

PORTO RICO HAS LABOR TROUBLE

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—A living wage and development of industries on a large scale is needed to banish the "most intolerable conditions" under which the immense landless population of Porto Rico have labored for centuries, Joseph Marcus, special agent of the United States Employment Service, declares in a report issued by the Department of Labor. The investigator reported that lack of employment for a large part of the people, intermittence of occupation and small wages have brought about a critical situation on the island.

The Porto Rican laborer looks to the United States with its enlightenment and leadership in humanitarian ideals to rescue him, the Marcus report stated. Both the government and the American Federation of Labor are being appealed to, it was explained.

But before the industries can be expected to enter the Porto Rican field shipping facilities must be increased, with fast steamers in service; a branch of the Federal Reserve Bank must be instituted on the island, and there must be more independent, land-owning farmers, according to the report. Then, with a big export business, work may be provided for all at fair wages. Now when a laborer is working he and his family share a breakfast of only black coffee, a luncheon of rice and beans, rice and codfish, or codfish and plantains, and a dinner the same as luncheon, it was stated.

The Porto Rican is beginning to demand better living conditions, Mr. Marcus reported. Strikes, organized and supported by the Free Federation of Labor which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, take place "frequently."

In Aguadilla, one of Porto Rico's principal towns, characterized as the "strike breakers' district" and the "poorest section of the island," instances abound where families eat only once a day and have meat but once in a year, the report said, adding that about 30 percent of the population in the district have tuberculosis. Hookworm and other tropical diseases abound throughout the entire country.

Describing the "jibaro" or mountain dweller and "principal factor" in the labor problem of Porto Rico, since he constitutes nearly 80 percent of the population, the Marcus report sums up the situation as follows:

"This jibaro is still living in the same environment under which his ancestors lived one or two hundred years ago. He builds his little shack on land that does not belong to him, and he works, when work is to be had, on the nearest cane, coffee or tobacco plantation. His dress consists of a pair of white trousers, a

EAT LESS MEAT IF BACK HURTS

Take a Glass of Salts to Flush Kidneys if bladder bothers you

Eating meat regularly eventually produces kidney trouble in some form or other, says a well-known authority, because the uric acid in meat excites the kidneys, they become overworked; get sluggish; clog up and cause all sorts of distress, particularly backache and misery in the kidney region; rheumatic twinges, severe headaches, acid stomach, constipation, torpid liver, sleeplessness, bladder and urinary irritation.

The moment your back hurts or kidneys aren't acting right, or if bladder bothers you, get about four ounces of Jad Salts from any good pharmacy; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine. This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to flush clogged kidneys and stimulate them to normal activity; also to neutralize the acids in the urine so it no longer irritates, thus ending bladder disorders.

Jad Salts cannot injure anyone; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which millions of men and women take now and then to keep the kidneys and urinary organs clean, thus avoiding serious kidney diseases.

BUSINESS MEN'S MEETING

The Klamath Falls Business Men's association will hold a meeting and dinner at the White Pelican hotel, Friday evening, March 12, at 6:30 o'clock. A full attendance is urged, as there are several important matters for consideration.

By order of Leslie Rogers, Pres.

At Last

The builders are at work and we will soon be established again.

Shipments of accessories are arriving and we now have the largest stock ever brought to Klamath Falls. Our accessory store is three doors east of the garage.

Our shop was started again in December and we have had all the work we could care for. An additional force will be put on soon.



white shirt and a straw hat. His wife and children are clad as poorly as he is; and none of them wear shoes.

"But work in Porto Rico is seasonal, and it lasts seven months at the most; so that for five or six months he has to do the best he can for a living. Bananas and other tropical fruits are plentiful and in many instances the landowner for whom he works during the season permits him to eat his bananas gratis. Some receive with their little huts of ground and raise some foodstuffs during the dull season, but such cases are not common. How he pulls through the slow season is a mystery.

"The jibaro is exceeding courteous, especially to Americans; good-natured, ready to render a favor at any time, and, though poor, accepts no compensation; he is even cheerful and fond of music. But he is a sick man. Uncinariasis (hookworm disease), anemia, etc., are very widespread. During the fiscal year 1917-18, 20,500 hookworm patients were treated by the health authorities. These figures, however, must fall far short of the actual number of people afflicted, since the difficulties in getting to a dispensary or a private physician are numerous.

