

WREST ENGLAND FROM THE HANDS OF THE DRIVE

Lack of Man Power Declared Serious by Men High in Affairs of Nation.

LABOR BLIND TO TRUTH

To Hold Enemy Until Americans Can Come in Effectively Great Britain Faces Problem of Raising New Army of Million Men.

BY RHETA CHILDE DOHR. LONDON (By Mail).—Everybody in England is talking about man-power. England needs men, more than a million men, and she needs them now. She needs nearly half a million more soldiers and an equal number of men and women to supply the soldiers with ships, munitions, aeroplanes, food, clothing and other supplies.

The prospect is so serious that people talk of raising a new army to England in order to "carry on." She has the men and she has the machinery of conscription with which to muster them. But no one in America can know the immense difficulties which Great Britain, a little country no bigger than New York State, staggers under.

Family Quarrels Perpetual. She has a population more difficult to handle than ours. We think of England as a land where one people, one language, one national tradition, one political ideal exists. But this is not the case.

Talking with Lord Northcliffe recently, I asked him why the British kept up such a perpetual family quarrel: why labor unrest was so constant and why the life of cabinet ministers was one long defensive warfare.

These are facts that must strike every stranger who goes to England with a purpose more serious than visiting the cathedral towns or being presented at court. The perpetual family quarrel just now is threatening to be an obstacle to raising the new armies, military and industrial.

Lord Northcliffe answered my question with his usual candor. "The basis of our unrest is the fact that we have so many races struggling in our national character. There are at least 11 races in Great Britain. The men of the midlands and the men of the south, those who live on the Yorkshire coast and those who live a few miles north over the Scottish border—all different races. We don't understand one another."

"But the original Americans were English," I protested. "We never had any difficulty understanding one another."

"Oh, hadn't you?" replied Lord Northcliffe. And he reminded me of the misunderstandings which led up to four years of bloody civil war.

"Besides," he added, "the English who settled America were one people. They all came from the same neighborhood."

I asked the same question in one of the ministries of an official who dislikes being quoted. He thought one of the main causes was the constant trucking of the government to the trade unions. Singularly enough, I found a prominent trade unionist, John Hill, secretary of the Boilermakers' Union, who agreed with this.

The government trucking, yes, but as a substitute for justice. The government even had given the children of English working people a decent education. His own children were educated in Scotland, where the people had themselves established good schools, but when he went to England to live he was obliged to send them to a boarding school, more than a working man should, to educate his younger sons.

I think Mr. Hill meant to imply that the English ruling classes have never been willing to compete with an equally well-educated and equipped working class. The fact is that England has a very poor educational system for the masses. The average Englishman of rank is proud of the fact that Eton, Oxford and Cambridge do not teach him very much, but merely make of him an English gentleman. The boarding schools, corresponding to our public schools, teach the working child very little and, of course, there is no attempt to make the gentleman of him.

Schools Lack Real Power. The worst feature of education in England is that it is so radically different for the different classes. The people of the nation have no common background, as the Americans have. This, in my opinion, is the real reason why the English understand one another so badly. The workers are constantly distrustful and suspicious. They have to be shown at every step. Just now they are clamoring very disagreeably to be shown in regard to the man-power bill.

In his great speech before the House of Commons on January 14, Sir Auckland Geddes, minister for national service, clearly explained that the best possible way to raise the new army was to comb out of civil life approximately half a million young men between 18 and 25. These men had been exempted from draft for various reasons, a large number because they were needed in certain industries. Their places must be filled now, because they were more urgently needed in the army.

The government declared that this minister did not want to raise or lower the recruiting age. Conscription in Ireland was not possible at present, and combing out of previously exempt men of military age was the only other expedient.

Men in every walk of life could serve industry, and more and more women would be filled in the places of the men sent to the front. Three hundred and twenty thousand men and 119,000 women were the minimum required for this new working army, which England had to raise this winter.

Army Must Be Expanded. "Armies in these days," said the minister for national service, "are something more than a mere fighting force. An army is now a body of experts handling the most wonderful machines, guns, mortars, aeroplanes, telephones, electric lights, gas—I know not what. And all these things have to be made by men and women and transported to the front, with hundreds of tons of shells and bombs and high explosives."

There is also a vast array of rearward services extending from the mines through the factories along the lines

FIRST PHOTO OF GENERAL PERSHING AND LLOYD GEORGE AT THE GREAT INTER-ALLIED WAR CONFERENCE AT VERSAILLES.



