# An Accident at the Printing Press.

# Anrkers readnoug Founded and Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

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# Over-Production.

Its Place in the Capitalist Death Crisis.

How far the decomposition of the Capitalist economic system has advanced is abundantly clear when one considers the process of the Capitalist sale of commodities: Not-withstanding the tremendous dmiinution of production throughout the world, an almost indescribable over-production exists. Although production has universally decreased, markets are lacking for this decreased production. This phenomenon is expressed especially are lacking for this decreased production. This phenomenon is expressed especially under five aspects, which according to time and space overlap each other and are closely interdependent. These are incessantly on the

- The stocking of markets.
  The piling up of goods.
  The decrease of industries.
  The decrease of traffic.

- Unemployment.

## Cotton Market of the World.

The cotton reserves of the world are so enormous that the producers are choked with stocks. Up to the beginning of May 1921 the export figure of American cotton amounted to 4,020,000 bales; 1911-12 10,502,000 bales were exported.

In Germany before the war 23 millions of bales, to the value of 750 million marks, were imported. During the season from August 1st

ported. During the season from August 1st, ported. During the season from August 129, 20, to January 21st, 1921, the consumpon was only 393,000 bales. The report of Employers' Cotton Spinners' Association England states that of 51.2 million spindles nat is the total number), 32.2 million at is the total number), 32.2 milladles have not worked a 48-hour we the United States there are 2.4 million spindles, according to the yearly report, which have not been worked at all. In Russia, of the 7.5 million spindles which existed before the war, only 1.1 million are

# Rubber Market of the World.

present we have to reckon with a e world stock of 600,000 tons of raw ber, whilst the annual world consumption ess than 300,000 tons. Under normal con-ons at least 200,000 tons of raw rubber come from new production this year The American stock amounts to 150,000 tons.

# Copper Market of the World.

The German consumption of copper has de-ined to less than one-third of what it was the last years before the war. In America continually increasing surplus of copper has cumulated, for which a sufficient foreign as well as home market is lacking

# The Tin Market of the World.

In England alone the collective visible and avisible stocks of tin would suffice to cover the consumption of the English industry, thich in 1921 amounted to 9,994 tons. That is significant, for England was by far the reatest consumer of tin in Europe. This circumstance is due to the decline in the export tom England of tin goods and galvanised. tom England of tin goods and galvanised ton, which in 1913 amounted to 494,497 tons, and in 1921 sank to 226,482. The European insumption in the last ten years has declined

from 62,000 tons to 44,000, or by about one-third. The European foundry production of tin has still only fallen by one-fifth. Zinc Market of the World.

Here, too, despite the fall in production, is shown a surplus production. The world consumption of raw zinc in the last ten years has fallen by a third, from about 1,000,000 tons to 667,000 tons. The European consumption alone by half what it was, i.e. from 700,000 tons to 350,000 tons, the German consumption has declined by as much as two-

# Coal Markets of the World.

Before the great miners' lock-out there was tremendous over-production of coal in Enga tremendous over-production of coal in England. It was the same in the United States before this year's miners' fight. The fall in production owing to the strike caused the surplus in England temporarily to disappear, but only to reappear after a short time. The same thing will occur in America. In France, Belgium, and Czecho-Slovakia the coal depots have been filled to bursting for the last few years. In the Saar district only relast few years. In the Saar district only re-cently, owing to the lack of markets, they had to institute short time.

# TO OUR READERS.

A happy Christmas—as happy as it can be hard times.

Regretfully we have to announce that when this week's issue was being lowered into the machine-room an accident occurred, as a machine-room an accident occurred, as a result of which the entire paper was destroyed. Hence the omission of many useful features—a limitation for which we shall endeavour to compensate at an early date.

# Corn Market of the World.

According to the "German Landwirtschaft-lichen Presse" (Agricultural News) No. 21, the farmers in the United States on March lst, 1921, had the following reserves (in million bushels):

	Wheat.	Maize.	Oats
1912	 122	883	289
1915	 153	911	379
1917	102	789	394
1910	128	855	590
1921	208	1.572	690

In some districts of America they heat their locomotives and ovens with wheat instead of

# Meat Market of the World.

The meat export from the Argentine Europe has almost completely ceased. The country literally is gorged economically with a surplus of meat. The "Berliner Tageblatt" writes in its evening edition of July 19th, 1922, among other things, the following, on the subject. on the subject

"In the interior, where the cattle can be counted by tens of thousands, the meat rarely fetches 10 centavos a kilo., and the live beast is given away on condition that the hide returned by the happy recipient.

