

The Observer

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CENTURY OF THOUGHT AIDS WOMEN WORKERS

National Women's Trade Union League Will Present Its Purposes at International Congress at Washington.

The National Women's Trade Union League of America has had nearly one hundred years' preparation for the part which it will play both on the floor and as hostess to the first International Congress of Working Women which is being called by that organization in Washington on October 23.

Women in the United States were first organized to secure better working conditions in 1821. This organization continued to grow until the time of the Civil war, when all labor organizations broke down. Sometime after 1860 the National Women's Trade Union League, as it now operates, became a living thing.

The present organization has a membership of 600,000 women and affiliated membership of over a million, which includes men who are backing the program of the league and are in industries where women are employed. It is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

The National Women's Trade Union League tries, through its organization, to teach women to help themselves to get better working conditions. Its purpose is "to protect the women workers of America from inadequate wage and extreme working hours through the organization of the workers, and through such legislation as the minimum wage and the eight-hour day; to increase co-operative action among them; to create a public opinion that really understands the labor movement; to secure definite and accurate information concerning conditions among women and child wage earners leading to legislative action; to supply at all times to all wage earners assistance in working out their industrial difficulties."

Mrs. Raymond Robins is president of the league and chairman of its committee on international relations, which is in charge of arrangements for the International Congress of Working Women. Miss Mary Anderson, chief of the women's bureau of the United States department of labor, is secretary to this committee. The congress is being called at the official request of the standing committee on Women's Industrial Organizations of Great Britain and at the informal request of women's labor organizations in France and Italy. Problems and conditions affecting the work of women and children will be discussed and remedies for these problems considered so that practical suggestions can be taken back by the delegates to their own countries.

You can get even with Uncle Sam on the penny war taxes by purchasing War Savings Stamps. For the old boy will have to pay YOU something then—see?—Tyler County Messenger.

Refuses to Raise Chicks. Greenville, O.—There is a new allegation in an answer to a divorce petition filed in the county court here by Ira E. Bickel. After denying all of the allegations made by his wife, which were the old stereotyped charges, Bickel comes back and says his wife refused to "raise chickens" or do anything else that she ought to do as a dutiful wife.

CZECHO-SLOVAKS TO ATTEND CONGRESS

Two Women Delegates Will Represent Poland at International Gathering on October 23.

Two industrial women workers are on their way from Czechoslovakia and four on their way from Poland to attend the International Congress of Working Women in Washington, October 23d, according to cables received by Miss Mary Anderson, secretary of the committee on International Relations of the National Women's Trade Union League of America, who is in charge of arrangements.

Miss Anderson has also been advised that the Telephone Operators' Association of the Argentine will send a representative to the Congress at the earliest possible moment that transportation facilities will permit. Two delegates are also en route from Belgium, and others from England, Switzerland, Japan and Italy.

WAR OFFICE STOPS BOMB DISTRIBUTION

Treasury Department's Plan to Award Hand Grenades Blocked

The War Department has cancelled its contract to supply the Treasury Department with 16,000,000 hand grenades which were to be converted into savings banks to stimulate the sales of War Savings Stamps and Treasury Savings Certificates, according to a telegram received by C. A. Farnsworth, associate director of the War Loan Organization in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District, from Washington. Banks and Trust Companies of the Twelfth Federal Reserve District had ordered nearly 100,000 grenades before news of the cancellation was received.

The telegram to Farnsworth read: "As the War Department has determined that the distribution of hand grenades as souvenirs should be discontinued, and has cancelled its arrangement for supplying grenades to the Treasury Department to be made into savings banks, the Treasury is unable to continue the distribution of the banks."

In order, however, to recognize the efforts of the children in working and saving during the vacation time, each one who would be entitled to a bank will receive a certificate of achievement from the Treasury in appreciation of his industry in saving and buying government securities."

The hand grenades were known as Mills bombs No. 13 and were ready for shipment to American forces in France when the armistice was signed. "I am deeply disappointed as I know the people who looked forward to receiving one of these war souvenirs will be," said Mr. Farnsworth. "However, I feel sure that thrifty, patriotic folks who are investing regularly in War Savings Stamps will continue to help the government."

W. S. S.

AMERICA'S MILLIONAIRES

By the income tax returns for 1917 it is shown that there were in the United States 3302 "millionaires" between \$100,000 and \$150,000 each. If the average was \$125,000, the total incomes in that class were \$412,750,000. There were 2347 incomes between \$150,000 and \$300,000 each. If the average was \$225,000 the total incomes in that class were \$528,075,000. There were 559 incomes between \$300,000 and \$500,000 each. If the average was \$400,000 the total incomes in that class were \$224,500,000. There were 315 incomes between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 each. If the average was \$750,000 the total incomes in that class were \$236,250,000. At the top of the heap were 141 incomes of \$1,000,000 or more. If the average was \$1,500,000 the total incomes in that class were \$211,500,000. The grand total for all classes given would be \$1,643,500,000 income among 6664 individuals.

