The International Labour Office has in the past devoted special attention to the question covered in this publication.

The need was felt by the Russian authorities dealing with the social and economic conditions in Russia, and, rather than publish a bulletin dealing with this subject, they have asked the International Labour Office to afford the protection of the Daily Intelligence devoted to Russian questions.

In consequence, a special monthly Russian Supplement to the Office's Industrial and Labour Information.

The Russian Supplement will include translations of important Russian publications and documents received by the International Labour Office. It will deal with:

1. general industrial and labour conditions, transportation, food supply, and so forth;
2. the famine in Russia and the measures taken to combat it by the Soviet Government, foreign Governments and relief organisations;
3. the following sources will be drawn upon:
   (1) The official Soviet press and the wireless messages which the Soviet Government sends daily from Moscow;
   (2) The Russian press abroad;
   (3) Official reports from Russian Government Departments or from outside organisations;
   (4) The press in general of all countries.

Economic Conditions.
Reorganisation of Russian Industry
The New Russian Budget
Note on Interview with Mr. Royal R. Hickey
Prices in Moscow

Conditions of Labour.
The Moscow Labour Market in 1921
Juvenile Workers Discharged from Factories
The Central Committee for the Reduction of Staff

Famine.
a) General
b) Relief Measures
1) International Committee for Russian Relief
2) Save the Children Fund - International Union
3) American Relief Administration
4) International Federation of Trade Unions
5) Workers' Committee for Russian Relief
Death of Dr. Farrar
ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

(Translated from an article by E. Varga in "Humanité."

The new economic policy of Russia has led to a re-organisation of Russian industry. The system described is based on collective administration of all undertakings employing more than five workers, has been found too bureaucratic, too detrimental to the satisfactory progress of production. Obstacles to communications render centralised direction of an enormous number of small undertakings extremely difficult. The existing forces of the Russian proletariat are evidently still insufficient to master the whole organisation of industry in addition to the army and state administration. Owing to changes in the system of supplies, on the other hand, Soviet Russia was compelled to give the peasants an opportunity of freely disposing their surplus produce against industrial products. The state could not, however, itself undertake to carry out such exchange directly with the peasants, so that the need for modifying the industrial policy became self-evident.

The modifications made

The modifications carried out were as follows:

(1) The liberation of trade and production in regard to all products not under monopoly. In practice, the number of businesses that may be employed in private industry is no longer limited.

(2) The exclusion of small undertakings from collective economy granted in future to private undertakings or to co-operative societies. According to reports obtained from various Governments it appears that 40–50% of small businesses have already been granted to small undertakers. Owing to the small importance of these undertakings, the effect on collective State economy, however, is a loss of only about 25% of its productive capacity.

These reforms signify a resurrection of private economy, of free trade and ultimately of capitalism in Russia.

We do not attempt to deny it. Given the numerical weakness of the Russian proletariat, the exhaustion of its organising forces, the present isolation of the proletariat state, and the non-plural character of the country, it is clear that perseverance in the "communism of war" would involve the ruin of agriculture, and as a result, the impossibility of maintaining the army and the industrial proletariat, and ultimately a more or less distant collapse of the workers' dictatorship.

The close bonds of centralised state economy have had to be relaxed. The scope of its activities has had to be limited to what it can effectively carry out at the present moment. Here too, reorganisation in agreement with the new situation was needed. Hence the third essential reform. Large industrial mining and transport undertakings had to be adapted to the existence of a free market. This has been done.

(3) The grouping of large nationalised undertakings, enjoying great freedom of action on the free market. The workers in them are directly interested in the development of production. In certain spheres the trusts enter into competition with private industry and with ordinary capitalist undertakings founded by concessionaires.

First Results

The effects of these changes have been numerous. Money, which hitherto had steadily been losing importance, is again becoming an important factor on the free market. State economy is returning to a monetary basis; State financial institutions are reappearing; cooperative societies have to take into account the needs of the financial market. On the other hand, the part to be played by the trade unions is changing. They are again becoming in some measure regulations for defending the workers against the employers. It is impossible to summarise the first results of the new economic orientation, but it seems to be effectively adapted to achieve its triple purpose: the prosperity of large scale industries nationalised by the employers; intensification of small production, and the revival of the economic life of the country; the facilitation of exchange with the enormous rural population. The revolution has temporarily abandoned part of the ground gained in order to be able better to reorganise the rest.

[L'Humanité, 12 December 1921.]

THE NEW RUSSIAN BUDGET

The following leading article, communicated by wireless, has appeared in the Moscow Izvestia:

"Four years' experience enables us to base our budget on agricultural and scientific principles. This budget is the first budget compiled in accordance with a plan and differs entirely from previous budgets. In what does this difference
The revenue and expenditure are estimated in pre-war rubles. Credit is opened in Soviet paper money at the rate existing at the time of expenditure. Now we can no longer be muddled by the fall of the rouble. Every enterprise knows how much is due to it in pre-war rubles and that it will not get any more than this amount. Another new feature of the 1923 budget is an exact balance between the receipts expected (including notes issued) and expenditure. Notes issued and money receipts, together totaling 349,000,000 pre-war rubles, constitute the monetary portion of the budget. The remaining receipts (those in kind) are estimated according to money values... By fixing the amount of the emission, the budget fixes in advance the maximum increase of prices up to October 1923. Thereby stability is to a considerable extent introduced into all our economic operations. "Our budget by its construction will be a novelty for Europe, but will prove to capitalist countries that revolutionary Russia is capable of conducting her finances with much more system than a great many of her bourgeois neighbours."

(Moscow Wireless communication.)

INTERVIEW WITH MR. ROYAL B. KEELER

The New York Times of 26 November publishes an interview with Mr. Royal B. Keeley, who was invited by Prof. Lomonosov, representative of America in the Kremlin Government in May 1919, to accompany him to Russia as an economic observer. Mr. Keeley was contacted by the Soviet Government, interviewed Lenin and Trotsky, and travelled extensively in European Russia and in Siberia. As he was leaving Russia in May 1920 he was arrested at the frontier and was imprisoned for a year. He was subsequently tried and released last March.

Mr. Keeley reports most unfavourably on industrial conditions in Russia and concludes in a curious way: "The chaotic state into which transportation and industry have fallen, while he severely criticises the Soviet regime.

Mr. Keeley disputes statements made by visitors to Russia that industries and transport are operating with any degree of success. He found that the factory of the International Harvester Company (a big American enterprise) had not been nationalised and that the former manager was in charge. The Government controlled all labour, fuel, food, clothing, raw material, etc., but had no means of giving the factory an adequate supply as the transport and communications were deplorably bad. The manager had succeeded in maintaining technical control, and, while his production was low, it was not bad as compared with other Russian enterprises.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Price of Goods</th>
<th>23 October</th>
<th>30 October</th>
<th>6 November</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rye bread, per lb</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat bread</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 lb. flour, per cwt.</td>
<td>150.00</td>
<td>155.00</td>
<td>165.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat flour</td>
<td>5.45</td>
<td>5.25</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearl barley, per lb</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>5.50</td>
<td>5.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>21.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mustard</td>
<td>6.80</td>
<td>7.20</td>
<td>7.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biscuits</td>
<td>6.30</td>
<td>6.50</td>
<td>6.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabbage</td>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>0.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butter</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>8.50</td>
<td>10.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacon</td>
<td>26.00</td>
<td>28.00</td>
<td>28.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk (per quart)</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butter</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>10.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>21.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunflower-seed oil</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>25.50</td>
<td>26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lard</td>
<td>8.50</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>9.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crude oil</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>5.50</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocoa</td>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>9.50</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On 23 October 1921 the monthly ration of a workman in an "armoured" (*) factory was equivalent to a sum of Rs 253,000. On 30 October 1921 the monthly ration in armoured factories (1,470 calories per day) was equivalent to Rs 345,500 (†). The "standard" ration (3,000 calories) was equivalent to Rs 617,750 a month. On 6 November 1921 the monthly ration in "armoured" factories was equivalent to Rs. 270,000 and the "standard" ration equivalent to Rs. 644,500.

(Economicheskaja Zhizn; 1, 3, 12 November.)

= Footnotes =

2. An "armoured" factory is one specially favoured as regards supplies.
3. This is presumably an error as there appears to have been no fall off in prices.
4. The "standard" ration per month comprises:
   12rb. Bread
   17 lb. Wheat Flour
   7rb. Meat
   4rb. Butter
   7rb. Coffee
The above figures may be completed by the following taken from the "Pro dorozhennaya Gazeta" of 8 November 1921. The prices are in thousands of roubles:

| Item          | Per 100 lb | Salted cucumbers 10 | 3 to 5 | Fresh apples 10 | 4 to 5 | Pears 10 | 3 to 5 | Dried berries 10 | 8 |
|---------------|------------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|--------|----------|--------|------------------|---|-----------------|--------|
| Rice          | 11         | 14                   |        | 3.6 to 5        |        |          |        |                  |   |                 |        |
| Lentos        | 4          | 5                    |        | 3               |        |          |        |                  |   |                 |        |
| Peanuts       | 3          | 4                    |        | 0.7             |        |          |        |                  |   |                 |        |
| Carrots       | 0.7        | 1                    |        | 0.9             |        |          |        |                  |   |                 |        |
| Turnips       | 1.2        |                      |        | 1               |        |          |        |                  |   |                 |        |
| Honey         | 45         | 60                   |        | 29              |        |          |        |                  |   |                 |        |
| Coffee        | 100        | 120                  |        | 45              |        |          |        |                  |   |                 |        |
| China tea     | 80         | 120                  |        | 23              |        |          |        |                  |   |                 |        |
| Chasovry      | 20         |                      |        | 15              |        |          |        |                  |   |                 |        |

**CONDITION OF LABOUR**

**THE MOSCOW LABOUR MARKET IN 1921**

The Russian labour market has for some months presented certain anomalies which have already been noted, though without explanation, in the *Daily Intelligence*.

The figures quoted above referred to Petrograd for the first six months of 1921, when for the first time since 1918 the phenomenon of unemployment was observed.

The following information relates more particularly to the labour market at Moscow during the three months of July, August and September 1921. Some comparison with the two previous quarters is made, and an explanation of the causes of unemployment given.

**Situation in the third quarter of 1921**

The supply of labour was distributed fairly equally during the three months, amounting in all to 32,933. The demand related chiefly to seasonal workers: 14,719, or 45% of the total vacancies registered at the labour exchange, for agriculture, and 4,157, or 12% for building. There was also a considerable demand for employees in Soviet Government Institutions, viz. 4,518, or 12%.

The most important feature is, however, the relation between supply and demand in different industries. Thus in agriculture there were 9,200 vacancies per 100 applicants, and in building 587 vacancies per 100 applicants. But in general the number of vacancies was distinctly lower than

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**Unemployment also spread to industrial groups. Thus in the metal industry there were only 75 vacancies per 100 applicants; in tailoring 78; in the textile industry 84; on the railways, 17, etc.**

The situation for the quarter is summarised in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Applicants</th>
<th>Vacancies</th>
<th>Number of Vacancies filled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>14,710</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metal Industry</td>
<td>2,280</td>
<td>1,777</td>
<td>2,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Industry</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tailoring</td>
<td>1,037</td>
<td>814</td>
<td>2,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Industry</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass, China, etc.</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>707</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather</td>
<td>699</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chauffeurs</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building</td>
<td>713</td>
<td>4,187</td>
<td>733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railways</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shippers</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>1,120</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>1,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post and Telegraph</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotels, Restaurants</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestics Service</td>
<td>4,236</td>
<td>3,404</td>
<td>4,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>612</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>1,271</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>1,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>1,049</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>1,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soviet officials</td>
<td>2,745</td>
<td>4,518</td>
<td>7,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General workers</td>
<td>8,257</td>
<td>3,401</td>
<td>8,528</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comparison with the previous quarters**

During the course of the first quarter a considerable demand for labour had been experienced; 183,516 vacancies as against

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42,991 applicants, because a development in production had been counted on, a development which has not been realised. The first symptoms of unemployment were recorded during the second quarter; the total number of applicants for work (34,853) exceeding the number of vacancies (32,999).

During the third quarter the changes as a whole were not very substantial, but the total vacancies were slightly more numerous than the applications, viz: 36,857 vacancies against 32,933 applications. In particular it may be observed that in 20 industrial groups the number of applicants has fallen, chief of which were the metal industry, domestic service, Soviet officials, the food industry, and the fine arts group. In 9 industrial groups the number of applicants has increased, particularly among general workers.

(Economicheskia Zhizn, 19 November 1921.)

JUVENILE WORKERS DISCHARGED FROM FACTORIES

The Council of Labour and Defence, by a decree dated 1 July 1921, and bearing in mind the all-round reduction of factory staffs, drew up regulations for the discharge of juvenile workers employed in factories, with the object of replacing them by skilled workers.

With this in view, it was laid down that juvenile workers should be discharged in the following order: (a) children up to 14 years of age; (b) juveniles up to 16 years of age employed in dangerous industries; (c) juveniles engaged on unskilled labour; (d) those having families in country places, (e) should further reductions be needed, the youngest should be discharged first. Last of all to be discharged were juvenile workers attending trade courses and apprentices.

By a special order of the Council of Labour and Defence the Central Statistical Department carried out an enquiry into the results of the application of the decree during the two months following its publication. The enquiry embraced Moscow and certain industrial provinces. From this enquiry it appeared that in 31 Moscow establishments employing 18,824 workers, the number of juvenile workers diminished by only 6% during July and August, which indicated that the reduction was carried out very slowly.

In the provinces of Tula, Kostroma, and Ivanovo-Voznesensk the reduction was considerably greater. The following table shows at a glance the number of juvenile workers in the 54 establishments in which the enquiry was conducted, and which employed over 40,000 workers.

The table indicates a reduction of almost two and a half times more females than males.

The reduction according to the basic categories of "workers" (i.e. those employed in manual labour) and "employees" (i.e. clerks, messengers, etc.) in 54 establishments was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workers</th>
<th>Employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accepts</td>
<td>Appoints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed on 1 July</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaged between 1 July and 1 September</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharged between 1 July and 1 September</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remained on 1 September</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of reduction</td>
<td>28.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The occupations placed by the law in the first category for discharge are reduced within wide limits; the number of unskilled workers has diminished by nearly one half, while there is only a slight reduction in clerks and messengers.

The same diversity is observed in the other categories. Apprentices, who are the least valuable of all workers, remain almost unchanged, while assistants, who fall into the last category for discharge, are reduced by 28.1% It is thus seen that the discharge of juvenile workers is conducted with very considerable departures from the plan laid down by the Council of Labour and Defence. Nor in the majority of instances do factories consider the general state plan of maintaining and preparing new cadres of skilled workers.

(Economicheskaiia Zhien, 9 November 1921.)

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE REDUCTION OF STAFF

In agreement with a Decree of the Council of the People’s Commissariats, a Provisional Committee was appointed in the month of April at the People’s Commissariat of Labour in order to carry out an effective reduction of staff in the Central Offices and People’s Commissariats, and in order to draw up a new scheme of permanent staff. The chief object of the Committee was thus to fix the coefficient of possible reduction of the actual staff, and to organise a permanent basis for the staffing of public offices.

The Provisional Committee carried on its work on these lines until the promulgation of the Decree for the collective payment of wages and bonuses in State undertakings. At the same time it conducted an enquiry in the People’s Commissariats of Justice, of Finance, of Nationalities, and in a whole series of offices of the People’s Commissariat of Public Health and of the Supreme Economic Council. The average coefficient of reduction fixed for all these offices was 23 per cent. As a result of the introduction of the collective payment of wages and bonuses, the Committee was faced with a new problem, namely, that of conducting an enquiry at the People’s Commissariats, unable themselves to reduce their staff by 30 per cent, in order either to fix a lower coefficient of reduction than 50 per cent, or to take the necessary steps for obtaining a reduction of 50 per cent.

By Decree of the Council of the People’s Commissariats, the Committee has been given the functions of a Permanent Central Office to deal with all questions concerning the regulation of permanent staff in the public offices. On this Permanent Committee for the reduction of staff working at the People’s Commissariat of Labour, there are representatives of the People’s Commissariat of Labour, of the Central Council of Trade Unions and of the Workers’ and Peasants’ Inspection Office. In order to carry out the reduction of staff aimed at under the Decree for the collective payment of wages and bonuses, the Committee has had to study and draw up standard staffs for institutions which were themselves unable to carry out the provisions of the Decree relating to the self-reduction of their staff up to a limit of 50 per cent.