"The principal food consumed by the Porto Ricans is made up of rice, beans, codfish, coffee and bread. Of these five articles of diet only coffee is not imported. There are some mountain rice and beans raised on the island, but the bulk of the other three commodities and the entire consumption of codfish are imported from other countries, chiefly from the United States, excepting codfish which is brought from Canada.

"Undernourishment makes the laborer an easy prey to disease and unfits him for hard manual labor; his endurance is undermined and he cannot stand the strain of 10 or 12 hours' work in the fields. This fact

FARMERS PAY EXCESSIVE TAX

Payment of excess income tax, which cost Oregon farmers many thousands of dollars additional expense last year, can be avoided by substituting the income on the inventory basis instead of on the cash receipts and disbursements basis as nine out of ten did last year, says R. D. Gunn, of the state college farm management division. Federal income tax officers for Oregon are supporting the college extension service in giving instructions and fair treatment to the farmers.

"The inventory plan as now approved by the federal treasury department provides that the farmer may use the 'farm value of livestock and grain,'" says Gunn. "Use of this plan does not mean that a farmer has got to know the exact cost of producing a bushel of grain or raising a steer, but it does mean that he must keep records and accounts, a practice he should follow anyhow."

Reporting on the inventory basis insures against doubling up two years' income into one, Gunn points out. The first year but little net income is reported, the second year an abnormally large one. As the income tax and the surtax are both graduated the taxes are much higher when paid on \$10,000 every other year than when paid on \$5,000 every year. The farmer paying on the cash basis pays more tax, often 50 to 100 per cent, than he would if he included his inventory values each year.

"Our department co-operating with county agents, will be glad to assist farmers in getting their farm accounts and income tax reports on a business like basis," announced Mr. Gunn. "Some confusion may result in substituting the inventory plan, but with care and the help of the field agent of the internal revenue office a satisfactory adjustment can be made."

H. C. L. REDUCES OLDEN CHARITY

NEW YORK, Mar. 12.—Eighteen poor families of Trinity Parish used to be provided for in the weekly Leake "dole of bread" distributed from the parish house of St. Luke's chapel. Today the high cost of living allows for the charity to only ten. At the same time prosperity has reached out into more homes, and there is less need for it. Only six shabbily dressed little boys and girls, children of the parish's "most deserving poor" asked for it last Saturday.

The advent of March will have seen the dole's "wheaten loaves" distributed 6,633 consecutive weeks in the 128 years of its existence. It was provided for in John Leake's will of Colonial days. Four to six loaves go to each family.

Mrs. Margaret J. Tunstall, parish visitor, distributed the Leake dole. She has been doing it for 15 years. She received the children, inquired the number of mouths to be fed in each family and wrapped the bread up. St. Luke's chapel parish house has been the scene of the dole for three or four years now. Before that it was given at St. John's Chapel. Originally its home was Trinity Church, where the poor had to apply for it at the altar after the Sunday service.

John Leake, a wealthy New Yorker of Revolutionary days, provided for the dole, which the Encyclopedia Britannica calls the "best known dole in the United States." A portion of his will said: "I hereby give and bequeath to the rector and vestrymen of Trinity Parish, New York City, N. Y., 1000 pounds put out at interest, to be laid out in the annual income in six penny wheaten loaves of bread and distributed to such poor as shall appear most deserving."

Want Ads bring results.

is not unknown to employers, for some experiments in connection with properly feeding laborers have been made and splendid results obtained.

"The old system of the employer paying to the storekeeper the wages of his laborer and the storekeeper taking out the amount due him for purchases made by such laborer is still in existence on the island, despite the fact that public opinion is against it. The laborer under such conditions is at the mercy of the storekeeper, often an unscrupulous one, who at times takes advantage of the illiterate customer to overcharge him or charge him for things he did not purchase."

CAL. COUNTIES EXPENSES, 1919 85 MILLIONS

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Mar. 12.—Expenditures by county governments of California including certain districts, in 1919 aggregated \$85,556,697.61, an increase of 7 per cent over 1918 expenditures and 118 per cent over those of 1911, State Controller John S. Chambers estimated in a report he has just sent to the printer.