What is your income? You haven't any? Neither did those millionaires until they started to save and invest! Begin now and build up an income. Buy a five dollar United States War Savings Stamp. It pays 4 per cent, compounded quarterly. If you haven't got four dollars and twenty cents—that is what a five dollar stamp costs—buy a twenty-five cent Thrift Stamp.

Get started. Get an income. An income from War Savings Stamps is not taxable. W. S. S.

THE PITH OF IT

President Wilson, in tackling the high cost of living, said: "Only by increasing production and by rigid economy and saving by the people can we hope for large decreases in the burdensome cost of living which now weighs so down."

Despite the fact that the Department of Justice is scurrying about investigating high prices and throwing profiteers in jail, the President's cure for high prices is the only one. He has with him in his opinion the best economists in America and Europe. It is most elementary economics that as long as the public persists in its spending "like," buying unnecessary and fastidious upon industry a demand for more than industry can produce, exorbitant prices will prevail.

There is only one way out. That is the President's way. The people have got to save. In order to save they must do without high priced luxuries and live simply. They must invest their savings that the means of more and greater production may be accumulated.

Economists know that the Treasury Department is doing more than the Department of Justice is to bring down prices. The lowly Thrift Stamp and War Savings Stamp is the weapon. Buy them and hold them. Put them first on the family budget. They bring 4 per cent interest compounded every three months. Get the habit of buying them every pay day. They will solve your high cost of living problem. W. S. S.

The price of a \$5 War Savings Stamp this month is \$4.21. Buy one every week.

How many successful men do you know who never learned to save; how many failures who did? Buy War Savings Stamps.

Mystical Thirteen.

In the Indian Pantheon there are 13 Buddhas; the apex of an Indian or Chinese pagoda is crowned with 13 mystical disks. The sacred sword, preserved in the Temple of Atsuta, in Japan, has 13 objects of mystery forming its hilt. When playing whist and many other games of cards each player has 13 cards and the pack is made up of four suits of 13 each.

Daily Thought. To receive honestly is the best thanks for a good thing.—George MacDonald.

WOMEN WORKERS FROM 34 NATIONS ASKED TO CONGRESS

First International Conference in History of World Opens at Washington, D. C., October 23.

NEW RESPONSIBILITIES TO BE DISCUSSED

National Women's Trade Union League of America to Act as Hostess—Belgium and Great Britain Send Distinguished Women as Advisors.

Working women from all parts of the globe will gather in Washington on October 23 at the invitation of the National Women's Trade Union League of America to take part in the first International Congress of Working Women ever held in the history of the world.

An official call to the conference has been sent to labor organizations in thirty-four countries asking that they send delegates to the conference. Each country is entitled to ten delegates and to ten votes on the floor of the congress; also to one member on the executive committee. So far Finland, Czechoslovakia, Poland, France, Japan, Belgium, England, the Argentine and Canada have announced delegates for the congress, Belgium being the first to announce that Mme. Victoire Cappe, who had been chosen to serve as an advisor at the international labor conference called for October 29, would arrive in the United States in time to serve as one of the two Belgian delegates at the women's congress. Margaret Bondfield, secretary of the National Federation of Women Workers in Great Britain, who will also serve as an advisor to the British delegation at the labor conference, is coming to take her place on the floor of the Congress of Working Women.

It was Miss Bondfield who, during her visit to the United States in the spring and early summer, presented to the Women's Trade Union League, assembled in the seventh biennial convention of that organization in Philadelphia in June, the resolution of the standing committee of the Women's Industrial Organizations of England that the American league be asked to call an International Congress of Working Women to meet in the United States in the autumn. Such a conference had been previously discussed by women's labor organizations of various countries and would have been held in a European city probably had not the League of Nations society decided upon Washington as the meeting place for an international labor conference.

The committee on international relations of the Women's Trade Union League, which is in charge of the congress, has as its chairman Mrs. Raymond Robins, president of the league; Miss Mary Anderson, chief of the women's bureau of the United States department of labor; Miss Agnes Nestor, vice president of the International Glove Workers' union; Miss Julia O'Connor, president of the Telephone Operators' union; and Miss Rose Schneidermann, president of the New York Women's Trade Union league.

In discussing the congress, Mrs. Robins says: "Women must come forward now and accept their responsibilities. They can no longer have their affairs attended to by proxy. Men cannot bear the entire responsibility for the world. They must be assisted by women, and the women should come forth willingly, prepared to take up their share of the burden of seeing that things go right with the world. At the Congress of Working Women we will discuss problems affecting women which we, as women workers, are particularly able to consider, that we may recommend how conditions of the labor of women and children can be improved."