General Pershing, Commander-in-Chief of the American Forces in France, About to Enter His Auto After a Session of the Council at the Trison Palace in Versailles. David Lloyd George, the Great British Premier, is Shown Stepping Out of the Doorway.

of communication right to the hands of the men who use the weapons. Sir Auckland Geddes named the minimum of men required for the army as 420,000 to 450,000. Some of these men will be furnished from the home defense troops, some will be combed out of business and professional and department staff ranks, but the majority must be released from industry, mainly from mines and munitions works, for it is there that the greatest number of men have received exemptions.

A perfect storm of protest arose in labor ranks, and for a short time it looked as though the country might be involved, if not in a general strike, at least in strikes of such extent and gravity that the whole munitions industries, shipbuilding and aeroplanes manufacturing might be held up.

Labor Seeks a Majority. Lloyd George saved the situation for the time being by meeting the delegates from all the principal trade unions, and giving them more light on the war situation than any of them possessed. But the union most affected by the man-power bill, the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, with its 200,000 members, refused to attend the conference at all.

In America we have an imperfect knowledge of British labor organizations. We know they have a Labor party, but it is not generally known of what it is composed. The Labor party consists of trade unions, labor organizations of various kinds, and several Socialist groups.

Membership is by groups, not by individuals. Just now the party is in process of reconstruction to admit industrialists, and also to admit "brain trust" members. In other words, it seeks to enroll all radicals, and to form a majority party.

The Socialist groups are extremists and ardent pacifists. The whole labor party, or its spokesmen, express warm admiration for the Bolsheviks and the Trotsky gang in Russia. One of the most family quarrels just now between the laborites and the government is the latter's refusal to recognize as Ambassador from Russia Trotsky's appointee, Litvinoff.

Trotzky first appointed a man named Chicherin, resident in England, whose open German sympathies and propaganda he landed him in Brixton prison, and it was from jail he was expected to proceed to the Court of St. James to be a colleague of men of our rank and dignity. Lloyd George returned this insult, but at the request of the Lenin-Trotsky government he released the German suspect and allowed him to proceed to Russia.

Litvinoff was then appointed, but he has been recognized only by the Labor party. As this is being written, the Labor party is holding its annual convention in Nottingham. The preliminary meeting in London was opened by a vigorous singing of "The Red Flag," the Russian revolutionary hymn, and there was great cheering for the revolution, Ramsey MacDonald, Socialist leader, and for Trotzky.

Litvinoff was the hero of the hour and made a speech which would have resulted in his instant arrest if it had been made in Germany, and a sojourn at Ellis Island if it had been made before an American labor meeting. He was deliriously cheered.

Now the stranger in England might be excused for deducing from this that Great Britain was on the verge of a bloody revolution. Not a bit of it. The extreme wing of the Labor party is, unhappily, the noisy wing.

If numbers thousands where the saner membership runs into millions, but whenever the party has a special grievance, it seems to give the extremists the lead. The man-power bill, calling for more soldiers, furnishes a special grievance, because the Labor party has not so firmly entrenched in its mind that trade unions, not soldiers, are needed to end the war.

Labor Blind to Truth. With an obstinacy almost tragic the British trade unionists keep on demanding another Stockholm conference. The government would not allow delegates from Britain to go to that deplorable gathering, and the men have honestly believed or profess to believe, that if the working people of the allied countries could get together in a convention with the workmen of Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey, they could bring about a Wilson peace, or something like it.

Soldiers home on leave have done their best to enlighten their fellow-workmen as to the absolute subjectivity, physical and mental, of the German workmen. Some of these Englishmen on being captured, in a spirit of sportsmanship, offered their hands to their guards. The Germans spat in their faces.

Internationalism Is Demanded. Prisoners have brought back still more shocking stories, stories of Red Cross workers refusing food and water to famishing men, pouring the water and food on the ground before them for added cruelty. Nevertheless, the Labor party sticks to its demand for a

conference with German workers. The idea has become a real obsession with them. According to the peace programme of the Labor party, adopted in December, the "irreducible minimum terms" are given as follows: "The absolute freedom and integrity of Belgium, Serbia, Roumania and Montenegro, and the establishment on a firm basis of a League of Nations and People for International Co-operation, Disarmament and the Prevention of Future Warfare."

When Mr. Lloyd George met the trade union delegates in conference, he told them eloquently why a peace by negotiation with Germany was still out of the possibilities. He reminded them of their irreducible minimum of terms and he said: "If the government, by any pacifist orator in these lands, you will not get them cashed by Ludendorff or the Kaiser or any of our great magnates—not one of them—unless you have got the power to enforce them."

Nevertheless, after a masterly speech, in which the whole war situation was gone over with a clearness that made it plain to the dulled mind, those trade union leaders came straight back to their demand for a conference with German working people. They did not expect that Ludendorff and Hindenburg would cash the check written by the Labor party, but could they not reasonably expect that Scheidemann and Liebknecht would?

