

LADY ASTOR NEW LEADER IN FIGHT FOR DRY ENGLAND

By Floyd Macgriff
London, March 12.—(L. N. S.)—William ("Pussyfoot") Johnson is in danger of being overshadowed in the fight to make Great Britain dry by Viscountess Astor, despite his spectacular entry into the fray.

Viscountess Astor, who already has opened her campaign in parliament, is determined to see the battle through to a finish, although her aims are less drastic than those of the extremist faction led by Mr. Johnson.

In outlining her attitude today she declared that she is not a prohibitionist in the strict sense of the word. While she wants to see the British Isles "bone dry," she believes that restriction and control of the drink question should be the first step in the gradual reforms that would eventually end in prohibition such as in the United States at present.

VISCOUNTESS NOT VISIONARY
The American-born viscountess takes a practical view of the temperance struggle. She declares that she is not a "woman with a mission," but merely trying to "do her bit" to make the people happier.

"While the whole world is apparently moving towards prohibition I think that England today is not ready for it," declared Viscountess Astor. "Prohibitionists want a whole apple or none. I will accept half an apple or even a quarter of one."

"I fail to see where intoxicating liquor has done any good in this world. I believe that its effects should be minimized as much as possible and its use restricted."

"The voters, I believe, should have submitted to them, by districts, three choices: (a) Continuation of the liquor business as at present; (b) state ownership and control; (c) prohibition."

MAKE BETTER ENGLAND
"When the truth dawned upon the workingman he is going to demand changes so as to help create a better England. He is not going to be the alcoholic bully who deprives his offspring of possible advantages. Personally, I do not post as 'my brother's keeper.' I have no wish to prohibit any person from having his glass of beer. But I am deeply interested in arousing the nation to its manifest duty of cleansing itself of John Barleycorn's worst features and heritage."

Americans Must Be Ready to Give Long Time Credits

By Constantine Brown
Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.
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Bucharest, Roumania, Feb. 22 (Via Paris, France, March 12).—Several Americans have arrived here for business purposes, but their hopes are likely to be dashed. Unless American firms are prepared to give long time credits nothing can be done in the Balkans on account of the very low rate of exchange. The present average equivalents for the American dollar follow: Serbia, 20 dinars; Roumania, 60 lei; Bulgaria, 5 leva. Dealers are unable to purchase anything in the American or English market, as the prices are prohibitive.

Italy seems to be the only country with which Balkan business is possible, the prices being lower and the wholesalers being willing to give long time credits. Under the circumstances the Americans do not show much eagerness to make contracts. The question of the reconstruction of the railways is still open, but in case the work is entrusted to any foreign concern there is every chance that the English will obtain the contract.

ROYALTY DANCE IS FROST WITHOUT ITS NEWFANGLED JAZZ

London, March 12.—Fox trot and hesitation waltz may figure on the next dance cards at Buckingham Palace as a consequence of a dance fizzle there this week when only the lancers, quadrilles and waltzes were on the program.

It was a small party and only 20 guests were present. The prince of Wales had urged the inclusion of some of the modern steps, but Queen Mary declared today that most of them were not fit to be introduced in the palace.

After the opening lancers, in which only the king, queen and members of the royal household participated, the guests informed the ladies in waiting and queries that they didn't know how to dance the old fashioned lancers and quadrille steps.

They prayed that they be allowed to "outlet" them.

There were only four waltzes on the program, and when these were over the party ended abruptly at 11 o'clock. Members of the royal household say the queen will henceforth either admit the up-to-date, if lively steps, or abandon the royal dances altogether.

Public Opinion in France Suspicious Of British Attitude

Paris, March 12.—French public opinion, sorely tried by the many successive disappointments since the armistice, is now gravitating between intense alarm and equally intense indignation. The latter emotion being directed alternately against the United States and Great Britain.

The feeling which just now is showing signs of gaining the upper hand is that against Britain, accentuated by British advocacy of economic and financial aid to Germany. France is beginning to feel like a country without friends, and the bitter thought expressed in the public is that of suspicion that her chief ally, Britain, is deserting her and taking the former common enemy under her protective wings.