The Committee for the reduction of staff has examined and regulated the position of the staff in the office of the Council of the People’s Commissariats, the People’s Commissariat of Justice, the Central Committee for the Provisioning of the Workers, the Commission of Utilisation, the People’s Commissariat of Labour, a part of the People’s Commissariat of the Interior, the People’s Commissariat of Finance and other services, comprising 12,000 officials.

Up to 15 October the Committee had finally fixed the standard staffs for 10 central offices, with a total number of 7,501 official posts and an actual number of 4,466 officials. In these offices the staff has been reduced to 3,049 official posts, a reduction of over 50 per cent., the actual staff being reduced by 55.5 per cent. Apart from these two instances, the Committee has also taken part in the work of reducing the staff of twelve other offices employing 20,003 persons, where reductions of 33.5 per cent. have been affected.

At the same time, the Committee has worked out a standard type for local organ of the People’s Commissariats. This work has been in some measure complicated by the fact that at present local staff committees have not yet been constituted everywhere. The Central Committee has drawn up on this subject a scheme for the Council of the People’s Commissariats, a scheme of instruction for the local staff committees.

During the course of its work for the reduction and regulation of permanent staff, as well as of employees in the People’s Commissariats, the Committee has been directly faced with certain questions closely connected with the structure of Soviet machinery, as, for instance, the usefulness of certain services. The Staff Committee has thus worked in close contact with the newly-appointed Committee at the Central Executive Committee for the revision of Soviet institutions. The President of the Committee of Reduction of Staff has an advisory vote on this new Committee. In all the work of the Central Committee of Staff connected with the enquiry into local institutions, representatives of such institutions take a direct part.

(Economicheskaiia Zhien, 1 November 1921).
Famine

General

The news in regard to the disaster (1) which overtook several Russian provinces last June is still as alarming as ever. The advent of winter makes the situation still more terrible, notwithstanding the fact that a certain number of relief organizations have already commenced operations on the spot. The mortality among children continues to increase; according to a wireless message from Moscow to the Arbeiter Zeitung (Vienna) on 5 December, it had reached an average of 30%, and amounted to as much as 70% in certain localities. Further, the Commissary of House, Mr. Shcheganov, announced to the director of the Nevy Report (27 November 1921) that the situation in the Volga district was becoming continually worse. It is expected that at least 25 million people will suffer this year from the bad harvest and consequently from famine. The situation is becoming more and more threatening as the population has consumed all the reserves. The meagre harvest which had been gathered is nearly exhausted, winter is approaching and covering the fields with snow, thus preventing the cattle from feeding and the people from obtaining roots, marsh plants and other substitutes for food.

The same paper (30 November 1921) states that in the German communes of the Volga the position as regards livestock is becoming catastrophic. The cattle are being relentlessly destroyed. Villages with a population of more than 1000 persons no longer possess a single horse. Where horses are retained, they are absolutely incapable of transporting the food delivered for the famished population at the distribution centres in the principal towns of the districts.

Relief Measures

1. The International Committee for Russian Relief

The International Committee for Russian Relief appointed by the International Conference convened in August last by the Mixed Commission of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies at Geneva, appointed Dr. Nansen High Commissioner. The latter, having concluded an agreement with the Soviet Government, nominated as his delegate in Russia Mr. J.H. Gorvin, Secretary General of the International Commission of Relief Credit Societies, who left for Moscow at the end of November.

Mr. Gorvin will be assisted in his work by various technical advisers, specialists in Russian questions; Mr. Lodge, financial expert of the League of Nations; Mr. Maclaren, commercial expert; Mr. Cottet, Secretary of the Dutch legation in Paris; and Mr. Hilger, representative of the German Red Cross.

Dr. Nansen has organised a secretariat at Geneva under the direction of Mr. E. Frick, and is in constant touch with the Mixed Commission of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies, and also with the International Labour Office and the League of Nations.

For the purpose of completing the organisation of his work, Dr. Nansen recently returned to Russia. He proposes to organise into the means of relieving the Russian famine stricken classes, and to organise, with the general despatch of relief to the districts affected by the famine, a private parcels service. It was also his intention to visit the Volga district in order to acquaint himself with the conditions of the famine-striken people there and to study the best means of bringing them relief.

The following passages are taken from wireless messages sent by Dr. Nansen:

"14 December. The Swedish train, with its supplies, has arrived without any loss at Samara. The experiments made by "Save the Children Fund" by the Quakers, and "American Relief Administration" in regard to railway transport are also very satisfactory, while the loss in transport is insignificant. But local transport from the railway stations to the villages would seem likely to present difficulties in the future as the horses are dying rapidly. I therefore considered it desirable to buy a certain amount of hay in order to keep alive a sufficient number of horses to guarantee the needs of local transport. The essential thing is that food shall be received as soon as possible, so that all means of transport may be used, otherwise we may well be too late and the dying people be beyond our reach!"

19 December. I have returned from the country of shadow and when I think of the misery and the death of the human suffering which my eyes have seen it is beyond my understanding that such a state of things can be tolerated in a world where there is great excess of food. All charitable organisations and all peoples should unite their endeavours to help and to obtain before it is too late sufficient credits from European Governments.

We should send food while it is still possible to do so. Hundreds of thousands of human beings are dying every day. People are prostrate in their houses, in the depths of misery, without food or fuel. They are falling dead in the
streets of the villages which have already lost two-thirds of their populations.

"The best way to help them now is to send grain. A pound will buy enough rye to keep a human being in Russia six months. For twenty shillings, therefore, a life may be saved. In order that a famine more terrible than that of this year may be avoided, it is essential to assure the spring sowings. Sufficient measures for this, on a big scale, must be taken immediately. We may still save millions of lives if the little time that remains to us is used to the best advantage."

2. Save the Children Fund: International Union

The Save the Children Fund International Union is also at work in Russia under the direction of Dr. Nansen, who has appointed special delegates to carry out the supervision of this work. The chief of these delegates, Mr. Webster, sent a report in November from Saratov dealing with the operations of the "kitchens", the name given to the relief establishments of this organisation. At Saratov, where the Union is feeding 25,000 children, these kitchens are of four kinds: public kitchens to which the children only go for meals; school kitchens; kitchens for children's orphan asylums; kitchens for refugee camps. These kitchens are distributed all over the town, and some are at a distance of 7 or 8 versts from it. There are at present 70, but there will later on be 100 of them. The number of children assisted in each of them varies according to circumstances from 2,000 to 4,000.

On the same day, Mr. Webster received at Saratov a consignment of food for 19 villages in the district, situated within a radius of 50 versts from the town. Transport to the kitchens is carried out by horses and waggon furnished by the Commissary of the district, who shows great energy in obtaining them for the delegate.

There are other district kitchens at Khvalinsk, feeding 10,000 children, with sufficient supplies for 5 months; at Baronsk, where kitchens have been opened in 37 villages and feed 8,000 children; at Volsk, where 5,000 rations for one month have been sent, and where further consignments are expected from Riga by rail; and at Kamishin, where ten kitchens have been established.

Up to the beginning of December 120,000 children were being cared for by the Save the Children Fund; this number it is intended to increase to 220,000 at the least. The Fund is feeding other children by means of contributions from relief organisations in various countries; these the Fund distributes in the names of the organisations interested.

3. American Relief Administration

The American Relief Administration, whose work is confined chiefly to child relief, is now feeding over 500,000 children, a number which it is proposed to increase to over a million. The work of the American Relief Administration is carried on in districts not served by the Save the Children Fund, so that there is no overlapping in the distribution of relief. The organisation has, among other things, established a private parcels service for the benefit of persons residing abroad having relatives in Russia to whom they desire to send parcels of food, clothing or even money. These parcels or money orders are delivered against receipts signed by the consignee, which are returned to the sender as evidence that the parcel has actually reached the person to whom it was addressed. The service is now in operation and a cablegram from New York refers to the admirable results achieved.

The following particulars are taken from an interview of a representative of a Riga paper, Sagodade (25 November) with Mr. Brown, delegate of the American Relief Administration:

"As regards our agreement with the Soviet Government", Mr. Brown declared, "everything is going well up to the present. We have even succeeded in organising transports so far as it has been possible, and we have hardly any cases of robbery of our transports or stores to record.

"Our organisation has to feed 1,200,000 children until the next harvest. We are now seeing that our relief work principally in the district of the Volga, at Petropgrad and Moscow, where there is no acute famine, we are feeding in the restaurants children from the famine districts."

4. International Federation of Trade Unions

The Paris People has given details of the relief operations organised by the International Federation of Trade Unions. Its committee has discussed in detail the question of relief and has passed the following resolutions:

(1) Ratification of the agreement concluded at Berlin between the Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions and the representatives of the Russian Government;

(2) Establishment of an office at Petropgrad from which all relief action in Russia will be directed;

(3) The establishment at an early date in a town to be selected by the Russian Government of a hostel to accommodate 1,000 children;

(4) Medicines of the best quality of the value of 2 million German marks are offered to the International Red Cross;

(5) Relief action shall be energetically pursued and a new pressing appeal made to trade unions in all countries.
The Petrograd office will be under the direction of the English trade union leader, Mr. James O'Grady.

Hamburg has been chosen as the Central Depot for food-stuffs purchased in different countries.

The gift of medicines to the International Red Cross has been forwarded to Dr. Nansen, together with a further stock to the value of 6 million crowns purchased by the Austrian Trade Unionists.

6. Workers' Committee for Russian Relief

The Paris Information (12 December) learns from its Helsingfors correspondent that the Workers' Committee for Russian Relief has sent a first train with food supplies and kitchens and accompanied by Swiss, Swedish and German delegates. This train left Moscow for Kazan on 10 December. 53 truck-loads of food and supplies have been sent to Kazan by the Committee; of these 39 have arrived. A French ship and a Bulgarian ship despatched by the Committee have reached Novorossisk, while a German ship has reached Rovno and some American ships have arrived at Petrograd, all of them containing supplies for the Committee.

**

DEATH OF DR. FARRAR

The Secretariat of the League of Nations learns, with deep regret, of the death from typhus at Moscow of Dr. Farrar on the 23 December.

Dr. Farrar was a well known English authority on epidemics; he was sixty years of age and had offered his services to the League of Nations to superintend the distribution of medical stores and personnel sent to Russia by the League's Epidemic Commission. He was further charged by the League with the conduct of an enquiry on the spot into epidemic conditions in Russia.

Dr. Farrar was in charge of Dr. Nansen's sanitary committee at Moscow. He contracted the illness which resulted in his death during a tour of inspection with Dr. Nansen.
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**Prevention of Thefts on Railways**

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**INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION**

**The Ninth All-Russian Congress of Soviets**

The Ninth All-Russian Congress of Soviets met at Moscow on December 24; nearly 2,000 delegates attended (1). After the election of the officers of the Congress and the Credentials Committee, the following questions were dealt with:

1. The report of the Central Executive All-Russian Committee and the Council of People's Commissaries regarding the internal and external situation of the Soviet Republic.
2. The report dealing with measures taken for relieving the famine stricken populations.
3. The report on the first results of the new economic policy.
4. The report on the condition of industry.
5. The restoration of agriculture in general, and the famine stricken districts in particular.
6. The Budget.
7. Co-operative societies and legislation with regard to them.
8. The international situation.
10. Soviet organisation.
11. The electrification of Russia.
12. Election of the All-Russian Executive Committee.

The various questions figuring on the agenda were examined between December 24 and 28, on which latter date the Congress terminated. Some of the chief conclusions presented by the *rapporteurs* on the above mentioned subjects are given below.

**The internal and external situation of the Soviet Republic.**

*Rapporteurs:* Lenin, President of the Council of People's Commissaries.

The salient feature of the external situation of the Republic is the fact that the capitalist states, on the one hand, have been unable to crush the Republic, but on the other hand the world revolution has not broken out.

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(1) The Credentials Committee stated that there were 2,001 delegates, of whom 1,734 had a different status. 1,977 communists and 100 supporters. It should be remembered that the Soviet Congress which met in 1933 was a constituent one. It constituted the supreme executive power of the Soviet state (Council of Commissars) and possessed the functions of Article 24 of the Constitution.
As a result of this state of things, mutual concessions have been made. "We are ready to make the greatest concessions in order to obtain a lasting peace"...Commercial treaties between Soviet Russia and foreign countries have been concluded in increasing numbers of late, and commercial relations have increased. Considerable progress has been made with regard to our commercial relations with foreign countries. This is a most important point, for capitalists are helping us to reconstruc the economic system, although they refuse to recognize our representatives. This is due to the fact that our provisions with regard to the future were more correct than those of our opponents, when we judged that it was impossible to isolate Russia. The untenable economic situation of the blockading powers was clearly revealed at the Washington Conference, where the question of a second Conference, in which Germany and Russia should participate, was discussed."

As regards the internal situation:

"The main principle of our new economic policy is an alliance between workers and peasants."

The first results of the new economic policy.

Rapporteur: Kamenev, President of the Moscow Soviet.

As regards industry, which must be fought against at all costs, is the habit in which the peasants have contracted of only producing sufficient for their own needs. The peasant class must be awakened to the fact that their interest lies in work. The delivery of the various taxes in kind must, above all, be simplified. The methods of cultivating the soil must be perfected, and the peasants must be secure in their occupation of the land, which is provisionally their property for many years to come. The peasants must be allowed to make free use of the land."

"As regards industry, our policy is to work only a very small number of undertakings and to furnish them with all the necessary supplies. The State will lease certain undertakings, with the right to resume control tomorrow, should this be considered necessary."

"Our present task consists in gathering together the dispersed members of the proletariat and reconstructing industry."

The situation of industry.

Rapporteur: Bogdanov, President of the Supreme National Economic Council.

The production of coal and petrol shows a notable increase; 5,000 undertakings in all, both small and medium sized, had been left out up to December 1.

Relief of Famine-stricken Areas.

Rapporteur: Kalinin, President of the Central Executive Soviet Council.

The State is not in a position to furnish relief unaided. The assistance of the population is necessary. (1)

Co-operative Societies.

Rapporteur: Khintchouk, President of the Centrosobornie.

"The mechanism of the co-operative societies has been transformed and based on commercial principles. The organisation has been considerably developed: 25,000 large and small sections of the Centrosobornie have been established within the territory of the Republic for the delivery of raw material and the exchange of goods."

Agriculture.

Rapporteur: Osinsky, People's Commissary for Agriculture.

The new forms of working the land must be dealt with... We are aware that neither private property nor collective village communities are capable of bringing the agriculturist's system to its full development. Organised estates, or cooperation, offer the best prospects for the future.

The peasants must receive assistance. A special State bank must be established to grant them long-term credits; but the first thing necessary is that poverty-stricken peasants should receive money grants.

Finance.

Rapporteur: Krestinsky, People's Commissary for Finance.

Revenues for the year 1921—indirect taxes, customs duties, transport duties, postal taxes, and taxes in kind—are estimated to yield 375 million gold roubles. To this amount must be added the gross yield of nationalised industry and the issue of paper money.

Expenses are estimated at 1877 million gold roubles.

Soviet Organisation.

Rapporteur: Sapronov.

The Central Executive Committee of Soviets (2) should meet at least three times a year. Its sessions will last longer.

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(1) In the course of this discussion, various sections complained of the manner in which the latter had contributed to the organisation of relief.

(2) Elected by the Soviet Congress; its body is the highest legislative, administrative and controlling organ of the Republic. Article 33 of the Constitution.
than formerly. The members of the Council return to active local work between sessions. The All-Russian Congress shall be summoned once a year.

After hearing these various reports the Congress voted resolutions approving the Government’s policy.

The resolution on financial policy contains a recommendation urging the Finance Commissariat to impose a single tax of 500,000 million paper roubles (or 600 million gold roubles) to provide relief to the famine-stricken populations and to set aside a credit of 3 million gold roubles to the Commissariat for Agriculture for the relief and restoration of agriculture in the famine-stricken regions.

As regards internal policy, the Congress of Soviets recommended the Central Executive Committee to reconsider the legislation dealing with the Extraordinary Commission, with a view to limiting the power of this body.

(Moscow Wireless.)

