

JUGOSLAVIA CARVED

Hitler and Mussolini, leaders of the brutal, rabid, monolithic gang trying to impose a "new order" upon all Europe, have completed another of their gangster deals in the carving up of Yugoslavia.

Practically the entire coastline, from the new axis created state of Croatia to Albania, including Yugoslavia's main seaports—Split and Dubrovnik—has been given to Italy, in addition to a large slice of northern Yugoslavia.

A small part of northern Yugoslavia was taken by Germany.

The remaining Croat territory was set up as a new state, with Ante Pavelich as its Poglavnik (Croat equivalent of Il Duce), and the duke and duchess of Spoleto, of the Italian ruling house, its king and queen.

A separate "treaty of guarantee and collaboration" makes Italy responsible for Croatia's independence and integrity and binds the Croats to take no international steps without Italy's consent and approval. In other words, a vassal state of Italy. The Croats have been given, in return for deserting the Slovenes and Serbians when Germany struck, an "independence" and "freedom" that will certainly be the envy of no one.

Classical Dalmatia also becomes a part of the kingdom of Italy. This is a zone described by Italian news agencies as extending 80 miles distant along the coast from Zara to Split. It includes the cities of Sibenik and Trau (Trogir), near Split; all the Dalmatian coast except the islands of Prag, Brac and Vis, and the whole district of Kotor inlet as far as the borders of Montenegro.

Discounting territories taken by Italy, Germany and the new state of Croatia, leaves Yugoslavia almost a third smaller than it was two months ago. In this new territory, Mussolini gains control over about a half million Slovenes, or as many as were brought under fascist rule through the treaty of Versailles.

Of all countries which have thus far fallen victims to German imperialism, Yugoslavia undoubtedly has received the worse blow. For the pair of lawless bandits now at the helm in Europe have tore into this beauty spot of Europe like mad dogs, and have left it prostrate.

FEDERAL MINE INSPECTION BILL BECOMES LAW OF THE LAND

When President Roosevelt signed the Federal Mine Inspection Bill on May 8th, the long uphill fight of the United Mine Workers of America for federal inspection of coal mines came to an end. It marked a great forward step toward the reduction, if not elimination, of the slaughter of coal miners in the country's mines.

What is now the Federal Coal Mine Inspection Act was passed substantially as introduced in the form of a bill by Congressman J. Harold Flannery of Pennsylvania. As passed by the House, the Flannery Bill required prospective mine inspectors to be "an accredited mining engineer or the equivalent thereto." This the Senate amended to read that these inspectors were to be persons with five years' practical experience in coal mining. The House refused to accept the Senate amendment and a Conference Committee was appointed, composed of members of both Houses. The following compromise was worked out and was incorporated in the act as passed:

"That in the selection of persons for appointment as coal-mine inspectors no person shall be so selected unless he has the basic qualification of at least five years' practical experience in the mining of coal, and is recognized by the United States Bureau of Mines as having the training or experience of a practical mining engineer in those essentials necessary for competent coal-mine inspection."

The U. S. Bureau of Mines will appoint the mine inspectors subject to the Civil Service laws. Under the act, the Secretary of the Interior acting through the U. S. Bureau of Mines is empowered to have made annual or necessary mine inspections at any time of the year in coal mines whose products enter into interstate commerce.

Full publicity is authorized for all findings affecting the health and safety conditions in such mines as

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Sustaining Fund Nets \$208.75 in First Week

First blasts of the heavy guns in our Sustaining Fund Campaign were heard last week when Branch No. 1 JSF, Chicago, contributed the total proceeds of its March 2nd affair, amounting to \$134.23, and following close upon its heels came the response of Branch No. 27 JSF, Cleveland, which added another \$50.00 to the Proletarec Sustaining Fund.