# The World Coffee Market.

Coffee Harvest.—1913, 978,000 tons; 1912, 1.217.000 tons.

Coffee Consumption.—1913, 1,027,000 tons; 1912. 960.008 tons

# The World Tea Market.

Also the tea production in India, Ceylon, and Java shows, according to the latest

and Java shows, according to the latest estimates, a decrease of 80 million English lbs., as against the normal harvest product. The export of tea in 1920-21 was 72,000,000 lbs., in the previous year 133,000,000 lbs.

In all countries the over-production has caused the most extensive reduction in tea output, which means partially a continued (lasting) lying idle of many plantations. In commercial circles a further reduction of tea production can be counted upon, together with a reduction in the tea trade. a reduction in the tea trade.

# Shipbuilding in England.

In England during the past business year 1921-22 the shipbuilding industry has only completed half the number of ships produced in the previous year. Some dockyards are not building any more ships.

# United States of America.

In spite of the tremendous accumulation of capital and the predominating exchange value in the world, the Capitalist crisis has reached its greatest, and for the duration of Capitalism, its most dangerous limit. The warehouses of twelve of the biggest undertakings of America up to the end of 1920 had reached 280 per cent. of their pre-ware capacity. capacity.

# England.

Almost all the English industries are suffer-Almost all the English industries are suffering from surplus production. The English export trade suffered from the beginning to the end of 1921 alone the following decline:

Export.—January 1921, £92,756,000 sterling; December 1921, £59,375,000 sterling.

Import.—January 1921, £117,051,000 sterling; December 1921, £85,312,000 sterling.

France among the Capitalist States stands relatively in a favourable position as far as the possibility of selling her goods is concerned, because of her activity for the reconstruction of the north, keeping 800,000 men for her army out of economic life and the active employment in munition factories. Nevertheless, even there checks on their markets are the order of the day. The export trade shows the following downward move-

Export.—28.8, 12.8, 21.5, 16.0. Import.—49 9, 50.5, 23.5, 37.9.

# Belgium.

Since the spring of 1921 the factory reduction has been from 40 to 50 per cent. In the blast-furnace industry the workers' strikes are now so strong that in Belgium to-day out of fifty blast-furnaces there are hardly a dozen working.

# Italy.

Whilst 30 per cent. of the silk spindles are quite idle, from the beginning of Decem-

ber 1921, 50 per cent. are only working three days a week. The paper industry has reduced its output to nearly one-half. The continuous difficulties of both of the greatest Montan societies, of the Ansaldo group, and of the Ilva concern have caused, towards the end 1921, the collapse of the Italian Disconto

# Czecho-Slovakia.

The brewing and milling industry is particularly bad. In the foundry industry only three blast-furnaces are working. The chemical industry works up to 45 per cent., the glass industry up to 50 per cent. The coal mines of Mahrisch-Ostrau intend to dismiss half their workers because of lack of markets. At least 20,000 miners are involved. the remainder of the employees will only work two days a week. According to news received at the end of August 1922, the glass industry is on the verge of collapsing. ount 13,000 more unemployed, in addition to 20,000 others, are wholly unem-The Czech Party organ of the Social-Democrats calculates that its present number of unemployed is 600,000.

### Poland.

Industry on the whole has decreased. The majority of the sections have shut up altogether. The biggest Lodz undertaking, Scheibler, only works three days a week; Povnanski, the second largest, only four days week; many others two days a week, and others have closed down altogether. The production in Lodz hardly reaches 40 per ent. of the pre-war times. The same thing is seen in Alexandrowo and other industrial

# Lettland and Lithuania.

In Lettland several industries have closed down owing to lack of markets. In Lithuania short time prevails. Lately again some wood-working factories, a shoe factory, a saw-yard, a porcelain factory, and two glass fac-

# Denmark.

The Danish National Bank described in its last annual report the greatest difficulties of Danish commerce in 1921. Shipping particularly had declined; unemployment in that industry was continuously very great, and a number of factories were compelled to work

In the engineering industry from September 1st, 1920, to October 1st, 1921, the number of employees had declined from 60,000 to 28,000. The production and export in the iron industry in the course of last year had sunk by 50 per cent.

# Norway.

In Norway, owing to the economic crises, several banks have failed.