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

THE COMMISSARIAT OF LABOUR

AND THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY

The new economic policy has the effect of obliging the Labour Commissariat to revise the fundamental principles governing labour registration and distribution and a number of concrete measures have recently been adopted by the Commissariat in this connection.

The total employment of available labour tending towards greater efficiency in the utilisation of national assets has always been one of the chief problems confronting the People’s Commissariat of Labour. With this end in view the Commissariat has separated a group of specially important enterprises, which will rely on the State for its labour supply, while other enterprises will have to draw theirs from local sources. Certain private establishments considered to be of national importance will be placed in a privileged position so that they may secure the labour they need with as little delay as possible.

The work of supplying labour is now placed on a new footing and only highly skilled specialists such as technical and agricultural experts, medical personnel etc., will be mobilised. On the one hand the machinery for engagement of voluntary labour will be widely developed (a campaign of this kind is already going on in the Don basin) and on the other attention will be directed to the engagement of labour exclusively through labour departments with a view to avoiding the loss of skilled labour from State establishments which have been closed, and ensuring its distribution to the more important State and private enterprises.

For the furnishing of labour on a large scale (as for fuel supply, transport and so on) it is proposed to institute a “labour tax” of 25 roubles per person, in the case of town dwellers, may be commuted to a fixed money payment.

As the methods of the Commission for preventing Labour Deserter (1) are not appropriate in the new situation a decree has been drafted by the Council of the People’s Commissaries to dissolve the Commission and its local branches. Its organisation will be used to control conditions of hire and dismissal and to ensure that the demands of the “labour tax” are carried out, while matters of labour desertion and breaches of labour laws will be handled over to the workers “Disciplinary Courts” (1).

The regulation of conditions of hire, and questions arising out of them which might come before labour departments should, in the opinion of the People’s Commissariat of Labour, be settled by collective agreements, and proposals in this sense have been made to the All-Russian Central Council of Trade Unions. Contentious matters would be referred to special commissions composed of representatives of the Labour Commissariat, the Central Trade Union Council and the Commissariat of Justice, with the right of final appeal to local trade union organs. Draft regulations to this effect are being drawn up by the Council of the People’s Commissaries.

(Economicheskaiia Zhizn, 17 November 1921.)

(1) A commission charged with the duty of seeing that the laws relating to compulsory labour were observed.

(2) Informal courts to try minor offenders, commenced from among the workers in a factory.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR

THE EFFECT OF THE COLLECTIVE PAYMENT OF WAGES AND BONUSES

The Central Statistical Office has been conducting an enquiry into establishments where the system of a collective payment of wages and bonuses has been applied (1).

(1) Vyssiaia Statistika, Vol. III, Nov., 1922. The experiment is intended in order to involve the workers in the conduct of the enterprise and to make workmen responsible. The figures given are as of the last annual report on the experiment.
Information was collected monthly from April to September and related to thirteen factories in Moscow employing 16,500 workers; six of the establishments were printing works.

The information collected is classed as follows:

I. Reductions in staff:
(1) One-third of the undertakings have increased their staff by an average of 4.2 per cent for manual workers and 11.2 per cent for non-manual workers.
(2) Two-thirds of the undertakings have reduced their staff, particularly in the month previous to the introduction of collective payment of wages.
(3) Dismissals have affected chiefly manual workers; non-manual workers were dismissed mainly during the first month of application of the scheme.
(4) Before the new régime the reduction of staff had reached 5.8 per cent and of non-manual workers 7 per cent.
(5) During the second month of application four out of eight enterprises had again increased their staff, three had reduced them still further, and one remained stationary.
(6) During the same second month of application the total reduction was arrested, the number of manual workers increasing by 0.8 per cent and non-manual workers by 0.7 per cent.

II. Ratio of manual to non-manual workers:

The collective payment of wages has had no visible effect. Before the new régime there was an average one non-manual worker to eight manual workers. At present the latter number is 8.2. It should be noted that the deviations from this average are considerable; in some undertakings there are 0.8 manual workers to one non-manual worker, in others 35.5.

III. Dismissal of skilled workers:
(1) Manual workers, 20.8 per cent of the dismissals were of skilled workers and 70.2 per cent of unskilled.
(2) Non-manual workers. The corresponding figures were 31.1 and 38.6 per cent.

IV. Attendances and excused absences.

The figure of attendances rose, gradually reaching 20.6 days in the month of September.

V. Absences without leave.

The averages for the six months, April to September, were 1.1, 2.5, 1.8, 2.2, 1.8, and 0.6 respectively.

VI. Productivity.

Productivity increased, both absolutely and relatively. Compared with production in 1913 productivity varied from 17 to 44.7 per cent.

VII. Wages in cash and in kind (1).

(1) In eight factories the wages (in cash and in kind) provided, before the scheme of collective payments, for 15 to 25 per cent of the minimum requirements of subsistence (3,400 calories). In three factories wages provided 42 to 49 per cent. Since the introduction of collective payments these averages vary from 32 to 193 per cent.

Three undertakings in September paid wages equivalent to the minimum requirements of subsistence.

(2) Three undertakings in September paid wages equivalent to the minimum requirements of subsistence.

(3) Before the collective scheme was introduced, the workers obtained monthly from 1.16 to 3.63 in gold rubles. The present minimum wage is 1.43, the maximum 7.22.

(Ekonomicheiskaia Zhizn, 20 November 1921.)

EX-SERVICE MEN

Soldiers Disabled in the Civil War

Trotzky writes in the Isvestia:

"Among the very urgent questions requiring a decision, we must not overlook that of our disabled soldiers. During the civil war not only were many of our comrades killed but many were invalided. The care of these is our first duty, not only towards the Red Army but towards the whole workers' republic. It goes with out saying that we must forget our soldiers wounded in the imperialistic war; they were not responsible for this war, they were its victims and the Soviet Republic will help them by all the means in its power. But in solving this problem, which we shall do little by little, we must not overlook the other problem, one which cannot be put off, and our first care must be for those of the workers who were called upon to defend the first workers' republic in this world and who fell crippled from the ranks.

"In the noise and smoke of battle we did not look back and, too often we did not consider the sick and the wounded. The time has now come for us to remember them. Our interests in keeping the army together demands it. Every Red Guard must know that the workers' republic will not forget him in the hour of his misfortune."
"The position of the disabled is a grave one. Some of them are reduced to begging and to petty speculation for a living. Neglect of these men would inevitably affect the army which they have quitted. This cannot be tolerated. The work of helping the disabled and of teaching them new trades within their capabilities must be done on the biggest possible scale and must have every possible attention. The Presidium of the All Russian Central Executive Committee has taken measures of the greatest importance in this direction. In the first place a close liaison has been established between the Commissariats of Social Welfare and of War. A special department in the Commissariat of Social Welfare has been created for dealing with questions relating to disabled Red Guards and their families. Provincial and district military commissariats are to work with provincial and district commissariats of social welfare with a view to caring especially for the disabled. All other departments have been directed to give every possible assistance in the matter of helping disabled soldiers.

"The Presidium of the All Russian Central Executive Committee has, in addition, called the attention of the public to this matter through the Department for the Assistance of Disabled Red Guards and their Families. Now that the economic life of the country is no longer confined to State enterprises, a number of new avenues for helping disabled soldiers are opened.

"Public departments apply the same methods to helping disabled soldiers as they do to the bulk of those needing relief. But private initiative can, and should, distinguish that is to say, it should consider each case individually and should give each the help it needs. Finally, both departmental and public work for providing for the disabled can achieve the desired results only with party and trade union aid and with the help of the labouring masses who are interested in the question, who understand its importance and who will, moreover, make it their sacred duty to help to the utmost in their power.

"Responsible workers (i) in the army should take a leading part in helping the disabled. They should bring this question to the notice of party, of Soviet and of trade union organisations; they should speak of it at meetings and, most of all, they should search unceasingly for new ways and means of helping. A proposal has been made in the army to help in this work on behalf of the disabled and there can be no doubt that it will meet with an instant response. The Red Army cannot, and must not, forget its crippled comrades and if the Red Army remembers them, then the whole country will follow".

\[Izvestia, 18 December 1921.\]

Famine

General

The Committee for Fighting the Famine created by order of the Soviet Government has included the district of Gornevichensk (Penza Government), and the whole of the Crimans in the famine area.

Reports from Tchepoksars (province of Tchouvaka) state that whole families are dying of hunger. Child mortality is steadily increasing. In the district of Kamerly alone up to 100 children a week are buried. Children who have lost their parents take refuge in the woods or swarm at the railway stations begging for alms. Thieving propensities are becoming more and more marked among them, and numbers are to be seen prowling round the yeards in search of food, and collecting from refuse all sorts of remains such as the rind of water melons, potato peel, fish bones, etc.

In the district of Sergatch there are 30,000 starving children.

The following information on the deplorable situation of Russian children in Odessa is taken from a letter of Mr. Kogan, representative of the Ukrainian Red Cross at Odessa, dated 4 December, and a report of Mr. A. Wintergest, a delegate of the Committee of the International Red Cross, dated 8 December."

"All the children in the town of Odessa are suffering from hunger. Many of these unhappy creatures have been so brutalised by famine as to commit suicide. The number of orphans is particularly noteworthy, because the parents give their children their last reserves of food and the themselves die of hunger. Very often both father and mother die almost at the same time, so that their families are wholly deserted. There have been cases where, after the death of the father the widow has placed her child in an orphanage, and herself been found dead a few hours later." At the present moment there are 12,632 children in Odessa supported by the different institutions of the Government. Mr. Wintergest, accompanied by Dr. Reiff, the Medical Officer of the Brilliant, visited one of these institutions, which in spite of being one of the best managed, let a "very painful" impression. "What can be done", he says, "when food, heating, and clothing are all wanting?" The figure of 12,632 will certainly rise within a very short time to 15,000 as the result of the new arrivals from the famine areas. As Odessa and district have now been recognised as a famine area, the dispatch of further parties of children from the Volga has been suspended, and only the transports already on the way
will arrive at their destination. These children arrive in a pitiable state. The trains have to stop at every station, in order to allow time to bury the children who have died on the way from cold or hunger. It is estimated that 30% do not arrive at their destination.

About the same number of starving children are living in the town with their parents. Like the rest, these children need prompt relief, which should include flour, fat, meat, necessary drugs for the treatment of scabies, conjunctivitis (eye disease), and typhus. Forty or fifty per cent. of the children are suffering from scabies: the majority are covered with vermin. About 60 per cent. are suffering from conjunctivitis. It is almost impossible to fight these illnesses owing to the lack of drugs, and of soap. The typhus epidemic has not yet been very violent, but it is to be feared, in view of the insanitary conditions, that the mortality from typhus will increase in the future. The total demoralisation of many of the children has been observed.

**RELIEF MEASURES**

1) Official Figures of State Relief (2).

The expenditure of the Soviet Government for the Relief of the Famine areas has been as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount in Gold Rubles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. 12,141,000 lbs of wheat at 2 gold roubles</td>
<td>24,282,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. 20,735,000 lbs of corn at 2 gold roubles</td>
<td>41,470,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. General necessities:</td>
<td>61,506,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) 3,000,000 of bread at 2 gold roubles</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) 24,000,000 lbs of meat at 2 gold roubles</td>
<td>48,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) 9,600,000 lbs of potatoes at 2/3 gold roubles</td>
<td>6,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) 6,500,000 lbs of vegetables at 1 gold rouble</td>
<td>6,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e) 146,000,000 lbs of salt at 1/3 gold rouble</td>
<td>43,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(f) 146,000,000 lbs of sugar at 1 gold rouble</td>
<td>146,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Expenditure on the organisation and working of public works up to 1 July 1922</td>
<td>1,110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Distribution of potatoes to the famine areas, 400,000 lbs of 5/8 gold roubles</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Evacuations from the famine areas up to 1 December, 300,000 roubles a head (about 4 gold roubles)</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Expenditure on relief during the months of November and December, 140 million roubles at the rate of 200,000 paper roubles for 1 gold rouble</td>
<td>2,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Central Committee Fund for the months of October and November, 75 million roubles, at the rate of about 100,000 paper roubles for 1 gold rouble</td>
<td>7,500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total amount of official state contributions**: 146,182,051

2) Amount of Private Relief obtained from Collections in Russia:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Relief</th>
<th>Amount in Gold Rubles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) In money, 33,000,000,000 of roubles</td>
<td>412,750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) In food, 1,800,000,000 at 2 gold roubles</td>
<td>3,612,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) In other commodities, 381,416,000</td>
<td>3,973,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) International Relief Committee for Russia:

The High Commission of the International Relief Committee for Russia has issued the following statement:

In response to numerous demands the International Red Cross Committee and Dr. Nansen’s High Commission have organised a service for the despatch of parcels to private persons, to groups of persons, and to charitable institutions in Russia and the Ukraine (1). The head office of this service is established at Geneva in the Office of the High Commission of the International Relief Committee for Russia, Passage des Lions, 5: orders are collected there and transmitted to Riga. The parcels are made up in that town, and forwarded to Russia.

The price of the parcels is fixed in dollars. A two dollar parcel contains, for instance, 14 pounds of white flour, 4 cans of condensed milk, 2 pounds of fat, 2 pounds of sugar, and 400 grams of tea. The organisation reserves the right to modify slightly the contents of the parcels according to stocks available at Riga, without, however, lessening their value. The price of the parcels includes the cost of transport and carriage together with a share of about 15 per cent. in a special famine relief fund, of which the accounts are to be published periodically.

The parcels are payable to Dr. Nansen’s High Commission, Passage des Lions, 5, or to the International Red Cross Committee, Promenade du Pin, 1, Geneva. The Swiss Bank Corporation and its branches undertake to forward orders if payment is made in their offices. The sender will be notified of the receipt of the parcel by the person for whom it is intended. If delivery has not been effected within a period of three months, the sender will be notified and the sum paid will be refunded on demand.

Circulars and bulletins for orders may be obtained from Dr. Nansen’s High Commission at the International Red Cross Committee and its representatives abroad, and at the Swiss Bank Corporation, Geneva, and its branches, as also at the Red Cross and organisations affiliated to the International Relief Committee for Russia.

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(1) An agreement has been concluded between Mr. Gauck, the representative of Dr. Nansen at Moscow, and Mr. Holle, President of the Council of People’s Commissars of the Russian Federation, according to which all correspondences abroad and the Russian government will be extended to include the Ukraine. The parcel service will therefore also operate in that country. A representation of Mr. Nansen will be sent to Karloff.
The High Commissariat for Famine Relief has received from the Holy See a sum of money sufficient to despatch 40 tons of food to the famine-stricken districts. The despatch of this food has already begun and its distribution will be controlled by a representative of the Pope.

One thousand tons of flour have been purchased out of funds received from the Belgian Red Cross, while the Geneva students have sent 20 tons of rye to Saratov through the "Save the Children Fund".

The High Commissioner has bought 800,000 worth of rye in Poland with funds contributed by the Soviet Government.

With the credit of 600,000 crowns granted by the Norwegian Government on the security of Russian Relief Bonds, large consignments of herrings, cod liver oil and fats have been purchased and sent to Russia.

According to a wireless message from Mr. J. H. Gorvin, representative of Dr. Nansen on the International Commission for Russian Relief, Sir Benjamin Robertson, the British Commissioner, arrived at Moscow some days ago.

In the course of an interview, Mr. Kameneff, President of the All-Russian Famine Relief Committee, informed the British representative that the Soviet Government had expended 150,000,000 gold rubles in relief for the famine districts. The Soviet Government has also voted 40,000,000 gold rubles for the purchase of foodstuffs abroad. These purchases have already been begun. Mr. Kameneff emphasized the great importance of obtaining tractors for agricultural work in the spring. If no tractors are obtained, the summer cultivation will certainly be less than last year and this would make the solution of the problem still more difficult.

4) Save the Children Fund International Union.

In addition to the relief given by the Save the Children Fund International Union through its kitchens, the committee affiliated to this organisation contribute towards the upkeep of kitchens at Saratov. The following amounts have been received up to the present:

- Bulgarian Red Cross: 21,000 Swiss Francs
- French Committee: 20,000 French Francs
- Irish Committee: £ 140
- Dutch Red Cross: 18,000 Florins
- Norwegian Committee: 10,000 Crowns & 1,000 Swiss Francs
- Swedish Committee: 15,000 Crowns

Funds continue to be collected in these countries as well as in Italy, Serbia (S.C.S.), Switzerland and in countries where the affiliated committees are in direct relations with the Save the Children Fund International Union.