Other early reports have also been received. Christina Turpin, Cicero, Ill., made a collection of \$15.02 at the Song Festival in Waukegan. Joseph Snoy, Bridgeport, Ohio, sent in a collection blank totaling \$5.50, of this total Branch No. 11 JSF, contributed \$5. Mr. and Mrs. Matt Petrovich, Cleveland, Ohio, boosted the total by another \$4.00, making a grand total of \$208.75 in the first week of the drive.

And so the campaign to put Proletarec on solid financial footing moves forward, picking up momentum from week to week, and as additional reports come in, you will hear about them.

Wage Raises Cannot Cover Overtime

CHICAGO.—Wage or salary increases cannot be later claimed to cover overtime payments due under the Wage and Hour Law, General Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division points out.

"Cases have recently come to my attention where our inspectors have found overtime payments due to employees and then have been informed by the employers that wage or salary increases had been given to employees—the amounts varying in each case—and that the amounts of such increases should run to the employer's benefit in squaring off the debt due the employee under our computations for overtime," General Fleming said.

"Unless the employer has adopted a constant wage plan, such as is outlined in the Wage and Hour Division's Interpretative Bulletin No. 4 or unless it is made clear to the employees at the time they are given additional amounts such amounts are to compensate them for overtime and are not increases in salary, the division will not recognize the additional amounts toward overtime or as payments for such time. Payments made to employees cannot be wage or salary increases and extra compensation for overtime at one and the same time. Where additional amounts are paid without any understanding that they are overtime compensation and the payment of such amounts remains constant even during weeks in which the employee works no overtime, the payments are in fact wage or salary increases and must necessarily be reflected in an increase in the employee's regular hourly rate of pay rather than as an offset against extra compensation due for overtime."

General Fleming also pointed out that similar situations have arisen where companies have undertaken to pay more than the union scale for certain work and then have sought to fall back upon the additional compensation so paid as an offset against extra compensation due for overtime.

General Fleming emphasized that in such situations as in those referred to above, the payment of additional amounts cannot be offset against extra compensation for overtime due under the Act unless it was stipulated at the time such amounts were paid that they were paid as extra compensation for overtime and not as increases in the scale of wages above the scale required by union agreement.

CIO WINS BY FORD

One of the worst anti-union employers in the annals of American industry, Henry Ford, has been brought down quite a few notches from the high reactionary pedestal on which he has been sitting for over forty years.

Result of the election held on May 22, under National Labor Relations Board supervision, to decide which union shall prevail in Ford's giant River Rouge and smaller Lincoln plants, gave the UAW-CIO 51,866 votes, the A. F. of L. 20,364, and 1,958 for no union.

"The result of the election," R. J. Thomas, president of the UAW (CIO), said, "marks the end of an era in American industry. It means the defeat of the type of uncompromising anti-unionism represented by Henry Ford. Harry Bennett, Ford's highly paid unionbuster, called it a "great victory for the Communist party."

At the same time another setback came to the auto King with the National Labor Relations Board order from Washington, directing the Ford Motor company to reinstate 975 workers with back pay at its Kansas City, Mo., plant, offer reemployment to 46 others, and discontinue recognition of its company union.

This Time Hang On!



NAZI FORESEE NEW EUROPE AS ECONOMIC UNIT

Will Hitler Give a New Lease of Life to a Dying European Economy?

By Scott Nearing

Anyone who knows enough to go in when it rains takes his war propaganda with a generous pinch of salt. The bureaus of enlightenment are busy in all of the warring countries and their output is more than suspected. But underneath the wholesaling, important changes are taking place in the European set-up.

The Nazis now dominate all of Europe with the exception of the British Isles and the Soviet Union. Spain and Italy are cooperating with them. The smaller countries are at their mercy. A score of nations that were sovereign, independent states are now part of the German political and economic system.

There has been a great deal of speculation as to what changes the Nazis would try to make in European economy. Herman Raushching, among German writers, has written in detail on the subject and John Cudahy, a U. S. diplomat, has published a number of articles based on recent first hand studies made both in Germany and in the occupied countries.