# Japan.

The rise of Japanese Capitalism during the war was followed after the war by a decline. Unemployment—up till then practically un-known—rose in the course of 1920 to more than a million, and in 1921 and 1922 it rose further. Seventy-three dye factories have been closed since the beginning of the ear. The reduction of factories in the otton industry amount to 40 per cent., and the silk weaving has come almost to a stand-

In Egypt at the beginning of 1921 16,000 cigarette makers were put on the streets. The bloody class war in British South Africa had its economic roots in the previous over-stocking of markets. In India for some time the unemployment problem has been acute.

# Germany and Austria.

Here, owing to a number of reasons, the capitalist conditions of production are more German All-Workers' Union).

favourable than in most of the other coun tries. Nevertheless, unemployment is rising above the normal in peace times. In Austria it is even worse. At the beginning of this year there were hardly 10,000 unemployed, now there are already 200,000.

THE WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT

Owing to the Revolution, Russia as an economic factor has for years been outside the pale of Capitalist economy. Also since the Soviet Government decided on the capi talisation of Soviet Russia in the spring 1921, its industrial enterprises have themselves very closely allied with the rest of the Capitalist world.

### The Capitalist Industrial Market.

Next to the four phenomenal results of Capitalist over-production—the over-stocking of markets, the piling up of goods, the reduction of industries, and the reduction of traffic is the fifth, and just the most typical symptom of this principal expression of the Capi talist death crisis, the most tremendous and comprehensive unemployment which the de velopment of Capitalism has ever experienced. follows automatically from the four other phenomena of Capitalist over-production; for is only the reverse side of the medal, that the bourgeoisie, when they can no longer get rid of their commodities, also deny to the proletariat the opportunity to sell its wares, the proletarian labour power. The strength is as child's play ir comparison with the preit no longer lies in the power of the bour-geoisie to regulate arbitrarily and at all times the number of the unemployed, with the sole aim of reducing wages. The bourgeoisie would like to see-the sooner the better-un employment in its present dimensions wiped out of the world, but the iron dialectic of the Capitalist death crisis destroys all its experi ments. Even if the bourgeois statistics in-tentionally try to hide the true figures of the present number of unemployed existing in the world, the size of the unemployed army in the statistics, estimate approximately the following, according to which the figures taken are still rather too low than too high:

United States, 6,000,000; Japan, 1,200,000; England, 1,800,000; Belgium, 100,000; Italy, 800,000; Holland, 80,000; Czecho-Slovakia, France, 30,000; Poland, 200,000 Baltic Provinces, 50,000: Denmark, 100,000 Sweden, 140,000; Norway, 30,000; Switzer-land, 100,000; Germany, 350,000; Austria 200,000; Hungary, 150,000; Russia, 250,000. Total, 13,800,000

Altogether, according to these incomplete schedules, nearly 14 million proletarians of the world are wholly unemployed and earning time are at least three times as numerous. still clearer picture of the prevailing unemployment is given by the percentages of he unemployed in comparison with the work ing proletarian masses. So for instance number of unemployed in the United States, according to the statistics of the bureau for dealing with unemployed in New York, are stated to be 20 per cent. of the total of the unemployed workers. In England 18 per cent. of the Trade Union membership; in Sweden, 31 per cent.; in Denmark, 24 per cent. without work. In Switzerland the unemployed reach 38 per cent.—that is to say, nearly two-fifths of the whole Swiss employed. According to the New York Unemployment Council, the unemployed, together with their dependents, amounted to over 15 million that is about 14.3 per cent. of the white population. In the whole development of Capitalism before the war there is no approxi mate parallel to these figures.

-" Kampfruf" (the weekly organ of the

### A CAPITALIST CHALLENGE.

Speaking at an ex-Service men's dinner rently, Sir Robert Baden Powell, leader Boy Scouts' Movement, said there w still fighting to be done, as the Bolshevist and other forces of disruption were still active Britain to-day, and that menace must be combated if they are to enjoy the peace which He was pleased to say that the most serious obstacles in the way of sowin lisunion in the land were ex-Service men a the Boy Scouts.