A mention must also be made of the Danish Red Cross which is working with the Save the Children Fund International Union and has so far contributed 75,000 Swiss Francs to the Saratov kitchens. The work of the Danish kitchens at Saratov will be directed by Dr. Krebs who has just been given permission to enter Russia.

The Luxembourg Government has granted a credit of 100,000 francs for the Luxembourg Red Cross which has placed this sum entirely at the disposal of the Save the Children Fund International Union for its kitchens.

The Holy See has also made a noteworthy contribution of 500,000 lire to the Save the Children Fund International Union for the relief of Russian children.

The French committee of the Save the Children Fund has begun a relief campaign and contributions have been received from, among others, the municipalities of St. Etienne, Besançon, Romans and from the prefecture of the Rhône. The French committee has now branches in Nice with extensions at Grenoble, Lyons, Romans and Sarcelles.

From Lausanne (Switzerland) an appeal is being made to the children of the canton of Vaud, and more than 5,000 Swiss francs have been collected by school masters and mistresses. This has enabled 500 articles of clothing and several cases of condensed milk to be sent to Russia. In French Switzerland the collection of money is being carried on actively and a committee for this work has been formed. The Swiss example is being followed by the children of Sweden who have formed an organisation which is affiliated to the "Bädda Barnen", the great Swedish association for child relief.

5) American Relief Association.

The Americans are carrying on their work in the districts of Novosokol, Pokrov and Dergachev in the government of Saratov, as well as in the district of Revon in the German Commissariat. The rest of the government of Saratov under the German Commune is being cared for by the Save the Children Fund International Union.

A proposal has been made by Mr. Hoover to the United States Congress that the remainder of the military supplies of blankets, medicines, etc., to the value of $4,000,000 shall be used for the relief of Russian children.

The Representative of the Hoover Organisation at Elgin has been informed that this Organisation has received the entire stock of medicines which were remaining in the warehouses of the American Army Service Corps at the conclusion of the War.

According to the Berlin Reald of 30 December the A.E.A. has, during the last three months, received 17,263 tons of
provisions for the famine-stricken districts. The number of children fed up to 10 December is stated to be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Number of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samara Government</td>
<td>185,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazan</td>
<td>187,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saratov</td>
<td>82,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simbirsk</td>
<td>60,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tula</td>
<td>11,306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orenburg</td>
<td>7,514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ufa</td>
<td>4,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petrograd</td>
<td>35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moscow</td>
<td>22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>505,112</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Measures are also being taken by the A.R.A. to combat epidemics in the Tartar Republic where the hospitals are full and where there is a great lack of medicines. The Americans are feeding 200,000 children there.

An Agreement has been signed between the “A.R.A.” and the “Europe”, represented by Mr. Brown and Mr. Krasin respectively, by the terms of which Soviet Russia undertakes to pay the former administration a sum of $50,000 in gold for the purpose of buying food stuffs in the United States, to be transported to the United States. The Russian Government has also opened an account in favour of the “A.R.A.” in London.

Colonel Haskell has informed Mr. Gorvin and Sir Benjamin Roberton that the A. R. A. was feeding more than a million children in the famine districts and at Moscow and Petrograd. 20,000 bushels of wheat are also to be provided for the feeding of adults. 1,000,000 bushels will be kept for sowing. 3 cargoes, amounting to nearly 40,000 tons, are expected to arrive in the next five weeks; three of them will be landed in northern ports, and two at Novorossiisk.

The Americans consider that there will be no difficulty in transporting these cargoes over the main lines, but that there will be difficulty in arranging for local transport on account of the lack of fodder for the horses. The distribution of the 20,000,000 bushels of wheat must be completed by the first of April, as after that date the roads will become impracticable. The following information is extracted from telegrams received by the A. R. A. during December.

The situation in the Poviathe district is terrible. In towns with 3,000 inhabitants the death-rate is 50 per day. In the Kusmirski Government 830 persons out of a population of 14,000 died last month. At Samoieieieeianvasshak aIa horses, dogs and cats have been eaten.

The A. R. A. received the following telegram on 14 December:

> The holder of bond No. 725 travelled sixty miles through the snow from his home to the post office of Teresi (province of Riazan) to receive a parcel of foodstuffs. He wishes to express his deep gratitude to the sender of the parcel, Mrs. M............, of New York, who has saved his wife and four children from death."

The A. R. A. has recently extended its work to the district of Ufa, at the foot of the Urali, on the Siberian frontier border. In ten villages kitchens capable of feeding a total of 1,528 persons have been opened. Work has also been begun to the south of Ufa, in the Bashkir district, which can only be reached by carts or sledges. The first kitchens have been set up in the villages of Belozerk and Chikhorov.

6) The Society of Friends of Russia.

The Humanité of 2 January contains details with regard to the missions organised by the American Proletariat for providing relief to Russia. This organisation was founded in October last by a workers' conference and at the present time it possesses branches in nearly all the towns in the United States. Subscriptions and mass meetings have been organised, and lecturers have been sent on tour throughout the whole country. This body receives regular subscriptions, sells badges, organises entertainments of all kinds, as well as special days for obtaining relief funds. It has also organised its branches in Canada, and the section founded at Toronto has obtained about $10,000; another branch of this organisation has also been founded at Vancouver. Up to the present time, the “Society of Friends of Russia” has collected about $185,900.

All the funds collected by the American working classes (trade unions, etc.) have been paid over to the Relief Committee established in accordance with instructions from the Russian Red Cross Society; this Committee makes the necessary purchases of food and organises their despatch to some region of distress. The funds collected have been paid into the Labour Bank at Washington to the account of the International Association of Locomotive Engineers.

7) Workers' Committee for Russian Relief.

The Humanité of 18 December publishes an appeal for international credits from the International Conference convened by the Workers' Committee for Russian Relief which met at Berlin on 4 December.

8) Society of Friends.

Quotations will be found below from letters received from representatives of the Society of Friends in the famine-stricken districts of Russia where the Society is doing magnificent work.

Miss Haig writes from Ruzulik in the Samara district: "On arrival at Ruzulik we were taken first to the Children’s and Maternity Home which, as the ‘Commission’ of Public
Instruction bitterly observed to us, is now known as the "Home of Death". There I found the saddest group of children I have ever seen. Abandoned by their parents or orphaned, and frequently taken from the arms of their mothers who had fallen dead in the streets, they, for the most part passed through this house on their way to the grave.

"We know the food sent by us reaches its destination. The vats are sealed at Rovno and Riga and reach us with the seals unbroken. They are opened at Moscow in the presence of eight persons. We check the contents and store them in our warehouses. Our manager is an Englishman; we have our own automobiles for delivering the provisions direct to various institutions where they are again checked on arrival."

Mr. Tom P. Copeman writes from the same place: "The world evidently does not realize the magnitude of the catastrophe or it would hasten to send us provisions. We are completely cut off from the rest of the world, and I know nothing of what has happened since 1 October, but I simply cannot believe that Europe is standing still and doing nothing. It is a mere empty form."

"We, the Quakers, are responsible for this little district. We have 650,000 people to feed, rather we have to decide how many of these shall be fed as we are short of supplies."

"For God's sake, try and stir up all those whom you can reach. It is terrible to see these kindly people dying, and one asks: whether it would not be better to leave than to help inadequately."

9) Italian Red Cross.

Simultaneously with the conclusion of the commercial agreement between Italy and Russia, an arrangement has been made between the Italian and Russian Red Cross Societies, which provides for the despatch of a mission belonging to the Italian Red Cross, to Russia at the beginning of January; this mission will organise 18 popular kitchens and dispensaries for the maintenance of 15,000 adults and 4,000 children.

The Italian Government has contributed 4,000,000 lire to the Italian Red Cross for its mission to South Russia, where it intends to organise in February kitchens and dispensaries. The Italian relief centre will probably be at Tsaritsin where it is also proposed to send a Swiss medical mission.

**GENERAL**

**PREVENTION OF THEFTS ON RAILWAYS**

Owing to defects in the police system which, during the course of the last three years, has changed hands five times, robberies of baggage and goods on railways have greatly increased. The Council of Labour and Defence therefore ordered, in May 1920, that the railway police service should be put into the hands of the railways themselves, with the result that the cases of prosecutions for theft fell from 1,483 in June 1920 to 1,050 in July.

The accorded ground for hoping that, with the safeguarding of goods and baggage by the railways themselves, there would be a falling off in the number of thefts. The organisation of railway police, however, presented considerable difficulties. In the first place, men between 18 and 40 might not be taken for service on the railways, nor could they be allowed rations, clothing and arms to be issued to them. The consequence was that the police, on certain of the railways, deserted.

Representations to the People's Commissariat for Supply and to the military authorities led to no result; moreover, in spite of their most urgent demands, the railways were unable to procure lead for sealing their wagons and boards and nails for making fences to keep trespassers off their premises. The result of all this was that thefts of baggages and goods again began to grow. The increase is shown by the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Proscriptions for theft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 1920</td>
<td>1,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>1,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>1,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>1,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>2,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>2,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1921</td>
<td>2,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>3,742</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In July 1921 the protection of baggages and goods was transferred to the militia. But there was still no improvement as the militia, not being entirely under the authority of the railway administration, did not co-operate with the railway police. It was therefore decided to place the guarding of goods and property on the railways and water-ways under the local organs of the Commissariat of Ways and Communications.

The Council of Labour and Defence and the Commissariat of Ways and Communications have now begun the formation of bodies of guards, and better to prevent thefts they are taking measures: 1) Two plans for the appointment of guard and commissuiers who shall be responsible for the delivery of baggage and goods to destination; 2) to work out a scale of rewards for information leading to the conviction of persons guilty of theft, and 3) to draw up regulations for punishing commissioners who have allowed thefts to take place.
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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The Transport Situation

Report of Dzerzhinsky and Mejlanuk to the Petrograd Soviet:
13 December 1921

In a report to the Petrograd Soviet Dzerzhinsky (1) gives an account of the steps taken to re-organise the transport service, taking into consideration the general economic situation of the country.

"The first measure adopted was to reduce the staff, as the number of transport workers was excessive. The number engaged on the railways was 1,270,000; on the canals and rivers, 377,000; and on local transport 100,000. A first reduction of 10% was proposed and carried out to the full. We have still to complete a further reduction of 15% which could not be carried out within the period fixed, but will be over by 15 December. But even with these reductions the State cannot undertake to support so many workers. The normal staff has been fixed at 1,158,000, so that a further reduction is required and must be effected before 15 January.

"At the same time as reducing the staff, we have taken steps to improve efficiency, and to make the most rational use of available material. In the latter connection, it may be mentioned that the cost of fuel consumed per vost (2) run was estimated at 1 cubic fathoms before the war, and that at present it is 1.80 cubic fathoms, or almost twice the amount. Such inefficient work must not be allowed".

This was the first measure of economy. A second was found necessary in June when the State had to abandon the system of giving a free transport service. The effect of abolishing free transport is illustrated by the following figures. In January 1921 the receipts of the railways of the republic amounted to 695 million roubles. In July, after the new system had been introduced, the receipts rose to 689 million roubles; in August to 18 milliards; in September to 46 milliards, and in October to 55 milliards. We have every reason to believe that the receipts will continue to increase, and we might add that they would be infinitely larger if there were not so much free passenger traffic.

A third method of economising was that of grading State subsidies to the railways.

(1) Maxim Gorky, better known as President of the Pro-Russia Extraordinary Commission (Chairman of the present People's Commissariat for the Interior and for Transport).
(2) 1 mile.
"We have divided the railways into three classes from the point of view of the profits to be obtained:—
1. Lines engaged in the transport of food stuffs and fuel: about 29,000 versts.
2. Branch lines serving the first class.
3. Local lines.

The workers on the first class receive 100% of their maintenance from the State, on the second class 50%, and on the third 30%, the remainder being provided out of local resources by the local authorities. This has involved a reorganisation of the railway system."

Finally Dzerzhinsky states that an energetic campaign is being carried on against thefts on the railways. "The extent of the thefts is enormous; on the Kazan line alone 20,000 pounds of goods were stolen in September."

As regards water transport Dzerzhinsky declares that a commercial system is only applied to a small proportion of river and sea transport. The Council of People's Commissaries has already decided to transfer small vessels to private undertakings, which would pay a certain rent to the State. "It is our desire to create federations for river and sea transport, capable of running the service on commercial lines."

Dzerzhinsky's report is supplemented by the technical report of Mjolka, a member of the Board of the Transport Commissariat. Mjolka has drawn up two estimates, one a minimum, the other based on the hypothesis of the arrival in Russia of foreign commodities, to a value of 576 million gold roubles (1). The 1929 working estimates are summarised below.

---

**Estimated Passenger and Goods Traffic in 1922**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>If the goods ordered arrive</th>
<th>If the goods ordered do not arrive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Railways</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passenger Traffic</td>
<td>66 millions</td>
<td>34 millions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods Traffic</td>
<td>5400 million goods</td>
<td>985 million goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(In 1914 : 390 million)</td>
<td>(In 1913 : 15,300 million goods)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Canals and Rivers</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passenger Traffic</td>
<td>11 millions</td>
<td>4 millions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods Traffic</td>
<td>540 million goods</td>
<td>120 million goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(In 1914 : 390 million goods)</td>
<td>(In 1913 : 15,300 million goods)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sea</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passenger Traffic</td>
<td>1.8 millions</td>
<td>700,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods Traffic</td>
<td>201 million goods</td>
<td>45 million goods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| (1) The present value of a gold rouble was 8th. 154 d.

---

Some account of the reduction of staff is also given by Mjolka. He states that the first reduction of 10% comprised persons who themselves desired to leave the transport service, and who were therefore not thrown out of work in consequence of their dismissal. The subsequent dismissals were of persons designated by their comrades as lazy, or who were not skilled in transport work.

**Prices in Moscow**

(The prices are those ruling in the open market and are in thousands of roubles.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>31st November</th>
<th>31st December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ryebread, per lb.</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat bran</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rye flour, per pound (36.11 lbs)</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheaten flour, per pound.</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pearl barley per lb.</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semolina</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grains</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millet</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabbage</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herring</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matron</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacon</td>
<td>36.5</td>
<td>38.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk, per quart.</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butter, per lb.</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butter (Russian) per lb.</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunflower oil per lb.</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lump sugar</td>
<td>61.5</td>
<td>67.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crystallised sugar</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>32.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hay, per pound</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats, per pound</td>
<td>112.5</td>
<td>112.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Monthly "armoured" ration (1) 334 338 374 397.5
Monthly "standard" ration (1) 965 978.7 1,042 1,072.3


**Home industries in Petrograd.**

The following information on home industries in Petrograd has been obtained from the Home Industries Board of the National Economic Council of the Petrograd Government. It illustrates the effect of the new economic policy on the development of small industries.
The undertakings classified according to industry were as follows on 1 November:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Family Undertaking(s)</th>
<th>Other House Under.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1821</td>
<td>1 Aug.</td>
<td>1715</td>
<td>1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Oct.</td>
<td>2414</td>
<td>2707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Nov.</td>
<td>3225</td>
<td>3877</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) Employing only members of the family; 2) Where workers outside the family are employed.

The undertakings classified according to industry were as follows on 1 November:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of undertakings</th>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Woodworking</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metalworking</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather-working</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral working</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foodstuffs</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemicals</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instrument makers</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3225</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Economicheskai Zhurn, 9 December 1921.)

FAMINE

GENERAL

The Russian Famine Relief Fund in London has recently received one of the last letters written by Dr. Farrar (1). The letter contains the following passages:

"One of the worst features is the number of orphans, or children abandoned by their parents, who are found in the streets. The ghastly emaciation of these children is horrible. I saw yesterday in Markstadt a shelter which has beds for 100 of these children. 42 children had died in the last 24 hours, but these places had been filled up. More than 50 per cent. of these infants are death, in spite of the care that is given them, since the beginning of this letter I have been with Nansen in the Samara district, where the conditions are even worse than in the Saratoff, in spite of the very good work done by the A.R.A. in Samara, and by the Friends in Bouzoundouk. In the villages near Samara we saw people who had exhausted all their provisions, and were awaiting death in their houses."