United Economy Indicated

Several points seem to be well established:

1. German occupation is chiefly economic and only incidentally political and military. Economic experts precede or accompany the army, and work out plans for co-ordinating the economy of the conquered country with that of the Reich.

2. They do this under a general economic plan for European economy prepared in advance by the Ministry of Economics. The plan has been accepted by Italy, Spain and Sweden.

3. Under the plan, Berlin replaces London as the financial capital of Europe and in addition becomes the planning and directing center and acts as clearing house for trade and exchange.

4. Europe is regionalized and specialized. One region produces cereals, another oil, a third textiles, a fourth metals, and so on down the line. Free trade exists between these linked regional economies, making the continent a planned customs union.

Under these arrangements, Holland, occupied less than a year, is enjoying notable prosperity. There is a brisk demand for products. Prices are good. Profits are considerable. Dividends are up. Stock values are high. Wages are regulated and strikes are forbidden. From the

standpoint of the Dutch business class, the presence of the Nazis is in many ways an economic advantage.

Will Europe Be United?

Will this experience be repeated in the more recently occupied countries? Will Hitler's Germany do for continental Europe what Bismark's Germany did for the independent German states that formed the Reich after the wars with Austria, Denmark and France? Evidently this is the intention of the Nazi leaders.

Bismark consolidated the Reich in 1871 in the heyday of capitalism. Hitler is trying to consolidate Europe in an era of capitalist decline. Can he succeed and thus give a new lease of life to an economy that was bankrupt when operated by a score of independent European states?

It is too early to answer such questions, but it seems quite evident; they are in process of being answered by some of the most significant economic developments that have taken place in Europe since the industrial revolution.

Law No Bar To Added Pay In Lieu of Vacations

CHICAGO.—Employers in defense industries planning to give their workers added pay to forego vacations as recommended by the Office for Production Management were advised by General Philip B. Fleming, Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Dept. of Labor, to enter such added compensation on their payroll records as a temporary increase in rate.

Added compensation under Wage and Hour regulations must be included in the computation of overtime unless they are gifts "which are in no case compensation for services rendered." Added compensation to forego a vacation legally is not a gift.

Women Barred

Women and children are no longer allowed to get sleeping accommodations on trains in Germany, the Department of Commerce reports.

If anybody can figure out what that has to do with the prosecution of the war, please wire Federated Press.

IN THE NEWS

RAILROADS BOOST CAR ORDERS FOR DEFENSE NEEDS

Can "shots in the arm" revive the old "Iron Horse" and remedy the results of long, lean years on a depression diet, in time to enable the railroads to carry the vastly increased burdens piled on them by the defense program?

Since LABOR, the railwaymen's national weekly, raised that question recently, in an article on the threatening shortage of freight cars and engines, numerous authorities have joined in a chorus of warnings that the railroad situation is one of the most serious defense problems facing the country.

"Railway Age," the rail management magazine which has been publishing soothing statements that the carriers could handle their defense burdens with ease, suddenly changed its tune and printed an article entitled, "Railroads Face Grave Emergency."

It asked, "Is a traffic jam coming?" admitted that "the increase in traffic caused by the defense effort is turning out much greater than was anticipated," and pointed out that the new rolling stock needed by the railroads will require 5,000,000 tons of steel, which the steel industry may or may not be able to furnish.

GRACE GETS \$229 AN HOUR

Increases in the price of a pound of bacon won't mean very much to a lot of people whose names were made available by the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, recently.

The names were those of corporation executives whose salaries and bonuses were included in the annual reports submitted by stock-issuing corporations to the SEC each year. Their income from stock dividends and interest was not included.

Eugene Grace, head of the anti-union Bethlehem Steel Co., was number two man in the nation's 1940 list of high-salaried executives. He was paid \$478,144 for the year or \$9,195 a week or \$229 an hour on a 40 hour week basis.

