

CHILDREN SLAVES IN MANY STATES

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Child peonage—or more properly child indenture—is legalized in one-fourth of the states of this great free land of law and order, according to a report circulating this morning just issued by the Federal Children's bureau.

In all states the adult is now adequately protected from the horrible effects of 2,75 beer and worse, but in 12 of them the helpless child of unfortunate parents may be put out under contract until it is of age where its protection from abuse and mistreatment is about equal to that afforded an ill-tempered mule, except that the child, unlike his brute contemporary, has no physical means of retaliation.

Get Cheap Help

The underlying principle of all of these laws which are inherited from the enlightened days of Henry VIII, is that a farmer or housewife can obtain cheap help by supplying board and room to unfortunate children. These indentured children usually are freed at the age of 18 or 21 with a small amount of money—\$50, or less—and an outfit of clothes. Agents of the children's bureau have found children in one Pennsylvania county who are under indenture contracts and keep them virtual peons until 1928 or 1940.

Since the federal child labor amendment is unlikely to be ratified, activities are now being turned toward wiping out some of these medieval atrocities. In most states new legislators are being elected and efforts will be made to obtain repeal of these laws in various states next winter.

States which legalize child indenture—some laws are worse than others—are:

Almost Slavery

Arkansas, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, West Virginia, Indiana, Michigan, Nevada and Wisconsin, the old free soil states being fairly well in the majority.

Of the children bound out in Pennsylvania, federal agents discovered that more recent indentures provide for six months schooling, clothing and sums of money ranging from \$1 to \$25 were provided under the various indenture forms in vogue there.

In Wisconsin one boy recovering from pneumonia was bound out to do farm work.

A girl of 12 did housework, helped care for three children, prepared breakfast, milked five or six cows, helped with the farm work, but the man who had her under contract told the federal investigator "he would never take another child unless I can get one young enough so I can break them in to work."

"Many of the children," the bureau found, "worked virtually as unpaid servants in households or on farms, often deprived of schooling and recreation and sometimes cruelly treated."

Of 540 indenture homes visited in Wisconsin 48 per cent were judged as detrimental to the children. Only eight per cent were classed as high grade.

LEAGUE PARLEY FAILS NATIONS

(Continued From Page One)

ly skeptical of the league's usefulness will not let the present opportunity to attack this body go unnoticed. Italian statesmen on more than one occasion have been outspoken against the Geneva organization. Brazilian leaders and others are already questioning the management of league affairs.

"The veto promised Germany by Brazil constitutes the greatest humiliation Europe has received," says the Journal de Geneve. "It must be admitted that the league has been unlucky with the new world. First the United States refused to join; then Argentina withdrew and Chile refused league intervention. Now Brazil, by a veto, puts the league in very grave danger."

BERLIN, March 17.—(United News)—Demands for the resignation of Chancellor Luther, along with suggestions that Premier Mussolini of Italy may be blamed in part for the failure of the League of Nations meeting, hold the attention of the press here. The Berlin Tageblatt says it is impossible that Brazil alone is responsible for what happened at Geneva. Her insistence upon a seat in the council and the insistence of other and smaller nations is undoubtedly due to certain promises made by the great powers in advance of the league meeting.

END PREDICTED FOR MUSSOLINI

Italian Enemies Expected To Gain Upper Hand Says Rossi

PARIS, March 17.—(United News)—Benito Mussolini's days as a dictator are numbered, Cesare Rossi, former close associate of the Italian premier, and now a fugitive in France, told the United News in an interview Tuesday.

"The trial of five men at Chieti for the murder of Deputy Matteotti is a parody of justice, and Chieti is destined to become the tomb of fascism," Rossi said.

"Every one knows in advance how the trial will end. The prisoners will be given a six year prison sentence, but the amnesty law will wipe out four of those, leaving two to be served. The men have already been in jail for two years and so they will, in all probability, be liberated just as soon as the trial is concluded."

Rossi said that the fascist regime in Italy was facing disaster because of the increase of feeling against the rule of the dictator, and because of financial trouble within the organization.

Would Open Peiho River to Tientsin

HONOLULU, March 17.—(United News)—American Ambassador Charles Macveagh and Foreign Minister Shidehara of Japan have agreed to a plan for persuading China to open the Peiho river to Tientsin, according to a Tokio dispatch to Hoshi Shu, a Japanese paper here.

It is understood this plan will be discussed by the representatives of the protocol powers in Peking. The dispatch also states the Japanese foreign office drafted a strong note to China, protesting the firing on two Japanese destroyers that tried to force their way into the mouth of the Peiho river, which is guarded by the forces of General Feng Yu-shiang.

COUNCIL-RAILWAY INTERESTS AGREE

(Continued from Page One)

property would be used as a connecting link to other lake front property to the south of the park site.