Dr. Farrar states that the principal ingredients of the bread which the peasants are eating are grass, oak leaves, and straw, bound together with bone powder, clay, or horse dung.

"We saw awful conditions in Bouzoundouk, where, out of a population of 35,000, they are dying at the rate of 100 a day. At this rate the town will be entirely depopulated in about a year. We saw in the main street the corpse of a woman already gazed by dogs. (People are beginning to be afraid of dogs.) Copeman, of the Friends, told us that he seldom went out without seeking corpses lying about. There are whispered stories of cannibalism.

"To summarise, let me say that no words can exaggerate the extent, the intensity, or the horror of the famine, of which we have only seen the fringe. Many vast regions are wholly without help."

Official communication from the High Commissioner, Dr. Nansen

The general situation on 1 January 1922 was as follows:

The Americans are feeding 800,000 children per day through organisations working under Dr. Nansen's 340,000 children and adults, and the Soviet Government 2,185,000 persons. This makes a total of 3,330,000. The Americans are also providing food for 2,000,000 persons. Provision has thus been made for 9,300,000 of the inhabitants. There are still 10,000,000 to be fed, and this is only possible if all European countries unite to carry out international relief work.

Famine conditions prevail in the Sinteropol district of the Crimine, where people are eating the flesh of horses which have died of disease. Fodder is almost totally lacking, and a serious cattle plague is raging. The number of horses has been reduced by 80 per cent, the number of herded cattle by 50 per cent. and the pig breeding industry has been completely destroyed. According to statistics collected on the spot the peasants have used 90 per cent. of the seed corn for food. Only 30 per cent. of the area cultivated last year has been sown.

In the mountain districts of Karasau-Bazar and Sinteropol the population is living entirely on acorns and beechmast, mixed with barley. Conditions in the villages are appalling. Nearly all the women and children are ill, and the men are starving and unemployed.
In the Theodosia district there are places where 75 per cent. of the population are starving. In certain villages in the Itily district, 100 out of 130 inhabitants are suffering from famine. In other villages the proportion is 300 out of 350.

The famine is approaching the Korchik district. The shores of the Sea of Azov are already affected. In the Sebastopol district the situation is catastrophic.

At Kadoshkovka 75 per cent. of the population are starving. In the southern coast districts children are wandering in the forests and living on roots and grass.

The districts of Simferopol, Eupatoria, Karasou-Bazar and Aloula have been declared famine districts. Representatives of the peasants continually arrive in the towns in search of corn for sowing. What remains of the forests is being cut down to be exchanged for corn. This seriously threatens the entire hydrographic system of the Crimea. One million persons are suffering from famine in the country districts, and 327,000 in the towns. 300,000 pounds of cereals are required for the relief of this population. The Council of Labour and Defence has granted a credit of one million rubles for relief in the Crimea.

RECEIVED MEASURES
1. Special Taxation for Famine Relief

A tax of 10 per cent on patents has been introduced in Moscow, the proceeds to be devoted to famine relief. The proprietors of restaurants, cafés and shops which sell luxury articles are required to pay 15 per cent of their taxes for famine relief: telephone subscribers pay 10 per cent of their subscription. Ten rubles have to be paid to the relief funds for every bottle of wine purchased and there is a tax of 5 per cent. on theatre and concert tickets, etc.

2. Relief from Foreign Countries

A communication from the Soviet Government to the International Committee for Russian Relief(1) states that the following amounts have been received from foreign countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goods to the value of</th>
<th>2,618,583</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold rubles</td>
<td>2,618,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash £14,310 at 7.5 gold Rubles per £</td>
<td>83,822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200,000 dollars at 2 gold rubles per dollar</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marks 145,990 at 1 Krone per Mark</td>
<td>144,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francs 2,273,000 at 29 Kopecks per Franc</td>
<td>2,067,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livre 2,704,120 at 29 Kopecks per Livre</td>
<td>545,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,681,504</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The following sums have also been received: 29,911,980 Austrian kroner, 121,000 florins and 8,000 pesetas.

The High Commission of the International Committee for Russian Relief has issued a statement showing the work done by the various organizations which are dealing with the Russian famine.

The German Red Cross sent a hospital expedition to the Kazan district when the famine first started. This expedition is still continuing its work. In a report dated 24 December 1921 the representative at Moscow, Mr. Hilger, states that epidemics are spreading with extraordinary rapidity in the Volga district owing to the privations undergone by the population. Conditions in the Kazan hospitals are the worst that could be imagined. Every kind of necessity is lacking. There are three or four sick persons to each bed, and there are barely enough garments and bed coverings for them. Most of the beds have nothing but straw mattresses, which are in an appalling state. Such linen as there is is black with filth. Men and women patients, adults and children, are lying side by side in the beds, or sometimes one on top of the other. Their eyes seem to appeal for some relief to their sufferings. Many of them have become hideously deformed by prolonged starvation.

The Russian hospitals are in need of appliances of every kind, not only drugs and disinfectants, but body and bed linen, blankets, thermometers, feeding-cups, etc.

The Belgian Government has placed at the disposal of the Belgian Red Cross 5,000 sets of clothing to a value of 725,000 francs for preserved foods to the value of 20,000 francs.

The subscriptions received by the Bulgarian Red Cross up to 6 December 1921 amounted to 895,917 leva. 698,317 leva were sent to the "Save the Children Fund International Union" at Geneva to support 1,000 Russian children for three months. There was thus a balance of 197,400 leva.

A report dated 29 December 1921 shows that on that date the funds at the disposal of the Danish Red Cross amounted to 262,900 kroner (a Government subsidy of 100,000 kroner and 162,900 kroner raised by voluntary subscription). The Danish Red Cross has undertaken to support 1,000 children for five months, and intends if possible to increase its activities.

The Estonian Relief Committee, which is composed of representatives of the Government and of the Estonian Red Cross, still has four million Estonian marks and 100,000 kilograms of potatoes, as well as further sums which are being raised by subscription.

The Latvian Red Cross has received a Government grant of 1 million Latvian marks, and has collected 75,000 marks.
by subscription, 888,000 marks have already been spent in the purchase of foodstuffs for Russia.

The steamer “Carna” left Rotterdam on 30 December 1921 for Riga, with a first consignment of foodstuffs provided by the Netherlands Government. The Netherlands Red Cross, the Nansen Committee, and two other Netherlands Relief Committees also sent various goods by this vessel. The charter of the steamer cost 26,000 francs. A second steamer with a similar cargo is to leave in the course of January. The fourteen committees dealing with Russian relief have formed a federation, and the Netherlands Red Cross acts as executive committee. The amount collected in Holland, not including the contribution of the Trade Unions, is 470,000 florins, 35,000 of which have not yet been spent.

The third relief expedition sent by the Swedish Red Cross is to set out on 20 January. There will be about 30 trucks, which will be loaded principally with fodder and seed corn. These goods have been purchased by collections, which have been extremely successful; more than 1 ½ million Swedish kronor have been subscribed. Six consignments of foodstuffs have already been sent to Petrograd via Reval. A further collection undertaken by the Central Committee of the Swedish Trade Unions amounted to 120,000 kroner.

One section of the Norwegian Red Cross has sent thirty tons of food and clothing to Russia. The rest of the credit of 350,000 kroner granted by the Norwegian Government will probably be used for the purchase of 15,000 barrels of salt herrings at a cost of 274,000 kroner.

The Russian Famine Committee centralises the work of the British Red Cross, the Imperial War Relief Fund, the Society of Friends, and the British Parliamentary Committee. This Committee sent four transports carrying more than 12,000 tons of foodstuffs from London to Reval or Riga last December. In addition to Sir Benjamin Robertson, who was mentioned in a previous article (1) and Mr. J. F. Dyer, who are at present carrying on an enquiry in the famine districts, the Committee has sent three representatives to Russia and two to Constantinople. The latter are to take over the stocks which are available in Constantinople and Egypt, and to send them to the famine district by way of Novorossisk.

The Universal Jewish Relief Conference is making preparations for the organisation of kitchens for 1,000 children in the Ukraine. These kitchens are to be managed by the Save the Children Fund International Union.

The European Students Relief has $100,000 for relief. This organisation, which deals particularly with relief for students, hopes to collect $250,000 for Russia.

The Swiss Red Cross has obtained a grant of 100,000 francs from the Swiss Government for the organisation of a hospital expedition. The amount subscribed in Switzerland up to 20 January was 120,000 francs, and the Canton of Zurich, Basel, Solothurn and Valais voted a grant of 10,300 francs.

The Health Committee of the League of Nations has sent a special mission to Russia to enquire into sanitary conditions and epidemics. This Commission recently presented a report to the Council. Extracts will be published in a later number of the Supplement.

The Women’s International League of Peace and Freedom, the Union for Mutual Aid and the Protection of Swiss Interests in Russia, and the Serbian Government are contributing to the expenses of the International Committee for Russian Relief, and to the upkeep of the Famine Relief Secretariat (Dr. Nansen, Geneva).

The Russian Red Cross (old organisation) and the Committee of the Union of Zemstvos and Towns, although without adequate financial resources for taking direct part in Russian relief work, are however contributing towards the expenses of Dr. Nansen’s High Commissioner for Famine Relief.

The Greek Red Cross states that it is about to send a hospital expedition to South Russia. No details of the work actually accomplished have yet been received.

3. International Committee for Russian Relief

The International Committee for Russian Relief will meet at Geneva on 23 and 26 January, to discuss means of increasing the amount of relief provided for the starving districts, to consult with Dr. Nansen, and to hear his report of the tour of inspection which he has just made in the Volga district. Mr. Gorvin, Dr. Nansen’s representative in Moscow, left on 8 January with the British Commissioner, Sir Benjamin Robertson, for three weeks’ tour in the famine districts.
4. Save the Children Fund International-Union

The Save the Children Fund is still receiving a number of subscriptions for the kitchens for starving children of the Saratoff district. The knowledge that 1/- will feed a child for a week, or £5.0.0. for five months, is an encouragement to the subscribers, who feel that even the smallest gift is of actual use.

France.—The campaign in favour of Russian Relief is being increasingly successful in France. The French Committee affiliated to the Union has raised its contribution from 20,000 to 45,000 francs. Committees have been formed or are in process of formation at Niame, Bordeaux, Strasburg and other towns. School children and University students are particularly anxious to help.

Luxemburg.—The Luxemburg Red Cross, which had already sent 35,000 Swiss francs granted by the Government of the Grand Duchy, has now sent the Union a further sum of 15,000 Swiss francs, raised by means of appeals in the press.

Sweden.—The Swedish Committee has recently sent the Union a further gift of £500 kroner for the kitchens for Russian children of the Saratoff district. The total contribution of the Ridda Barnen is thus 15,000 Swedish kronor, or about 20,000 Swiss francs.

Norway.—The total contribution of the Norwegian Committee is now 13,000 kroner, and goods to the value of 30,000 kroner were also despatched on 28 December. The Norwegian Red Cross has spent 30,000 kroner raised by subscription on the purchase of condensed milk and fats for starving children, 31,000 kroner having been subscribed by the Norwegian churches.

Switzerland.—The Swiss Committee affiliated to the Union is acting in concert with the Swiss Red Cross, which is sending a hospital expedition in February. The amount which had been collected in December was 30,000 Swiss francs.

Great Britain.—The British Committee of the “Save the Children Fund” has undertaken to feed 200,000 children in the Saratoff district.

Children Hospitality Committee of Fellowship and Reconciliation intends to bring Russian children to England and to place them in English families. The number of children concerned is about 250, between the ages of 4 and 14 years.

5. American Relief Administration

At Mr. Hoover’s request, the Shipping Board will use 30 of its vessels which are at present lying idle for the transport of grain to Russia. When Congress voted a credit of 20,000,000 dollars for Russian famine relief, it was decided that the goods purchased with this sum were to be transported on American vessels.

Colonel Haskell, Director of the Relief Work of the A.R.A. in Russia, informed the Riga correspondent of the Frankfurter Zeitung on 9 January that the work of this organisation would be considerably extended in February, and would include adults as well as children. The A.R.A. would then provide food for 2,000,000 children and 6 to 10 million adults. The Soviet Government has placed 200 locomotives and 4,000 trucks at its disposal. The 20,000,000 bushels of wheat sent by the United States Government is already on its way; and the $20,000,000 voted by Congress will have been used for the purchase of cereals.


This organisation is carrying out important work in Armenia, Georgia and Transcaucasia. Its immediate purpose is to provide material help by distributing food and clothing. It has also undertaken various other kinds of work necessitated by the distress which the war has caused in the Near East. Since it was first set up, it has supported 63 hospitals, with 6,522 beds, 128 clinics, 11 homes, and 229 orphanages. At the present time its activity is more restricted, but it is anxious to co-operate with the International Committee for Russian Relief, under the direction of Dr. Vayson’s High Commissioner for Famine Relief, which has entrusted it with the centralisation of relief work in Armenia, Georgia, and the adjoining districts. The Near East Relief sent a Commission of Enquiry to Russia in August and September to make preparations for its new work. The Commission left Tiflis on 16 August, and returned on 12 September, after a journey covering 4,563 miles, and lasting 27 days. It arrived at the following conclusions:

(1) The famine is the logical and inevitable consequence of the absence of any system for the maintenance of
sufficient food reserves in Russia, and of the inability of the Russians to increase their agricultural production, or to remedy the inevitable decrease of production in the last few years. This is due to the insufficient use of machinery, attributable to the system of limited tenure. Further causes of the famine are the impossibility of increasing or replacing agricultural machinery, owing to the blockade, the destruction of machinery, the shortage of draught animals and human labour in the last few years, and the drought of 1920 and 1921.

(2) Russia requires not only grain, but also necessary articles, such as clothing, medical stores, tools, building material, steel, and plant for the utilisation of electrical power.

7. Society of Friends

This organisation has been at work in Russia for two years. Its activities are chiefly confined to the three regions of white Ruthenia, in particular to Minsk, Borisov, Slutsk, Bobromisk and Mosyry, to Moscow and the neighbourhood, and to the centre of the famine area in the district of Bouzoulouk, near Samara. By the end of December 1921 the Society of Friends had sent relief and goods to the value of £78,772, and it is at present (January 1922) providing for the support of 50,000 children and 20,000 adults distributed in 250 villages. It contemplates extending its work in the near future to 64,000 children and 25,000 adults, and by 1 February to 70,000 children and 30,000 adults. If it were in a position to obtain the help of other organisations it would be able to take care of 200,000 persons. The Society regrets to announce the loss of one of its workers, Miss Mary Paterson, who died at Samara from typhus contracted during the work of relieving the starving.

8. International Federation of Trade Unions

Reference has already been made to the work of the International Federation of Trade Unions(1). A sum of about 800,000 florins hitherto collected by the Federation has been obtained from the following countries—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country and affiliated membership</th>
<th>Amount received, in currency of the respective country, up to 15 October 1921</th>
<th>Value in Dutch marks of receipts to 15 Dec.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria 1,000,000</td>
<td>Fr. 17,281 256.75</td>
<td>19,791.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium 718,410</td>
<td>Fr. 213,823.98</td>
<td>70,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czechoslovakia 740,000</td>
<td>Cr. 2,000,080.90</td>
<td>100,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark 279,255</td>
<td>Kr. 1,999.90</td>
<td>17,299.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France 1,590,000</td>
<td>Fr. 500,000.90</td>
<td>500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany 8,000,000</td>
<td>M. 2,737,929.50</td>
<td>75,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy 2,055,773</td>
<td>Lire 1,600,000.90</td>
<td>120,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg 27,000</td>
<td>Fr. 5,000.90</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands 216,581</td>
<td>Fl. 20,500.90</td>
<td>35,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland 463,186</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>60,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain 240,113</td>
<td>Ml. 2,060.90</td>
<td>11,130.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden 277,245</td>
<td>Cr. 80,000.90</td>
<td>80,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland 225,888</td>
<td>Fl. 50,000.90</td>
<td>60,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom 6,600,000</td>
<td>£ 2,500.90</td>
<td>3,170.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Federation of Transport Workers</td>
<td>F. 2,000.90</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Federation ofatters</td>
<td>F. 1,099.90</td>
<td>3,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry gifts</td>
<td>F. 1,290.90</td>
<td>3,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>784,400.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Information for 15 December has not yet been received.