Two other officials of Bethlehem Steel got \$179,000 each while two others got \$139,506 for their year's labor.

TEMPORARY AGREEMENT SIGNED BY P. M. W. A.

The Progressive Mine Workers of America and the Illinois Coal Producers Association on May 10, signed

a temporary agreement providing for a one dollar increase in the basic daily wage rate, raising the base from \$6.00 to \$7.00. The biggest increase \$1.40, was received by machine operators, jumping the scale of the highest bracket from \$8.40 to \$9.80 per day.

The agreement entered into by the Progressive Union scale committee and the operator's representatives deals only with wage rates the question of working conditions yet having to be ironed out.

VINSON ANTI-UNION MEASURE SMELLS OF HITLERISM

Rough sailing is predicted in Congress for the Vinson anti-labor bill after its advocates barely succeeded in getting it reported out of the House Rules Committee by a 6 to 5 vote.

The bill, which would freeze the open shop and provide jail sentences for strikers, is bitterly opposed by the American Federation of Labor, the Progressive Mine Workers of America and many other labor organizations.

Attacks against the measure are mounting in labor, congressional and government circles.

A minority report of the House Naval Affairs Committee flayed the bill as a "Hitler way" of dealing with labor and as "making the laboring man, if he strikes justly for better conditions, a criminal."

CIVILIZATION MARCHES ON

Meeting in Evanston, Ill., the national Women's Christian Temperance union stated recently that the nation's liquor bill since repeal was greater than its federal relief bill. Since April, 1933, Americans have spent \$23,751,452,677 for alcoholic beverages and the federal government has spent \$20,250,515,357 for relief.

1,173,663 CIVILIANS HOLD U. S. JOBS

The United States civil service commission reported that the executive branch of the government employed 1,173,663 civilians in February, 1941, as compared with 1,151,148 in January, an increase of 2 per cent. Over 80 per cent of this increase was full time permanent employees paid from regular funds. Employees of the federal government in the District of Columbia increased to 161,527, compared with the January figure of 168,527.

Social Security and the New Job



Employee over 65 years of age inquires at his local Social Security Board office about retirement benefits and about supplementary benefits for his wife who is also past 65. He is given a list of the things the office will need in connection with his application for benefits.

No. 6.

A worker who wants to claim his old-age and survivors insurance benefits at age 65 or any time thereafter can get an application form by writing or calling at his nearest Social Security Board office. With the form properly filled in, the worker will need also to furnish some proof of his age. If his wife is past 65, she will also be entitled to benefits, and should obtain and file a separate application form. She too will need to furnish proof of her age and, in addition, proof of her marriage to the worker.

There is usually little difficulty in

obtaining a wedding certificate, but birth certificates of persons now 65 years old or more are comparatively scarce. If a birth certificate is not available, the Social Security Board office will advise claimants about other types of proof of age which will be acceptable.

Workers and their wives who are planning to file claims for old-age and survivors insurance benefits should obtain their proofs of age and marriage beforehand in order to avoid delay in getting their claims approved. Frequently it takes some time to locate such evidence as a church record of infant baptism or record from the family Bible.

Good Dogs

A dispatch from Germany reveals that all dogs are "to be examined to determine whether or not they are fit for military service. . . Dog owners, in making application for an examination, must state the breed, age and sex of the animal, together with a statement of all examinations previously made."

Wonder if they have to prove pure Aryanism . . .

A Record

A helicopter, one of those flying windmills, recently broke a record for staying suspended in mid-air over one spot. You're sure that wasn't Soviet foreign policy dangling from nowhere.

He delivered the Goods

Not to be outdone by John R. Chaplin, who spoke of Aid for an Australian, the Harry Bridges defense committee is formally using the slogan, "Bundles for Bridges."

NEXT EVENT

PROLETAREC PICNIC

Kegl's Grove, Willow Springs Sunday, June 22