There was a further informal agreement to the effect that the city should have what property it required for the purpose of building a septic tank on some of the other Southern Pacific property outside the former park site. Strahorn said that this property would be turned over to the city at a cost valuation—\$500 an acre.

"Will any decision of the interstate commerce commission interfere with the culmination of the sale of this property?" asked O. D. Matthews, member of the park board of Strahorn.

No Interference

"No. It is too important a local development," answered Strahorn.

It was City Attorney J. H. Carnahan who insisted that an amended bid be submitted in conjunction with the drawing-up of any ordinance in order that the first bid should not be construed as a contract. There was objection to it because of its broad terms.

Others present at the meeting were Roy Darbin and W. W. Baldwin, both of the park board; Mayor Goddard, chairman of the park board; Councilmen Powell, Roberts, Stuckey, Balsiger and Coker, and Attorney R. C. Groesbeck.

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SECRETARY TRIES TO CHECK STRIKE

WASHINGTON, March 17.—(United News)—Federal officials are mediating to settle the Passaic, N. J., textile strike which has been the cause of a series of disorders and mild riots and has threatened to spread to other mill centers.

After conferring with mill owners Wednesday, Secretary of Labor Davis received a delegation of strikers and made a proposal which the workers will answer Thursday morning.

Although the labor department is constantly acting as peacemaker in minor disputes this is the first time it has taken a conspicuous part in any serious labor difficulty since the Jacksonville bituminous agreement was negotiated in 1924.

The course of federal officials in taking hold of the Passaic strike is in marked contrast to the hands-off attitude in the recent anthracite strike.

Propose Arbitrator

Davis proposed that both sides meet at once to adjust their differences and that if they fail they accept an arbitrator to be named by him. If the offer is accepted the strikers would return to work pending a settlement.

Strikers will make known their acceptance or present counter proposals at 9 a. m. Thursday.

These developments followed a futile effort by the strikers to see President Coolidge. Secretary Sanders refused to admit them even for a short time, saying the president's engagements would not permit it. The strikers were somewhat indignant.

"It seems strange that President Coolidge can see Charleston dancers and moving picture heroines and cannot see us," observed Albert Welshord, leader of the strikers, as he was turned away.

SLICKERS CAUGHT

Slicker fellows, two of them, accompanied by a woman, posing as magazine fellows, ran off with a \$10 bill while J. J. Sutton and J. J. Johnson, highway engineers were making change for them. The pair are now reported arrested at Bend.

PICTURE ON 5c CIGAR INSULTS

Prima Donna Objects to Cohen Bros. Using Picture on Stogies

NEW YORK, March 17.—(United News)—Maria Jeritza, who has been tossed into the footlights by temperamental tempests and suffered other indignities in the course of her operatic career, finally has run up against the straw that broke the camel's back.

The prima donna could stand many things, but when Cohen Brothers, cigar dealers of the Bronx, put her name and what purported to be her picture on their cigar bands, it was too much. So Jeritza has brought suit against the Cohens for \$25,000, claiming damages.

Jeritza, who has been under contract with the Metropolitan since 1912, is a Viennese by birth, her real name being Maria Poper Podhrag.

Since last December, her complaint alleges, the name La Jeritza, and a photograph of a woman in fancy dress has appeared upon cigar bands decorating the products of the Cohen Brothers.

And the final, unkindest cut of all was that they were five-cent cigars.

HORSES ARE BURNED

SALEM, March 17.—(United News)—Three horses were burned to death, a stable, blacksmith shop and three trucks destroyed in a fire, which for a time threatened the entire business district here Tuesday night. Estimates placed the damage at \$75,000.

LEAVES FOR WASHINGTON

HONOLULU, March 17.—(United News)—Governor Farrington of Hawaii territory left Wednesday for Washington, where he will confer with officials regarding legislation affecting Hawaii.

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JACK DELANEY TO BOX BERLENBACH

NEW YORK, March 17.—(United News)—Paul Berlenbach, light heavyweight champion of the world, and Jack Delaney, who stopped Mike McTigue in the fourth round Monday night, have signed for an outdoor fight next spring.

The titleholder, meanwhile, will tune up on heavyweights, meeting the first of a rather bad lot next Friday night, in Johnny Risko, the chubby Lithuanian lad from Cleveland.

Delaney, having clearly established his claim to a return match with Berlenbach, probably will keep his hand in by clubbing a few big boys.

This means that in the light heavyweight class there will be little doing until June, unless the impending bout between Jimmy Lattery and Young Stribling, a week from next Thursday, could be so considered.

Jack Delaney's right-hand uppercut has written finis to the honorable ring career of Mike McTigue. It now is to be anticipated that Mike will retire to County Clare, where he will live very comfortably for the rest of his days on the money he has made in the ring.

Boxing critics who saw McTigue knocked out (technically) by Delaney agreed that the Irishman is through. Old age, more than anything else, finished him, for Mike is an old man, as fighters go.

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