MILLERAND OPENS FIGHT FOR FRENCH RAILWAY WORKERS

Premier of France Indorses Labor's Program for Nationalization of Roads and Industries.

By Paul Scott Mowrer
Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.
(Copyright, 1920, by The Chicago Daily News Foreign Service.)

Paris, March 12.—No legislation economical and even political importance has occurred. Premier Millerand, although governed by the will of the conservative majority in the chamber, is so impressed by the necessity of cooperating with the French labor movement that he has agreed as a result of the railway strike, to consult the economic council of the General Labor Confederation regarding the future status of the French railways. This seems practically to be an admission of labor's right to be heard in government matters affecting industry and is a decided victory for the French labor leaders.

FOR NATIONALIZATION
Labor's formal demand is for nationalization but not nationalization in the ordinary sense. The program is borrowed neither from Germany, Russia nor Britain. It is peculiarly French and may indeed ultimately exercise considerable influence on organized labor elsewhere.

Before giving the main outlines of this program let me say a word regarding the economic council of the General Labor confederation. This remarkable body was first projected more than a year ago. The French labor leaders have repeatedly proved their fundamental hostility to bolshevistic disorders. They have incessantly preached increased production as the basis of national wealth and have shown how disorder as the enemy of production only serves to impoverish the country. Such strikes as have occurred have been more or less against the will of the leaders and may be attributed as much to the general spirit of unrest in Europe as to anything else.

ECONOMIC COUNCIL
Feeling that only in the improvement and development of French industries and natural resources lies the country's salvation the French labor leaders conceived the idea of having the government form a national economic council composed of representatives of state employees, technicians and unions for consultation on all economic questions. Meeting a rebuff from the then premier M. Clemenceau, the labor leaders decided to form an economic council of their own and a few months ago this new body was brought into active operation. Its directing committee consists of three representatives of the General Labor confederation, three of

the technicians' union, three of the Federation of Government officials and three of the consumers' cooperative. This committee controls nine study sections which have been formed as follows:

1. National equipment of transport and postal service and motor power.
2. Economic organization for the control of national and international economy.
3. Industrial production and rawstuffs.
4. Agricultural organization and production.
5. Finance and credits.
6. Social life, hygiene, urbanism, leisure, social and physical education.
7. General and technical instructions.
8. Commerce and distribution of wealth.
9. The devastated regions.

INDUSTRIES INCLUDED
After much study, debate and consultation some of the leading economists of France and their conferees have evolved a plan of nationalization of industries. They specifically reject state nationalization on the ground that the state has shown itself incapable of managing industry efficiently when the state is both proprietor and administrator. They also reject the bolshevistic idea of proletarian nationalization and generally speaking all mere profits sharing schemes of the so-called industrial democracy. A union of the employees concerned is more able to manage an industry than is the state, they say, and, moreover, workmen have no more right to own and profit by national industries than have the capitalists.

They therefore adopt a program of what they call industrial nationalization in which each industry is managed by an absolutely autonomous board of directors composed of representatives of the state, of the labor unions and of the consumers in the interest of neither the state, labor nor capital. But of the entire commonwealth. Their slogan is maximum production in the minimum time at the maximum wage, but it is a fundamental part of their program that the workers must be expected to work harder in the interests of the commonwealth than they do under the present system.

UNITE ALL RAILWAYS
It is proposed to adopt the general principles in the various industries as occasion requires but a good example of its application is the scheme which already has been devised by the first study section of the economic council for the nationalization of the railroads. It is the scheme which will soon be communicated to the government as a basis for the discussion of the future of the French transport system. Its terms are not yet official, but I am able to give them nevertheless. The economic council considers that the present transport organization with its competition between various systems and between the rail and water routes is inefficient. They propose to unite all the standard gauge lines in the country into a single system and group the narrow gauge lines in the country into regional systems under a central administration. The present value of the railroads is to be determined by a commission consisting of three representatives of the government, three technicians chosen by the labor unions and three representatives of the present companies. All the railway shares shall be called in and replaced by new ones guaranteed by the state, bearing a fixed interest and redeemable at par in a series chosen by lot.