GOT THE WRONG IMPRESSION

Grandfather Was Convinced His Pet Had Joined the Church, and Rejoiced Accordingly.

She is a newspaper woman and her grandfather formerly was a local preacher of circuit fame. He is very much interested in her religious state and worries because she does not attend church every Sunday night.

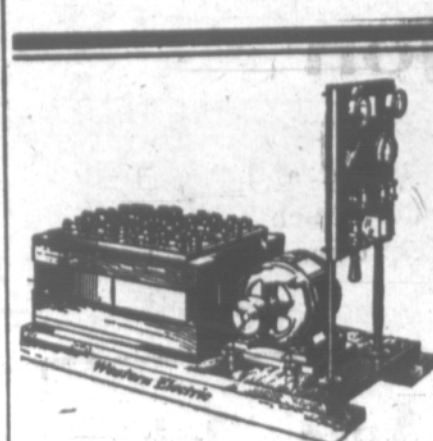
The other evening she went to a church to write a story about the new organ, the purchase of which had been made possible by her stories in the paper. So she took grandfather with her, knowing that while he could not hear much of the services, still he would enjoy being in the church.

At the close of the sermon came a surprise for the newspaper woman. The minister announced: "Miss S. who wrote the stories which brought us the money for our organ, is with us tonight and I would like for her to come up in front so that all of us may see her and shake her hand."

Grandfather saw his grandchild advance to the front of the church and also saw the people begin shaking her hand. He had not heard a word the minister had said, but still he had the memory of camp meeting days to inform him of what was happening. They convinced him that his granddaughter had joined the church and with handshaking the people were welcoming her into the fold. So he did his part. He rose to his feet and began shouting at the top of his voice. —Indianapolis News.

Hard to Please. The attitude of certain of the clergy who are always protesting reminds one of the mother in Punch who said to the nurse, "Go and see what baby is doing and tell him not to." —Philadelphia Ledger.

Be Cheerful. We ought to be as cheerful as we can, if only because to be happy ourselves is a most effective contribution to the happiness of others.—Sir John Lubbock.



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Encouraging Bolshevism

Everything that falsely encourages unrest also encourages bolshevism.

Misunderstanding of American industrial organization, and of its benefits to mankind, leads to unrest, dissatisfaction, and radicalism.

For example, the Federal Trade Commission tells the public that the large packers had an agreed price for lard substitute (made of cotton-seed oil).

It reproduces letters taken from the files of one of the packers, showing that such agreed price existed.

But it failed to mention that the agreed price was determined at the request of and in co-operation with the Food Administration!

Even the Department of Justice, in its unjust attempt to create prejudice against the packers, has made public these same letters, with no explanation.

How long must this kind of misrepresentation continue? In so far as it is believed, it not only breeds discontent, but results in injustice to our industry.

Let us send you a "Swift Dollar." It will interest you. Address Swift & Company, Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill.

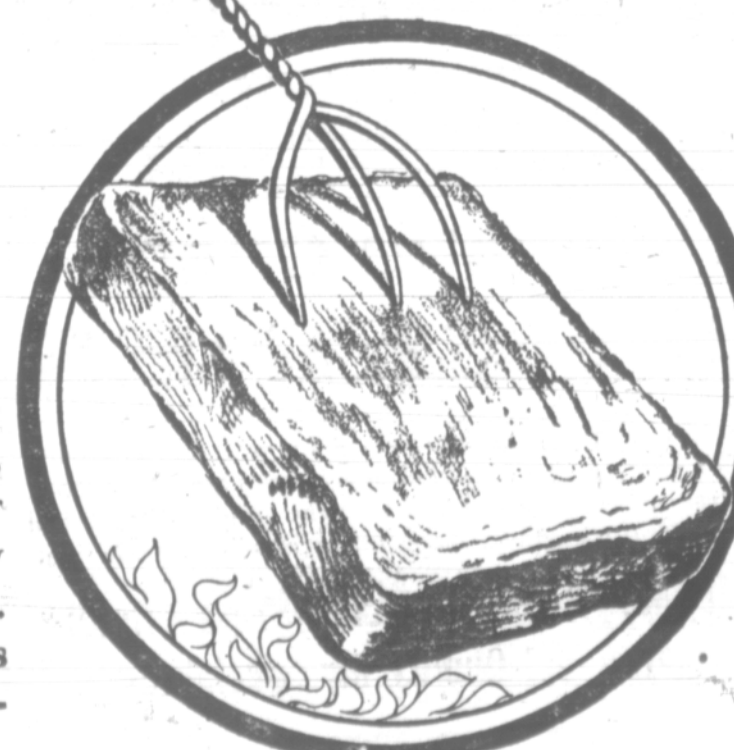
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