The second ship chartered by the International Federation of Trade Unions left Hamburg on 28 December for Riga with a cargo of 1,100 tons of foodstuffs and clothing, and arrived on 2 January. On 3 January the first train of 17 wagons of foodstuffs left Riga for the Tschouvakin district in which the work of the Federation is to be carried on under the management of Mr. O'Grady, who has been appointed to take charge of the distribution of relief. The organisations through which the International Federation of Trade Unions will act are, outside Russia, the Gross-Aufkaufgesellschaft of Hamburg, which will look after purchases, the despatch of goods and marine insurance; while in Russia, depots have been established along the Kazan to Tzoumna railway at Armori, Shlikhuray, Throsei, Vumazi. The mission will have its headquarters at Shlikhuray which will act as a centre of sledge services across country. Unfortunately, Mr. O'Grady fell seriously ill on
his return to England. He is suffering from smallpox, but it is hoped that he will recover within a few weeks.

9. International Co-operative Alliance

This organisation hands over its contributions for relief in Russia to Dr. Nansen. It expresses the wish that they should be used chiefly on behalf of children, 25 per cent. to be employed in relief in Georgia. £2,000 had already been sent to the Commission by 6 January. At the present time the International Co-operative Alliance has the following sums at its disposal:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Union</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British Co-operative Union</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisory Chamber of Workers’ Associations, Paris</td>
<td>12,000 Frs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Federation of Consumers’ Co-operative Societies, Paris</td>
<td>80,000 Frs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutch Union</td>
<td>£296</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following co-operative societies have sent donations to the International Federation of Trade Unions:

- Czechoslovak Co-operative Union 145,230 Kr. (as well as foodstuffs and clothing)
- Austrian Co-operative Wholesale Society 100,000 Kr.
- German Central Co-operative Union 89,350 M.
- Belgian Co-operative Union 40,000 Fr.

The Finnish Co-operative Union has sent foodstuffs direct to Russia, and the Norwegian Co-operative Union has sent goods to the value of 35,000 Kroner.

10. General Confederation of Labour.

A list is published in the People of Paris, of 29 December 1921, of the sums subscribed to the General Confederation of Labour, amounting in all to 505,635 francs.

11. Workers’ Committee for Russian Relief.

This committee has sent 17 consignments of foodstuffs to Russia, of which 9 were equipped by the committee itself. The greater part of these foodstuffs have already reached the famine areas at Kazan, Samara, Saratov, Markstadt, and other districts and villages in the Volga region. The German and Swiss delegates on the Relief Committee have established public kitchens which feed more than 200,000 persons a day. The movement originated by this Committee has already reached the United States, Canada, the Argentine, South Africa and Japan. In Buenos Ayres, for instance, collections for the starving are making good progress. Already 100 trade unions, with a membership of 300,000, have joined the above committee. The country heading the movement in Europe is Holland.

12. Socialist Relief Committee “Pro-Russia”

This Committee, which was formed in Italy, sent a shipload of foodstuffs some weeks ago. A second ship is leaving for Novorossisk, the cargo to be sent to the Astrakhan region. They money collected by the end of November by “Pro-Russia” amounted to 1,270,000 lire.

13. Czechoslovak Republic.

The Czechoslovak Government has initiated a movement for relief. It has itself granted 10,000,000 Czechoslovak kronen to which are added 3,000,000 kronen collected by subscription. It has informed Dr. Nansen’s commission that 15 trucks of foodstuffs have been purchased for this sum. It also proposes to maintain 900 children who are already being fetched from Russia in a sanitary train sent by the Ministry of National Defence and the Czechoslovak Red Cross. 450 children have already been taken, and it is proposed to receive another 1,500. Hospitality will be given to them in private families. The socialist workers’ committee for Russian relief in Czechoslovakia has decided to spend four-fifths of the total sum of 3,978,000 kronen which have been collected by subscription on the purchase of clothing for the children in the Russian famine areas. The remainder of the sum will be devoted to the purchase of foodstuffs and drugs.

GENERAL

Typhus in Russia

In 1920 more than 3 million cases of spotted typhus were registered in the Soviet Republic and over a million cases of
recurrent typhus. In 1921, when the intensity of the epidemic diminished, 495,119 cases of spotted and 670,108 cases of recurrent typhus were registered during the first six months of the year. Subsequently the number of cases rapidly decreased and by the beginning of autumn the conditions were almost normal.

In autumn typhus still lingered in the famine districts and fresh cases were noted, mostly among persons who were fleeing from it. The starving refugees over crowded the railways and the junctions at Orenburg, Samara, Cheboksary and Nizhni-Novgorod were blocked. The railways in these districts rapidly became infected and themselves helped to spread the epidemic. The isolation points and hospitals were unequal to the demands made on them and the position rapidly became critical. Corpses were daily removed from the trains by the dozen; the railway staffs were stricken wholesale. With slight modifications the state of affairs was a repetition of the 1919 epidemic. In September, October and November recurrent typhus spread over the whole Russian railway system. Spotted typhus, however, diminished on the railways during this period.

The regular population has so far suffered but little from infection. But a definite increase in the number of cases has been observed in a number of Governments. Moscow is full of typhus patients who are taken from the trains daily, and a similar influx has been observed in Petrograd, Vitebsk, Smolensk and Minsk, as well as at Archangel and Murmansk. The infection was also spread by prisoners, of whom a considerable number were sent to concentration camps in the government of Tambov. In the Red Army it was spread through reinforcements, coming from the famine district. It should be observed that recurrent typhus is at present more prevalent than spotted and in that respect the epidemic differs from those of previous years.

The position is a very grave one. If Central and Southern Russia are not yet affected by the contagion they are threatened, and precautionary measures should be taken at once. A number of measures have been taken already by the Commissariat of Health to combat the epidemic and others will be taken shortly by the Council of the People’s Commissaries. Among the measures proposed are the immediate stoppage of passenger traffic on the railways of the Volga district and on certain lines in infected areas; the possible stoppage of the movements of troops to the famine districts and the relief of overcrowded districts by transfer to neighbouring areas.

It is also proposed to take extensive administrative
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FAMINE

General

The High Commissariat for Famine Relief received a telegraphic report on 1 February from Sir Benjamin Robertson, the well-known expert on Indian famine, who has just returned from a journey through the famine-stricken districts with Mr. Gorvin, Dr. Nansen's representative in Russia.

The report confirms all that Dr. Nansen has said, and even Sir Benjamin found the situation in the provinces of Saratoff and Samara worse than anything he had anticipated. "I carefully examined," he reports, "the work of the Save the Children Fund International Union, and of the Quakers, at Buzuluk, which organisations have the care of 256,000 and 140,000 children respectively. The work is carried out in a practical and systematic manner and I can guarantee that the food really reaches only those for whom it is intended. At Saratoff only children are fed while at Buzuluk, in the Samara Government, the feeding of 30,000 adults has begun. The local authorities cannot, however, distribute sufficient food to avoid a very high rate of adult mortality and it seems probable, according to what is said by members of relief organisations, that half the population will perish during the next few months. A grave problem is created by saving the children and allowing the adult population to die".

Sir Benjamin Robertson pays a high tribute to the devotion of the Save the Children Fund International Union and the Quakers.

RELIEF MEASURES

1) International Committee for Russian Relief

The International Committee for Russian Relief held a meeting in Geneva at the Hôtel de Ville, Salle de l’Alabama, on 26 and 27 January. The Committee was set up as a result of the conference summoned by the Joint Commission of the International Red Cross Committee and the League of Red Cross Societies which met on 15 August 1921 at Geneva.
The International Committee for Russian Relief includes representatives of the Governments of Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Roumania, Sweden, and Jugo-Slavia as well as representatives of the principal Red Cross societies, of the Holy See and of the following organisations:

Joint Commission of the International Red Cross Committee and the League of Red Cross Societies;
The Russian Red Cross (old organisation);
International Co-operative Alliance;
Association for Mutual Aid and Protection of Swiss Interests in Russia;
Bureau of the International Federation of Trade Unions;
International Labour Office;
Commission de secours aux affamés de Russie;
Executive Committee of the Universal Jewish Relief Conference;
French Committee of the Save the Children Fund;
Swiss Committee of the Save the Children Fund;
Committee of Zemstvos and Russian Towns;
Universal Federation of Christian Students;
Imperial War Relief Fund;
Women’s International League of Peace and Freedom;
Near East Relief;
Kätha Bicker;
Russian Famine Relief Committee;
Save the Children Fund;
Society of Friends;
Save the Children Fund International Union.

The first meeting of the Committee included representatives of eight Governments, the League of Nations, the International Labour Office and thirty six Red Cross and Relief Organisations. Among those unable to be present were Mgr. Maglioue, Papal Nuncio at Berne, and Mr. Nunzius, Ambassador and Chairman of the International Committee for Russian Relief (Paris).

Mr. G. Ador read the report of the Joint Commission. This report summarised the origin of the movement for Russian Relief and the work of the Commission which led to the foundation of the International Committee for Russian Relief.

Mr. Ador declined in the name of the Commission to take the chair at the meeting and Mr. Cedercreutz, representative of the Swedish Government and the Swedish Red Cross was therefore asked to do so.

Mr. Ador expressed his gratitude and admiration to Dr. Nansen and his fellow workers for the magnificent work which they had so successfully undertaken in Russia.

Dr. Nansen then made a brief statement describing the work which had been done and explaining the relief organisation which had been set up in Russia. He pointed out the advantages of the system adopted according to which the relief organisation had a single representative who negotiated directly with the representatives of the Soviet Government and had the necessary authority to take all measures calculated to facilitate the work. This system had also been adopted by the Americans.

Dr. Nansen gave an account of the relief work which had been accomplished and paid tribute to the achievements of the Quakers, the American Relief Administration and the Save the Children Fund International Union. He stated that the two latter organisations dealt more particularly with the relief of children. He protested against the false rumours spread by certain agencies (such as that at Helsingfors). These rumours were doing great harm to the relief work.

He stated that all the goods arrived safely and in good condition and that the risk of loss or theft was less than in other countries to which the organisations in question had sent relief. He considered that the best method was to send provisions of one kind only, e.g. cereals. A ton of cereals was sufficient to save twelve lives for the five mouths up to the next harvest, at a cost of 33s, or about 180 Swiss francs.

Dr. Nansen stated that the famine district included the entire Volga valley and extended to Pern in the north and the Crimea in the south. Thus the whole of eastern Russia had been affected, though in the west the harvest was good.

The population of the famine districts was 32 or 33 millions and 13-19 millions of these were doomed to certain death if relief were not provided. Of this number 3,300,000(1) were at present in receipt of relief from Soviet or foreign organisations. The credits recently forwarded by the American Government will provide for another 6,200,000 but there will be at least nine million more who cannot all be saved owing to the disorganisation of transport. The maximum amount which the available means of transport can convey to the famine districts is 600,000 tons by the ports of Noverosidek, Riga and Reval. Of this quantity only 200,000 tons, or sufficient to provide for two to two and a half millions can be given to the starving population as the rest will have to be used for sowing.
Dr. Nansen concluded by paying a tribute to the memory of Mr. Gärtnér, Dr. Farrar and Miss Pattison (1) whose devotion had cost them their lives.

Statements were then made by Norman White of the Epidemic Commission of the League of Nations and by Bagodsky of the Soviet Red Cross, and the Committee passed a resolution expressing its gratitude to Dr. Nansen for the work which he had accomplished, and promising its active assistance in the future.

Mr. Frick, assistant High Commissioner, submitted the accounts of Dr. Nansen’s organisation, mentioning the main items of expenditure and sums received up to date. The latter amounted to 28,000,000 gold francs. Considerable as this sum is, it is far less than what is needed.

At its second and third meetings the Committee dealt with practical questions relating to the past and future work of the High Commission. Mr. Fimmen, the representative of the International Federation of Trade Unions, stated that the first thing was to gain public support for relief work and that it would then be easier to obtain the support of the Governments, which was absolutely necessary. He urged the Committee to send a delegation to represent it at the Genoa Conference.

In order to facilitate the supply of provisions, the Committee decided to point out to the organisations which provided relief the importance of sending supplies consisting of a few kinds of commodities only, particularly cereals for human consumption and hay for horses. It recommended its members to draw the attention of the various countries to the necessity of preventing a repetition of the famine in Russia in the future, by supplying agricultural machinery and tractors, and by assisting in the improvement of transport conditions.

The Committee also took measures with a view to intensive propaganda in favour of Russian relief. It was decided that Dr. Nansen’s High Commission should appoint a special official for this purpose. It was also decided to ask for the support of the press and for reductions in postal rates.

The Committee requested the organisations belonging to the International Committee for Russian Relief to proceed once more, and without delay, to bring pressure to bear on their respective Governments to provide relief either in money or in cereals, and to assist the work of the above organisations.

The Governments should also be informed of the serious danger arising out of epidemics largely caused by the famine.

The Committee passed a resolution stating that it considered it desirable to send representatives to Geneva for the

international conference which was to meet in March. It appointed a Commission consisting of the Chairman, Mr. Cedercreutz, Mr. Ador, Chairman of the Joint Commission, and Dr. Nansen, the High Commissioner, to decide whether it was desirable to send a delegation, and if so how it should be constituted.

The meeting proposed the three following methods to raise funds for the expenses of the Executive Committee of the International Committee for Russian Relief at Moscow, the central organisation at Geneva, and the general work of propaganda and distribution undertaken by the Committee:

1. The Governments, societies and organisations represented on the Committee should be invited to pay a fixed monthly contribution proposed by the High Commission.

2. They should be requested to send with each consignment a supplementary grant equivalent to one-hundredth per cent. of its value on arrival at the Russian frontier, if the expenses of distributing it were to be borne by the High Commission.

3. The High Commission should have power to deduct a maximum of 3 per cent. for administrative expenses and propaganda, from gifts in money received directly by the Secretariat of the International Committee for Russian Relief, or the High Commission.

It should be remembered that the High Commission makes a rigid distinction between administrative expenses and relief for Russia. All sums not definitely provided for administrative expenses are used entirely for famine relief and the expenses of the High Commission are defrayed by special contribution from the relief organisations. It was therefore necessary to propose an additional monthly contribution from the organisations for propaganda purposes.

On the proposal of Mr. Berry, representative of the Near East Relief, who was strongly supported by Mr. Ador, it was decided to ask the Governments and organisations of all countries to inform the International Committee for Russian Relief as soon as possible (before 1 March) whether they could extend their activities to the Ukraine, where there were eight million starving people and to the Caucasian Republics.

The reports of the principal relief organisations were read and the meeting was then concluded.

On the evening of 25 January Dr. Nansen gave a lecture after the conclusion of the first meeting. The hall was crowded and numbers of people had to be refused admission. Dr. Nansen showed films representing the horrors of the famine and the terrible distress prevailing in Russia. A collection was taken, and a large sum collected for famine relief. The lecture was twice repeated, with no less success, by

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(1) B. Russian Supplement, Vol. 3, No 6, p. 11, where, by an error, the name was given as Pattison.
Dr. Nansen and his interpreter. The sums collected at these lectures amounted to over 8,000 francs. This enabled the High Commission to send to Russia 40 tons of rye purchased in Poland, which would be sufficient to save 400 to 500 persons in the famine districts.

After the Conference of the International Committee for Russian relief Dr. Nansen left for England, where he received a warm welcome from members of the British Government and from the English people. Dr. Nansen addressed a crowded meeting in London at the Queen's Hall, where a unanimous resolution was passed in favour of relief credits for Russia. At a collection made afterwards the sum of £75 was subscribed.

The High Commissioner also spoke at Liverpool where some hundreds of people were unable to obtain admission to the hall. Dr. Nansen was loudly cheered after the meeting, and some of those present gave their jewels to the collection. The films and lantern slides had to be shown twice. Dr. Nansen is extending his propaganda campaign to all the big English towns and has had an interview with various commercial and industrial magnates from which important results are expected. The High Commissioner has also breakfasted with Mr. Lloyd George at Downing Street.

Dr. Nansen has already been made of the service of private parcels for Russia inaugurated by the High Commissariat for Famine Relief, 3, Passage des Lions, Geneva. We are asked to state in connection with this service that persons who receive parcels are not thereby deprived of the rations which they receive from the authorities.

3) American Relief Administration

The $20,000,000 voted by Congress have been received by the A. R. A. and will be applied to the purchase of food supplies and seed grain. The A. R. A. has also received $4,000,000 worth of surplus Army medical stores.

