in the snow, singing "Silent Night."

We continue our march the day after Christmas. Some of the boys have received a few letters at different villages along the road, but I haven't received any since we left. I don't know how far we are going, but this is certainly a cooler country. Oh, yes; I did receive a letter from you and Willard, dated November 21, the other day, and I will sure be delighted to get the packages.

I bought this handkerchief from a woman who had a little store opposite her kitchen table.

I go to bed about 8 o'clock every night and get up about 5:45 a. m.

Most of the boys are back from the hospital now and will continue the march with us. We walk an hour and rest five minutes. It's rather hard to keep our distance between the sets of fours when the head end of the line is going down a hill and we are going up, and a captain walking along beside us threatening to courtmartial us if we fall out. I'll walk him to death if he hasn't a pack on.

We have lost our major, Lieutenants Waffel and Pinmond; but we have two live lieutenants with us, Eldor from New York, and Frost of Pendleton.

Bill S. wrote a poem today. Tub has had a cold, but is back in the ranks now. McManus and Rice returned from the hospital today. Jess

Why Let Three Men Do What You Alone Can Do With a SAMSON TRACTOR

History has shown that when agriculture is neglected that nation crumbles; when agriculture thrives, other industries prosper. If American farming had been on the right basis, we would not now, even in time of war, have wheatless and meatless days.

We often wonder how many farmers have stopped to figure that one-third of what is raised on the farm is fed to the horses.

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Broken lenses duplicated on the premises. We are the only firm in Eastern Oregon who can surface and grind lenses.

Andrews and Homer L. still stand by my side at reveille, retreat and inspection and with Tom Murphy and myself we complete a set of fours that wind our weary way over the barren hills "Somewhere in France."

I must close, mother dear; I will write again in a few days. With love to all,
KENNETH CARPY.

Don't worry about me for several months yet.

PERSONAL MENTION

Court Reporter Hanna is home from Enterprise.

Attorney Colon R. Eberhard was in Wallawa county, attending court, this week, returning last evening.

Circuit Judge J. W. Knowles returned last night from Wallawa county where he has been holding Circuit Court.

Mrs. J. S. Spiker of Indian Creek is visiting her aunt, Mrs. George Ball, this week.

Oregon firms may get chance to build airplanes.
Lane county planning \$30,000 addition to court house.
Portland—Big Monarch Lumber Co plant may be re-opened.
Oregon shipyards fixed 2000 additional men in next two months. Secretary Dodson of the Portland Chamber of Commerce has been doing excellent work in placing value of Oregon shipbuilding before public.

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Daily Observer
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Offers Unusual Opportunity to Its Readers

AMONG our large circle of readers there are a great many who are interested directly or indirectly in fruit growing, dairying and other branches of farming. All of these naturally wish to keep in close touch with agricultural activities throughout the state; and to know about any fight which is being waged for the measures Oregon farmers want and against all sorts of schemes that are detrimental to the people and agricultural interests of this state.

We have, therefore, made a special clubbing arrangement with THE OREGON FARMER whereby any farmer or fruitgrower, who is one of our regular subscribers and who is not now a subscriber to THE OREGON FARMER, will be entitled to receive THE OREGON FARMER in combination with this paper at the same rate as for this paper alone.

This offer applies to all those who renew or extend their subscriptions as well as to all new subscribers. If you are interested directly or indirectly in Oregon agriculture, do not miss this unusual opportunity, but send your order in now.

THE OREGON FARMER is the one farm paper which is devoting itself exclusively to the farming activities and interests of Oregon. It has a big organization gathering the news of importance to farmers, dairymen, fruitgrowers, stockraisers and poultrymen; and it has the backbone to attack wrongful methods and combinations and bad legislation, and support honest leaders and beneficial measures. We are confident that our readers will congratulate us on our being able to make this splendid and attractive clubbing offer.

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