"Peace by the Whole People." "Herr Liebknecht," remarked Lloyd George dryly, "has been put in jail. That is what happened to his attempt to cash peace checks. He really is a rascal, but Herr Scheidemann will find himself in the same place if he attempts a similar operation."

But still the demand persisted. Delegates, however, were not to be sent forward as a certain path to peace. They booted at the suggestion that any delegates from Germany would be hand-picked by the German government, but the Premier said: "Do not let us deceive ourselves with a delusion. You can only make peace with a government that really represents the people of Germany, not men who change their government."

Not one of the allied governments, declared the Premier, would have good come out of conferences between sections of the population. They must not cherish the idea that were the only people.

"It is a fundamental misconception of democracy," said Lloyd George, "that any second-rate power can represent the whole of the people. The only people who can negotiate peace are responsible representatives of the various governments."

Quite unconvinced, the labor leaders went to the annual meeting in Nottingham and passed another resolution in favor of a conference with Germany. But sooner or later the knowledge will come to organized labor that new kind of democracy has been born of this war, a democracy greater than they dream of now, greater than they dream of in the name of Lenin and Trotzky. It is a democracy that recognizes no privileged class, not even a labor class, not even a male class.

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MEN IN GOOD HANDS

Tuscania Survivors in Irish Hospitals Recovering.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Sixty-three American survivors of the torpedoed troopship Tuscania were reported to the War Department today as recovering in Irish hospitals from the effects of injuries or exposure. The dispatch said none of the cases was serious and it was expected all the men soon would be discharged.

All of the 63 had previously been reported saved, and the presence of many of them in hospitals had been recorded in press dispatches, although today's dispatch brought the first official list of those in hospitals.

The list includes: William B. Curtis, Marshfield, Or.; Charles W. McIntosh, Bellingham, Wash.; Edward J. Peterson, Bend, Or.; Lester L. Smith, Galico, Or.; George A. Stierlin, Ferndale, Wash.; Rex C. Orser, Koonkia, Idaho; Laurence N. Riley, Seattle, Wash.; Harrison F. Bates, Puyallup, Wash.; Hallie M. Hoselton, Coburg, Or.; Guss Johnson, Fred, Tex.; Herbert D. Taylor, Santa Fe, N. M.; Roman Sandoval, Floresville, Tex.

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ALL HOPE NOW ABANDONED

Naval Gunners Put Line Aboard Florizel, but Get No Response.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—The fleeting hope that a few of those aboard the wave-battered steamship Florizel, wrecked near Cape Race, might still be alive, virtually was abandoned tonight. Naval gunners who went to the rescue on a relief train, sent from St. Johns, put rockets and a line on board shortly before 9 o'clock, but there was no response.

The message which killed the hope that the disaster might not have been complete, was received by Bowring & Co. agents here of the Red Cross line, at 10 o'clock tonight from Tasker Cook, marine agent, who headed the relief party. It had been forwarded from St. Johns. He characterized the position of the ship as hopeless.

"Nothing can be done until the sea moderates," said the telegram. "Will have another try in morning. Put rockets and line on board but got no response. Steamer Home launched boat but could not get within one-quarter mile of Florizel. Some cargo washed ashore. Have placed men on bank to watch chance to get to Florizel if any offers. Condition of ship hopeless and regret very much that I cannot hold out much hope."

Master Is Experienced. The vessel was commanded by Captain W. J. Martin, a master of long experience and who was credited with the full confidence of the owners. The crew consisted of 10 men, chief purser of the Red Cross line and was serving on the Stepano when the latter was sunk by the German submarine off the Massachusetts coast.

The Florizel was owned by the New York, New Foundland and Halifax Steamship Company, known as the Red Cross line, of which J. P. Bowring Company, of Liverpool and New York, are the agents.

The ship was built at Glasgow in 1902 and registered 1950 tons net. The first New Foundland and Halifax Steamship Company, known as the Red Cross line, of which J. P. Bowring Company, of Liverpool and New York, are the agents.

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U. S. AND MEXIC OAGREE

Officials Come to Understanding Regarding Export Restrictions.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 24.—Conferees here resumed Monday morning the talks on the United States export restrictions against Mexico. Henry P. Fletcher, American Ambassador, and Rafael Nieto, acting Secretary of the Treasury, arrived today in Washington, where an agreement was reached subject to President Carranza's approval. General Salvador Alvarado, former Governor of Yucatan, also will attend the conference, presumably in relation to the shipments of sugar to the United States.

According to Senator Nieto, the preliminary agreement provides that the

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