A purchasing committee has been appointed by President Harding and stocks are already "en route" or have arrived at Russian ports. The A. R. A. officials at Moscow are extending their programme to keep pace with incoming supplies. By 15 February 2 million children will be taken care of by the A. R. A. and from 1 March 5 million adults will be fed. 200,000 tons of seed will be sent for distribution among the peasants whose needs in the matter of food have already been supplied.

In every district where child feeding takes place medical directors have been stationed to combat typhus, while drug, hospital equipment, blankets and bedding are being distributed in accordance with the needs and the stocks available.

3) International Federation of Trade Unions

The International Federation of Trade Unions has undertaken the responsibility of feeding the Chuvash district of the Volga. Mr. O'Grady, head of the Famine Relief Commission of the International Federation of Trade Unions, left Moscow on 5 December to investigate conditions in the district and has made a report of which the following is a summary.

Mr. O'Grady arrived at Shikrany, in Chuvash, on 6 December and, in the course of a discussion with the authorities there on relief measures, was informed that there were 90,000 starving children in the various towns and villages. It was proposed to begin by feeding those living within 25 varas of the railway and later, if supplies and transport permitted, to feed those in the more remote villages. The distribution of food to children would be undertaken by schoolmasters.

Mr. O'Grady said that as he had not a large organisation the actual distribution would have to be left to the authorities and that it would be supervised by his agents, of whom there were four in Chuvash. He would leave it to the local authorities to decide whether the supplies should go first to the worst stricken villages or whether 40,000 children between certain ages and drawn from all parts should be fed by his organisation.

On 7 December several villages were visited. The physical condition of the inhabitants, and especially of the children, was found to be appalling. They had been living on clay, roots, acorns and the like, and have even stripped the thatch from their houses and chopped it up for food. In addition to hunger and the diseases attendant upon it, about 60 per cent were suffering from trachoma, a very infectious eye disease.

On the following day the town of Tatilusk was visited. The local hospital was clean and tidy but was badly in need of drugs and medical appliances. Though the hospital was only a small one, there were 19 cases of typhus, while many of the wards were occupied by patients suffering from the effects of having eaten pernicious substitutes for food. In this hospital alone 2,067 had already died from this cause. At the school, where there were ordinarily 210 pupils, about 30 per cent were absent because they were too weak to attend. No food had been supplied to the school for a fortnight and the majority of the children had supper only and no other meal. Some of those seen by Mr. O'Grady had brought a few acorns and other food substitutes to eat at school.

At Cheboksari, the capital town of the Chuvash district, Mr. O'Grady visited the hospital, the Children's Home and
PUBLIC HEALTH

EPIEMIOLOGICAL REPORT.

The following recent epidemiological intelligence is communicated by the Health Section of the League of Nations.

Ukraine.

Semi-official information received on 28 January from the Ukraine, which possesses its own public health administration, indicates that cholera has reappeared in Kieff, Odessa and Ehrakoff. In Kieff as many as 236 cases have been reported between the middle of December and the week ending 11 January, infection believed to have come from Riazan in Russia. Reference is also made to the prevalence of epidemic jaundice, cases of which still occur. The existence of famine conditions in South and South-East Ukraine is seriously affecting the epidemic situation.

Russia.

The Report of the People's Health Commissariat submitted to the 9th Meeting of the Soviets states that the decline in incidence of typhus and relapsing fever continued during the first ten months of 1922 (330,341 cases of typhus and 776,906 cases of relapsing fever were notified during this period). In November, however, as a result of conditions in the famine area, there was a marked increase in the prevalence of these diseases. This increase was particularly noticeable in the regions of the Ural, Volga, Turkestan and some parts of Siberia. The epidemic is specially severe along the railway lines, among the moving masses of hungry emigrants from the famine area, refugees and military detachments. The prevalence of typhus and relapsing fever in Petrograd and Moscow and some other towns is also mentioned.

The report further mentions that some cases of plague, introduced by a ship arriving from Constantinople, were notified in September in Novorossiisk. Several cases of plague were also reported during June-July in Turkestan on the Russo-Persian frontier.

Cases of cholera were still being reported in November, though the localities are not mentioned.
There were 62,642 cases of scarlet fever and 20,025 cases of diphtheria reported during the first nine months of 1921. These figures denote a low degree of prevalence when compared with pre-war figures; 460,108 cases of scarlet fever and 506,237 cases of diphtheria were notified in 1913. This is remarkable in view of the gigantic increase of other epidemics in Russia. 72,992 cases of smallpox were notified from January to October 1921, as compared with 98,176 cases reported in 1920 and 166,310 cases in 1919.

According to Incomplete Returns received by the People’s Commissariat, up to 3 January there were 7,681 cases of typhus and 7,725 of relapsing fever in Soviet Russia during the two weeks ending 10 December. Provisional reports state that 73 cases of typhus and 391 cases of relapsing fever occurred in prisons, 690 cases of typhus and 776 cases of relapsing fever on railways, 270 cases of typhus and 599 cases of relapsing fever in the Red Army, 38 cases of typhus and 78 cases of relapsing fever in the Red Navy.

Typhus continues to increase, notably in the government of Perm, where 1,408 cases occurred during the two weeks ending 10 December as against 830 cases notified in the whole month of October and 2,389 cases in November.

Relapsing fever is increasing in practically all the governments from which data have been received; 1,279 cases were reported in the government of Tambov during the week ending 3 December, as against 2,352 cases during the whole of the previous month.

It should be remembered that all figures from Russia and the Ukraine are only approximate, and the actual number of cases is usually found to be far above the number notified.

GENERAL

THE CENSUS OF RUSSIAN REFUGEES

Reference has already been made in the Daily Intelligence to the census of Russian refugees undertaken by the International Labour Office (1). The work was begun in September last and directions were given for the census to

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DEATH OF DR. PARDO

It is with deep sorrow that the International Labour Office learns, at the moment of going to press, of the death of Dr. Guido Pardo in Moscow from typhus.

Dr. Pardo, a well-known Italian economist, was head of the Russian Section of the International Labour Office, and was
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## AGRICULTURE

### AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY REQUIRED IN THE FAMINE AREA

#### Ploughs

The life of a plough is estimated at 10 years. The number supplied to Russian agriculture during the years 1906 to 1916, whether manufactured at home or imported, was about 8,300,000; it may therefore be assumed that this was the number of available ploughs in Russia in 1916. These were used over an area of 100,000,000 desiatin. Separate statistics for each Government do not exist, but it may be assumed that the 11 Governments of the famine area obtained ploughs in the same proportion as the rest of the empire. Whatever differences may have existed cannot be of very great importance owing to the wide extent of land in question. Assuming therefore the above figure of 8,300,000 ploughs for the whole of Russia in 1916, an estimate of 1,790,000 ploughs may be made for the 11 Governments concerned (21,420,000 desiatin).

From 1916 to 1921 the number of ploughs supplied to agriculture was about 20% of the quantity needed simply to maintain stock at the previous level. Thus a deficit has been produced during the last 5 years, amounting to 3,400,000 ploughs for the whole of Russia. For the 11 Governments the deficit is one of 715,000 ploughs.

#### Tractors

An estimate of the required number of tractors may be based on the following data. In order to cover the ground sown in 1916 in the 11 Governments, 3,936,000 draught animals would have been required. The number of animals at present available may be estimated at 2,990,000; there is thus a deficit of 1,000,000 animals, corresponding at the rate of one horse per six desiatina to 6,000,000 desiatinas which must be worked by mechanical means. In South East Russia a tractor can be used during 100 days of the year. The Kletsac, Fezdon, Titan, Mogul, etc., types can cover two desiatinas a day. Twenty to thirty thousand tractors must thus be taken into account; the 11 Governments, however, only possess 177 tractors of 7.105 horse power in all.

#### Harvesting Machinery

Before the war 114,000 harvesters were obtained for agriculture from Russian factories and 53,000 were imported. On the basis of relative area it follows that the 11 Governments require 130,400 machines, of which half are Mac Cormick binders and the other half Dingle mowers.

#### Other requirements

The amount of petrol required for driving the machinery is about 12,000,000 poods (2 poods per desiatina) together with 1,300,000 poods of lubricating oils. About 489,000 poods of baling, etc., are needed for the harvesting and binding machines. In addition some 20,000 skilled workers are wanted to run the tractors.

### Capital required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>715,000 ploughs</td>
<td>121,875,000 gold roubles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65,000 binders</td>
<td>1,460,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65,000 mowers</td>
<td>1,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30,000 tractors</td>
<td>300,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>490,000 poods of bales etc.</td>
<td>3,420,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90,000 sowing machines</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>370,415,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Extract from report in the Council of Labour and Defence, 1921.)

### INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION

#### MEMBERSHIP OF TRADE UNIONS

The new economic policy is exerting considerable influence on Russian trade unionism. Since the month of August, when the Narodniki (Order) of the Council of the Peasants' Commissaries of 5 August established the bases of trade union action for the reconstruction of industry, discussions on this subject have been frequent in the trade union movement.

One of the most debated points is the question of compulsory membership of trade unions. It may be monitored that adherence to a trade union was regulated by Article 5 of the model constitution of the All-Russian Union of Production, which runs: "As a result of the decision of the General Assembly or of the Congress of delegates, all the workers in an undertaking may be compelled to join the union", and in practice membership has become compulsory since 1921 in the majority of Russian unions.

On 28 December 1921 the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party appointed Lenin, Roudzoutak (member of the Transport Union, secretary of the Central All-Russian Trade Union Council) and Andrews (metal worker, member of the Central Russian Trade Union Council) to draw up theses on the function and duty of trade unions under the new economic policy. These theses were approved by the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party and by the Central All-Russian Trade Union Council. They were published in the Moscow Izvestia of 6 January 1922. Paragraph 5 of these theses runs as follows:

> The automatic enrolment of all paid workers in the trade unions has resulted in a certain element of bureaucracy in the unions, and has to some extent contributed to the alienation of the members. But this is now a necessity in order to ensure the survival of the unions. But this is now a necessity in order to ensure the survival of the unions. It is not enough simply to have an active membership, whether individual or collective. In no case may members of the union be required to hold specific political opinions... just as in the matter of religion, the trade unions must be impartial. All that may be required of members of the unions is that they shall understand the necessities of discipline and unity of forces for defending the interest of the workers and for strengthening their power, the power of the Soviets.

This new formula is clearly evidence of evolution. It is equally certain that the formula will not be accepted without discussion.
and active propaganda has in fact been taking place in the Soviet Press in regard to this resolution.

According to the Rosta (I) of Vienna of 4 November 1922, the Moscow Izvestia has conducted an enquiry amongst the chief trade union and communist leaders. The People's Commission of Labour, Mr. Schmit, member of the All-Russian Central Trade Union Council states: "A most important point in the new programme, in my view, is the passage on the principle of voluntary membership of the trade unions instead of the principle of compulsory trade union organisation. Voluntary admission will strengthen the authority of the organisations and will lead to much greater activity."

The general secretary of the All-Russian Trade Union Federation, Roudzoutzak, who is at the same time a member of the Supreme Economic Council, states: "Since the introduction of the new economic policy the trade unions have changed their methods, but they could not adapt themselves to the new conditions, became separated from the working masses, and the whole trade union organisation found itself in a very precarious position. Among the workers themselves there were those who spoke of leaving the movement. The theses of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party will restore to the trade unions their real significance, the object of trade union work will again be to defend the interests of the working class. The principle of voluntary admission will have a great influence on the constructive work of trade unions. Bureaucracy... will be impossible and the authority of the trade unions will increase in the eyes of the working masses. The trade unions will again become a live class-organisation."

Attention should be drawn to the indefinite character of the formula contained in the theses of Lenin, Roudzoutzak and Andreev. This point has been clearly brought out in an article by Yarotsky, which appeared in the Trud of January 1922, quoted by the Rosta of Vienna of 5 February 1922.

It must be very careful in the question of the enrolment of trade union members here in Russia. Everything in the trade union movement is not as it should be. It is very characteristic that we should consider admission to the trade union as compulsory. The idea is that this is absolutely essential to be a member of a union; but admission to a trade union should only be the logical outcome of economic development. The experience of the trade unions in other countries does not support this. But also abroad, shows that the worker must be free to decide whether he wishes to belong to a union or not. Every worker should decide this question for himself, but his decision must not be allowed to deprive other persons of the power to defend their interests. The breaking up of trade unions, for instance, admit of a kind of strike against workers who are not members of trade unions. The American Federation of Labor has conducted numerous disputes because the employers insist on the non-union shop; in other words, compulsory admission is not dictated by law, but is a requirement of the organised working class. The principle of voluntary admission... from the point of view of the State is not in contradiction with the principle of compulsory admission if admission is dictated by the movement itself."

It appears from these various sources of information that, properly speaking, there has been no sudden change in the trade union organisation in the last year, though Lenin's formula may bring the term "voluntary admission" into prominence, the words "whether individual or collective" still allow of interpretation of the resolution in a sense already indicated in practice by the model constitution, namely: compulsory admission under the pressure of the majority in the undertaking.

(Soviet Press.)

PUBLIC HEALTH

MEASURES AGAINST EPIDEMICS DURING 1921

(From the Report presented to the 9th Assembly of the Soviets.)

Among the sections of the Central Administration of the Russian Health Commissariat (I) ore a "Transit Section", an "Isolation Section", and a Section responsible for supply and distribution of sanitary material. It is said that there are 17,373 medical practitioners in Soviet Russia, and 36,301 doctor's assistants.

The epidemic hospital accommodation in June 1921 amounted to 75,000 beds. The number now available appears to be below this figure, financial considerations being responsible for the diminution.

In November 1921 there were 28 State bacteriological institutes at work. The output of smallpox vaccine lymph amounted to 18,000,000 doses; of cholera and typhoid vaccine 27,000,000 doses and of anti-diphtheria serum 2,144,000 doses.

The Transit Section is responsible for the sanitation of railways and waterways, and employs a medical personnel of about 1,600. During the first ten months of 1921, 53,663 cases of infectious disease were notified by the Transit Section. There are 175 "isolation stations" in the charge of this Section. In addition to these, certain special isolation stations are established by the Ministry of Public Health.

In the East, at Tashkent, Fergana, Samara, Zlatoust, Alexandrovsk, Murmansk and Siberian railway lines were in November crowded with sick refugees from the famine areas.

More than half a million passengers were vaccinated against smallpox between January and October 1921.

The disinfecting branch of the Transit Section possesses:

(1) The names of the other Sections will be found in the Daily Intelligence, vol. iv, no. 5, p. 121.)
124 sanitary disinfecting trains,
39 bathing and laundry trains,
13 feeding trains,
227 sanitary disinfecting stations on railways,
22 sanitary disinfecting stations on waterways.

These trains and stations have bathed and disinfected 384,489 persons, disinfected much clothing and distributed large quantities of foodstuffs.

The Waterways Sanitary Service is responsible for inland waterways and the Russian littoral of the Black Sea. Three quarantine stations at Odessa, Theodosia and Novorossiisk have been organised. Malaria was very prevalent along the inland waterways in 1921.

The Evacuation Section formed part of the military organisation till July 1921, when it came under the control of the Central Health Administration. In November it controlled 18 evacuation stations, 61 reception stations with 18,200 beds and possessed 68 sanitary trains. All the energies of this section were being devoted to the removal of children from the famine area when the report was written.

Military Sanitary Administration

Unsuitable barracks and quarters for troops, defective water supply and inadequate drainage were in large measure responsible for the bad health of the army. By May 1921, 17 detachments were engaged in constructing baths and 114 bathing and laundry stations, 101 mobile bathing establishments and 10 bathing and laundry trains were in use. All these were of service in the anti-typhus campaign.

It is said that 95 per cent. of the army were protected by inoculation against cholera and typhoid.

The incidence of malaria was very high and the supply of quinine was totally insufficient to meet the demand.

Tuberculosis had also a high incidence: infected soldiers have now to be discharged.

The statement is made that military hospital accommodation is sufficient for ten per cent. of the total strength.