Sir Robert Baden Powell fears Socialism Communism, and looks upon certain Service men's organisations and the Scout movement as defenders of the Ca talist system. They undoubtedly are, and is all to the good to have these things frankly expressed. I do not know anyth about Bolshevist emissaries or gold, or a thing of such things, nor am I concerned w personalities. As a plain man, my conwith principles and how their progress impeded by certain organisations whih we time to time their spokesmen tell the truth. lines between Capitalism and Communism Socialism, and these organisations stand f the preservation of profits and proper camouflaged under the mask of what is call

It is an inspiring process toward the Cap talist Press and the utterances of Capitali leaders nowadays. The issues are becomin clearer, and there is coming an open acce ance of the fact that the anti-capits grows It is a tribute to vitality and persistence of the spirit demands at all times a sane and hum solution of the economic and social proble that force us. Thanks to the Capitalist Pre which is rendering the cause of Commun yeoman service, the workers are discuss he pros and cons of a philosophy and an i that has never before been so seriously sidered. That so many of the workers accepting pro-Capitalist argument for moment is mere incident. Continued p ganda and the dramatic eloquence economic factors will turn the tide of ng-class opinion. On every hand the fu and barrenness of Capitalism reveals it persistently, courageously.

How Sir Robert Baden Powell could spe of the "peace" that had been fought for "won" is inexplicable except in the light a callousness that ignores the colossal ing that exists to-day, and which must aggregate be greater than that of the of the Great War. That ex-Service me on the side of this peace is a statement wigneres the fact that thousands of ex-Set men are no partisans of the present minious system, and thousands of them direct and long-suffering victims not mere the war, but of the so-called peace that Some ex-Service men's orga tions under the leadership of the defe of privilege, power and property, undoubte exist to fight the Socialist "menace," but war and the "peace" has proved to m ex-Service men that their place is in the ra of those organisations that are out to su tute for callous Capitalism the reign nobler ideal.

But the Communist movement might well to devote more energy to organisati designed to counteract the scout and movements. Let the natural desires of boys and girls, youths and maidens be renised as they are in these patriotic m ments, but let there be added and ever sent the incentive of the Communist ideal. our boys and girls be taught how to prac-Communism, in and through such orga Most organisations are within borders largely communal in practice

the Communist Movement to endeavour develop the Communist side of its own nisations; to be "not as others are y real and fundamental sense. The first ple is service; the second to sink our idualism in the interests of the movethirdly, a kindly tolerance towards all

friend once said that he believed in alism, but not in Socialists. The fight ast the forces arrayed against us does not for the use of soft gloves or soft words; a fight that tends to bring the sharp edges and rub off the rounded parts of our acters. Nevertheless, it is well to rememat our movement is the best served by broadly tolerant spirit which, while re ng to budge on principle, extends a com-ship and a hope of "salvation" towards who are nearest us in the struggle, and whom we find ourselves in disagreement hatever our differences with those in the ement, our differences with those outside infinitely greater. Even Communism is enough! There must be the tolerance of oundly convinced Communist crusaders inst even our opponents. Our greatest mies are the Capitalistically orkers—and each is a potential Communist. t us never forget that. SALVE.

# DREADNOUGHT £500 FUND.

Mrs. West, 2/6; Mrs. Clarges, 2/6; Friend from Plymouth, 10/-; G. Sargent, H. Chris, 2/-; J. Bernstein, 1/6; ristmas Sale and Dance, £22 8s. 10d. al for week, £23 9s. 10d. Total,

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glad to hear from the prizevinners which books they would like to have.

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There shall be no money, barter, buying and selling, wages, or direct reward for services rendered. All shall give according to their abilities, and take according to their needs and desires.

There will be no need for stinting or rationing, because the community can produce more than its

because the community can produce more than its

members can use. members can use.

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The term Communism is one of those in common use, the general significance of which is rarely understood by the majority of those

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Central London Branch (Hon. Secretary, S. Cahill) meets Thursday evenings, at 152 Fleet Street, 7.30 p.m. Volunteers for meetings, clerical work, etc., should write to the Secretary at 152 Fleet Street.

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tion of the workers to take over and administer the industries of the creation of One Big Revolutionary Union with industrial departments built up from the workshop basis on the Sovet model. Continuous teaching of the futility of Parliamentary action,

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The Intelligence of Our Masters.



THE PROFITEER ARRIVES LATE AT THE CONCERT
"What site they playing now, Miss?"
"Beethoven's Ninh Symphony!"
"What!" Have we missed the other eight?"

Shopping on the Dole.



These blocks
without Rhyme
or Reason
appear
in this page
in order to
fill up space,
since our
good Xmas issue
is all in Pie.
We shall come out
in the usual size
next week,
with a story
full of incidents.



Before the Poll.

The omission from this issue of the Leader and of Comments on the week's events —however regretable—can easily be compensated for if in these days of Christian festivity—you will remember how distant we are —how drifting away we are—from a society based on Justice.