EVERYONE REPRESENTED
In the future the railway administration shall be composed as follows: Three delegates of the state, namely, one for the ministry of public works to insure liaison between the railroads with waterways, ports and electric power stations; one for the ministry of finance and one for the ministry of war; three delegates of the unions, namely, one traction expert, one rolling stock and track expert and one dispatching expert; six delegates of the consumers, namely, one representative of national federations of industry, one of the agricultural federations, one of the Chambers of Commerce, one of the touring clubs, one of the General Labor confederation and one of the Federation of Cooperatives.

These administrators shall hold office two years, shall be well remunerated and shall have practically absolute and autonomous power over the railroad system of France. However the administration may be dissolved by the government on the demand of four members of the administration and there shall be a government supervisory commission consisting of three financial experts. As the railroads are run in the interest of the commonwealth it is considered that the state must be prepared to meet any resulting deficit. If, however, there is a profit, as is expected, a certain per cent of it shall go toward the payment of interest on and the gradual redemption of the outstanding shares, a certain per cent toward improving the working conditions of the railway men, particularly as regards hygiene, and a certain per cent to the state for the exploitation of new sources of wealth or the construction of new lines. All other profits shall serve to lower the rates.

This project may be modified in some details before it is presented to the government but such are its main outlines. It is by no means certain that a scheme such as this would be opposed by French public opinion.

ANTI-LEAGUERS IN SWEDEN ARE WEAK
By Hal O'Flaherty
Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.
(Copyright, 1920, by Chicago Daily News Co.)
Stockholm, March 12.—By final adherence to the League of Nations was finally accomplished when the upper house of the riksdag finally passed the assent bill. The debates in both houses were characterized by the weakness of the arguments advanced by the opponents of the measure. Premier Edens declared that America's non-adherence should not hinder Sweden from acting, for if Sweden awaited an American decision she would lose her chance of

being invited to join and would be forced to ask permission.

One of the principal questions asked was whether the league meant protection for Sweden against possible attacks by Russia. It was pointed out by several of the speakers that the Swedes normally depended upon Germany for protection against Russia, but that

under present conditions they must seek a refuge in the league. The radical Socialists, who have supposedly been gaining recruits during the political upheavals in all the surrounding countries, were unexpectedly weak, not mustering more than a score of votes in both houses.

Hjalmar Branting, acknowledged that Sweden must give up part of the neutrality maintained during the war but declared that some means must be found for the neutral nations to show their desire for world peace.

Rides Motor Scooter
London, March 12.—E. S. Montagu, secretary of state for India, is the only cabinet minister to ride a fiery, untamed motor scooter over the bumps of Whitehall. To see him keep his monocle in place as his puffing steed bucks at the ruts is an inspiring and thrilling sight to even blasé Whitehallers.

One merit of poetry few persons will deny; it says more and in fewer words than prose.—Voltaire.

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Arnold Bennett

thinks so, and tells why in the "Abolition of Slavery," in this issue of the Bazar. In addition to this brilliant essay, there will be in this number, great novels by Phyllis Bottome, and Meredith Nicholson, and short stories by Josephine Daskam Bacon, Philip Curtis and Royal Brown.

172 Advance Fashion Models Fiction, Society and Splendid Special Articles

IN THIS ISSUE OF HARPER'S BAZAR

YOU will particularly enjoy Mrs. Charles L. Tiffany's article on "Women of Today and Colleges of Tomorrow." Every issue of the Bazar contains an article written by a prominent member of American Society on one of the more serious movements in which Society is interested. And this is only one of the several splendid features in this March issue.—The Advance Spring Fashion Harper's Bazar.

A Breath of Paris

All Paris is dancing! In tea rooms, in hotels after dinner, in private ball rooms, in dancing as the public halls are quaintly named, in studios, yes—even in the streets. One must be prepared soon to see the waiter fox-trotting to the table, if this craze persists.

This is a paragraph from the Paris letter for March—a feature you will always enjoy in every issue of the Bazar.

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