The increase of \$5,336,104.71 of 1919 over 1918 is segregated as follows: General governmental expenditures, \$1,100,000; protection of person and property, \$1,500,000; charities and corrections, \$1,000,000 and education, \$1,500,000.

The grand total of the receipts of the counties for 1919 was \$89,975,133.52, an increase of 15 per cent over 1918, the expenditures that year having amounted to \$78,246,065.53, and an increase of 118 per cent over the expenditures of 1911 which totaled \$41,345,925.99. The increase of \$11,729,067.99 of 1919 over 1918 is accounted for, in large part, as follows: from taxes \$2,320,000; sale of bonds, \$5,300,000, and school districts, \$2,700,000.

"As perhaps indicating a real effort on the part of the counties to hold down costs during the war period," Chambers pointed out, "it is worth noting that the receipts for 1918 were \$4,552,561.04 less than those of 1917. This is the first time since the Controller was authorized by law in 1910 to collect financial data of this kind that county receipts have fallen down, indicating a let up of tax pressure.

"Likewise the expenditures for the year 1918 only increased \$1,165,151.92 over those of 1917, as against an average annual increase since 1910 of approximately \$6,000,000," continued Chambers. "But with the coming of the war, both receipts (largely from taxation) and expenditures jumped up. Receipts increased over \$11,000,000 for the year as between 1918 and 1919, and expenditures over \$5,000,000."

The bonded indebtedness of the counties and certain districts for 1919 totaled \$67,052,389 as against \$62,947,875 for 1918, or an increase of 7 per cent and as against \$22,655,890 for 1911, an increase of 196 per cent.

The grand total of assessed county valuations for 1919 was \$3,272,973,512 as against \$3,025,433,439 for 1918, an increase of \$247,540,073 over 1918, or 8 per cent and an increase of \$1,215,034,243 over 1911, or an increase of 59 per cent. On the basis of 42 per cent as the average of assessed value to real value, the true value of the property so assessed in 1919 would be \$7,792,794,077. The ratio used is that established by the California Tax Commission in 1917.

"The annual publication of the financial transactions of the counties and cities of the State," said Chambers, "enables a county to compare itself with other counties and a city with other cities. If we had uniform systems of accounting for our counties and our cities, not only would it make easier the collection of this data but it also would make easier an analysis of receipts and payments, the sources of one and the distribution of the others. It would give uniformity which is needed in every State, and between the States and also the States and the Federal Government."

COMPULSORY LABOR ARBITRATION FAILS

MELBOURNE, Australia, Feb. 1. (By Mail.)—Harry W. Braddon, formerly Australian commissioner to the United States, told Australians in a speech the other day that he preferred the American system of "getting together" to settle labor difficulties over the Australian compulsory arbitration plan.

"The Americans told me they would not touch the Australian system with a 10-foot pole," said Mr. Braddon. "I have come back to Australia convinced that they were right. The whole system of compulsory arbitration is based on wrong principles. The American motto, get together, is the right idea. I would like to see the whole Australian arbitration court structure swept away to make room for a system which would allow employers and employees to get together and enable each party to come to a proper understanding of the other's peculiar difficulties."

Speaking of American characteristics, Mr. Braddon said that when he first went to America he was a little skeptical about the "idealism



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of which he had heard, but that closer acquaintance had removed all his doubts. "Far from being hard and material, the Americans are the most ideal-loving nation in the world, emotional at times to the point of sentimentality."

The United States is the greatest producer of tobacco, and also the greatest consumer of it, the greatest exporter, and the greatest importer too. The per capita consumption, counting each man, woman and child, is seven pounds a year.

GRAND OPENING



Of White Pelican Millinery Shop, Saturday, March 13th, 1920, with a wonderful line of Trimmed and Novelty Hats, at prices that will surprise you. The prices range from \$8.50 to \$15.00 for Trimmed and Novelty Hats. Also for the opening day one lot of Knockabout Sport Hats at \$2.95, and one lot of beautiful Straw Sailors, in different shades, at \$3.95. Also for the kiddies a nice line of different shaped Novelty Straws at \$2.95. You walk a few blocks more and you save from three to ten dollars on every hat you buy in my store. Hoping to meet you all.

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White Pelican Millinery Shop

White Pelican Hotel

MRS. TED WHITE, Prop.

Open Saturday until 10 p. m., other evenings till 9

Western Floral Shop



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