The physical standard of naval recruits was low. The incidence of typhus fever, scurvy and relapsing fever in the navy amounted to 20.8, 84 and 34.5 respectively per thousand of strength. Lack of soap was responsible for an increased prevalence of skin diseases.

been opened in the southern cantons of the Republic and the population is absolutely incapable of supporting the journey of 200-250 vermi or more involved in finding food at Orenburg. Further, cases are dying off in large numbers, which makes transport very difficult. Relief is urgently wanted."

The following appeal has been issued by Maxim Gorki from Saint-Basens (Black Forest, Germany):

"Comrades! I am well aware that Germany has not enough bread for herself at the present moment to be able to share with her starving companions in Russia, yet their tragic fate calls upon us to appeal to you on their behalf. The population of the German colonies in the Jauwala Government, on the banks of the Volga and in South Russia are literally dying of hunger, living as they do like beasts on roots and herbs."  

6) RELIEF MEASURES

1. The Soviet Committee for Fighting the Famine

The High Commissioner of the International Committee for Russian Relief publishes the following report on the work of the Soviet Committee for Fighting the Famine (Pomgol) under the Commissariat of Public Health. This Committee was formed on 15 July 1921 as a result of a meeting of heads of sections in the Commissariat of Public Health of the Soviet Government. The President is Mr. Semashko, the Commissary of Public Health, and it consists of the heads of sections in question. Its work is being developed in two directions, namely, the study of the famine areas on the one hand, and the elaboration and application of practical measures for mitigating the effects of the famine on the other.

After holding an enquiry and meetings on the spot with representatives of the 5 Governments of the famine area, Samara, Saratoff, Simbirsk, Kazan and Ufa, the Committee started sanitary work by the famine areas, among the transports of the starving who had emigrated either of their own accord or by order of the Government, and in the districts where the latter had been established. A plan of action was drawn up and the expenditure provided for carrying out the work was estimated at a sum of 457 millions 548 millions Soviet roubles for one year, of which 5 millions would be granted to each Government suffering from famine. Pending the approval of the plan by the Council of People's Commissaries, the sums spent have been advanced out of the credits provided for fighting the epidemics.

So far the chief measures adopted by this organisation for fighting the famine have been as follows:

The Sanitary Epidemiological Section has despatched an anti-epidemic consignment of 400 beds to Tataristan, together with sums of money amounting to 286 - 400 million Soviet roubles to various societies.

The Transport Section sent two sanitary trains and one depot train in August and 9 sanitary trains in September. Later it sent one dispensing train and five trains equipped with bath. Further, 45 localities were selected as stations for the reception of refugees and emigrants. The trains have 21,400 beds at their disposal. The places specially designated for the evacuation of starving emigrants are Petrograd, Moscow, Bratsk, Kharkoff, Simferopol, Sebastopol, Kiev, Odessa, Rostoff on the Don, Krasnodar, Piatigorsk, Saratoff, Astrakhan, Ekaterinburg, Omsk, Kazan and Tashkent.

The Medical Section has arranged to place 30% of the beds in the hospitals of the famine Governments at the disposal of sick children.

The Section for the Protection of Children has contributed towards the organisation of 5 medical and food trains whose staff the y have specially trained. They have sent special inspectors to supervise the feeding and reception of children evacuated from the famine areas. The statistics they have drawn up of the number of children from 3-10 years of age in the famine areas are summarised in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Number of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tatar Republic</td>
<td>889,265 children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuvash Province</td>
<td>183,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mariiskia Province</td>
<td>85,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Samara</td>
<td>785,673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Simbirsk</td>
<td>319,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Ufa</td>
<td>418,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Saratoff</td>
<td>1,034,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Viazla</td>
<td>843,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Astrakhan</td>
<td>99,623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Tataristan</td>
<td>168,762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Community</td>
<td>171,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,201,087</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Organisation Section has sent a medical staff to the famine areas consisting of 16 doctors, 13 assistant doctors and 8 dispensers. In addition, it has reviewed the medical staff already sent to these areas after demobilisation. On 29 September 1921 it consisted of 32 doctors, 27 dentists, 33 dispensers, 95 medical students, 178 assistant military doctors and 4 sisters of charity.

The Supply Section has dealt with the despatch of linen, clothing and various materials to the famine areas. Among other goods it has issued to the hospital institutions of the Commissariat of Public Health, established in the various departments 2 million rubles (1 arshee = 2.33 feet) of cloth, 120 gross weigh of cotton, 100,000 arshines of tape, 10,000 plates, spoons and glasses, 26 stoves and 150 kettles. The institutions in question are in a wretched state, which makes the work of relief much more difficult.

The famine relief committee under the All-Russian Central Committee has been reorganised in view of the spring sowing season. The quantity of seed required is 30,753,000 pounds, of which the People's Commissariat of Supply will provide 25,000,000 pounds, the rest being purchased abroad.

2. The Soviet Russian Red Cross Society

According to the Bulletin of the Russian Red Cross Society (Soviet) the work of this organisation has taken the form of despatching medical and food detachments to the various districts. In each district there are two dispensers, 10 feeding centres and 30 persons (2 doctors, 3 assistant doctors, 11 nurses, 1 manager, 3 clerks and 29 subordinate employees). The food ration allocated to adults and children by the detachments is as follows:
### For an adult

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Grammes</th>
<th>Calories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bread</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>1048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meat</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat, 12 gr.</td>
<td>95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain, 50 gr.</td>
<td>224</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables (cabbage), 100 gr.</td>
<td>79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes, 200 gr.</td>
<td>192</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt, 25 gr.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1738</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### For a child

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Grammes</th>
<th>Calories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bread</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meat or Fish, 100 gr.</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat, 25 gr.</td>
<td>190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain, 85 gr.</td>
<td>277</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables (cabbage), 100 gr.</td>
<td>79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes, 200 gr.</td>
<td>192</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt, 25 gr.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk, 4 litres</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each sanitary detachment for fighting epidemics has been allotted a district as its sphere of action. It examines on the spot the places which are most dangerous from the point of view of epidemics, proceeds to disinfect the houses, and takes steps for organising baths. It works in contact with local sanitary organisations. A sanitary detachment for fighting epidemics consists of 12 persons (1 doctor, 1 assistant doctor, 1 manager, 2 instructors for disinfection and other workers). The funds of the Russian Red Cross Society are sufficient to maintain during the whole of 1922, 5 medical and food detachments and two sanitary detachments for fighting epidemics. The food supplies are provided by the Russian Red Cross Committee in America.

Special organisations for the relief of the starving have been created in several localities in the Tsarist Republic, in the Kirghiz Republic, at Smolensk, Orel, Omsk, Samara, Simbirsk, Saratoff, Tamboff, Penza, Homel, and Vitebsk.

The representative of the Russian Red Cross has been able to collect considerable sums in the United States sufficient for maintaining medical and food centres, each of which has 10 kitchens at its disposal. Famine relief committees have also been organised in other American States. The Canadian Relief Committee, among others, has sent foodstuffs to Russia to the value of 15,000 dollars.

In Europe the Russian Red Cross Committee in Germany has sent drugs to Russia to the value of 500,000 marks and has also sent 3,000 kgs. of fat. The Red Cross Committee in Finland has sent various commodities and drugs to the value of 1,215,819 Finnish marks.

3) The Children Fund International Union and the Executive Committee of the Jewish World Relief Conference.

On 15 February the Save the Children International Union signed a contract with representatives of the Jewish World Relief Conference in Russia, according to which the Save the Children International Union will establish an experiment, Jewish kitchens for a thousand children in the towns of Kieff, Jissar and Berdichev in the Ukraine. On the request of the Union, the Jewish World Relief Conference has accepted the principle that all destitute children, of whatever religion, may be admitted to the kitchens. The Director, appointed by the agreement, is to be of the Jewish faith, and the food will be prepared according to Jewish rites.

The Jewish World Relief Conference has handed over a preliminary sum of 40,000 Swiss francs for establishing these kitchens, and Dr. Nansen's High Commissioner for Russian Relief has sent the Union a similar sum of 40,000 Swiss francs for establishing other undenominational kitchens in such places in the Ukraine as will be selected later. General supervision will be in the hands of a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr. Demenci, formerly delegate at Belgrade, who will shortly leave for the Ukraine. The Ukrainian Red Cross will co-operate, and will store the goods in its warehouses.

The Executive Committee of the Jewish World Relief Conference, in view of its particular interest in the Ukraine, where there are large numbers of Jews, has similarly made arrangements with the A.R.A. and Dr. Nansen's High Commissioner for the despatch of food and other parcels to the Ukraine. The American Committee, in this organisation has similarly entered into an agreement with the A.R.A. for sending foodstuffs to Russia. By this means the Jews of South America, Australia and Africa are able to contribute to Russian relief.

4) The Sima Sobjar and Relief Expedition

The Swiss Save the Children Committee on its side has united with the Swiss Red Cross in preparing an important sanitary expedition to Russia. The relief work of these organisations is two-fold in character, the organisation of a Swiss hospital and the creation of Swiss kitchens. The centre located to it by Dr. Nansen is Tatsau. The first train will leave with foodstuffs and a delegation which is to examine on the spot the conditions for establishing the hospital, and a second train will bring the necessary equipment for the hospital and still more food, whilst yet another train has been provided for. The Swiss Red Cross and the International Save the Children Committee have received 500,000 francs up to the present, in addition to the 100,000 francs already promised by the government. They thus hope to be able to carry on their work for several months.

5) American Relief Administration

The A.R.A. has recently organised relief in the Ukraine. A contract has been entered into with Mr. Krausin, according to which the Ukrainian Soviet Republic places at its disposal two
million gold dollars for the purchase of foodstuffs and seed in the United States to be distributed to the starving in the Ukraine. In order to hasten the despatch of this relief, the first gold remittance for New York will be made immediately via Stockholm.

6) International Co-operative Alliance

The second meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alliance, which took place at Brussels on 29 January, decided to issue a fresh appeal for funds for Russia, which would be paid as before to Dr. Nansen's High Commissioner. The various national co-operative societies are to be requested to state what sums they have been able to collect so far, including the money to other organisations for the same purpose.

7) Workers' Committee for Russian Relief

This committee has just issued a fresh appeal on behalf of Russia, urging the workers to devote some hours of work, Sunday for instance, to production on behalf of Russia, and to try to induce their employers to manufacture in their factories some of the agricultural machinery so urgently required in that country.

4) Sweden

On 27 January 1922 the Swedish Government requested the Riksdag to grant a credit of one million kronor as a contribution towards the relief work of the Swedish Red Cross, and in particular for the Russian famine areas. The motion was first introduced in a cabinet meeting of ministers by the Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Branting, President of the Riksdag Finance Committee. It was approved by the latter, and after its adoption, which may be taken as certain, 22,000 persons and their live stock will be saved from famine.

9) Czechoslovakia

3,000 families have offered to take the children who are to be brought by the train service organised by the Government (1). Similar proposals have been brought forward on behalf of the intellectual workers of Petrograd and Moscow. The first despatch of five wagons took place in October last, and a second is in preparation.

The despatch of 37 wagon-loads of clothing, vegetables, sugar, coffee, rice, linen, etc., from the Czechoslovak Republic took place on 20 January under the superintendence of the Ministry of the Interior. A second consignment will soon follow. The Permanent International Committee is further preparing a great campaign for restoring Russian agriculture.

The Central Czechoslovak Co-operative Association has collected 157,000 kronen and commodities to the value of one million kronen, which are to be sent during the course of February. The Czechoslovak Trade Union Federation on its side has

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Famine

a) GENERAL

Dr. Nansen has continued the lecturing tour in Great Britain and on the Continent which he began immediately after the meeting of the International Committee for Russian Relief (1). He has lectured in the most important towns in Great Britain (Newcastle, Birmingham, Cambridge, Huddersfield, Edinburgh and Glasgow), in Paris, The Hague, Stockholm, etc. Everywhere he has had an enthusiastic reception, and as a result of the meetings held, generous contributions have been made to the Relief Funds. Dr. Nansen's lectures have succeeded in arousing public opinion in favour of the starving population of Russia. Everywhere unanimous resolutions have been passed urging Governments to grant relief credits for Russia.

The Swedish Government has granted the Swedish Red Cross a further credit of a million kronor for its relief work in the Government of Samara.

The Secretariat of the High Commissioner has received a wireless from Mr. Garvin, Dr. Nansen's representative at Moscow, stating that almost the whole of the southern half of the Ukraine is suffering from famine. This region includes the following territories: the Governments of Nikolai, Ekaterinoslav, Zaporozhye and Donetz; some districts in the Governments of Poltava and Kharkofo, amounting in all to about 190,000 sq. kms., with a population of five millions; and the Government of Odessa, with a population of about two millions.

Mr. Garvin states that he has no direct information concerning the situation in the northern parts of the Ukraine, but that he has been told that this region can produce but little, and is already engaged in Volga relief.

In the Zaporozhie Government, according to information available in February, out of a total population of 1,300,000 persons, 1,100,000 are starving, including 380,000 children under 16, and 10,000 children under five years of age.

In December, 1921, and in January, 1922, the number of deaths registered in that Government alone was 16,000. The Ukrainian Government is unable to relieve more than 2% of the starving population. Ukrainian humanitarian institutions, such as the Red Cross, are helping 20,000, but have exhausted their resources.

b) RELIEF MEASURES

1) The Soviet Committee for Fighting the Famine

In conformity with the decision of the Russian Famine Relief Commission, Siberia is to undertake the permanent relief of the starving population of the Volga region. All Siberian citizens will be divided into groups, each of which will adopt a proportionate number of starving inhabitants to whom they will supply rations at the rate of 1 lb. of bread or other food stuff per day, with two or three pounds additional ration at the end of every month. This form of relief is to continue until 1 August.

The following proclamation dated Moscow 20 February, 1922, has been issued by the President of the Central Famine Relief Commission to all Famine Relief Commissions of the District Governments outside the famine area:

"In two weeks' time, approximately between 1 and 15 March, the roads will begin to break in the Volga Region. The country will be flooded. Whole districts of the black-soil Governments of the Volga will be cut off from railways and administrative centres. The population of these districts, exhausted by famine and isolated from the rest of the Republic will begin to die out, while possibly whole trains with provisions and seeds will be only 30 or 40 versts away from the stations. This period during which the roads are impassable will probably put an end to actual famine relief work for a month or six weeks.

The population of the Governments outside the famine area is confronted by the task, not only of saving the people of the Volga Region, but also of enabling them to sow their fields and thereby to save the entire Republic. This task we are carrying out, but if by 16 March we have not succeeded in completing all the necessary work, we shall be confronted with disaster. It is not enough merely to supply the seeds; it is necessary to give people the possibility of sowing them. Sowing will begin immediately on the disappearance of the snow. If during the period immediately preceding sowing we fail to supply the necessary foodstuffs, the bread, people and horses, the fields will not be sown. The State is making strenuous efforts to maintain relief work at the present level during the whole of March. Everything that is necessary to be done during the period from 15 February to 17 March must be done by means of public assistance.

The Central Famine Relief Commission calls on all District Government Commissions of the Governments outside the famine area to realize clearly their duty as citizens and to perform it. Every effort must be made and every opportunity utilized in February; in particular the expenditure of relief funds locally must cease. Everything collected for the starving people must be sent to the famine district adopted by the District Government. By 1 March not a single rouble, not a single pound of provisions or piece of material must remain in the possession of the District Government Relief Commissions. All contributions must be exchanged for bread and other food and sent to the Volga Region. Every hour's delay means death to hundreds of thousands of human beings. Do not wait for any orders or instructions from the Central Authorities. Merely inform the Central Authorities of the despatch of the special food trains and give their numbers so that the Central Authorities may be in a position to ensure the trains reaching their destination."

(Moscow Wireless, 24 February 1922.)
2) **International Committee for Russian Relief.**

Towards the end of January, Mr. Gorvin, Dr. Naems's representative in Moscow, accompanied by Sir Benjamin Robertson and the late Dr. Pardo, visited the Volga famine area.

A report on this mission received at the High Commission states that during a journey of three weeks in the districts of Saratov, Samara and Buzuluk numerous towns and villages were visited and Russian and foreign relief work was examined. Although the area covered by the mission represents only an eighth part of the famine zone, it is capable of absorbing three times the relief supplies available. Many villages have been completely abandoned and in those visited the population had decreased by 20% since September 1921.

As Soviet rations suffice to save only 10% of the adult population from death, by starvation, and as foreign relief is practically limited to children, 70% of the population of the famine area is condemned to death unless help is sent immediately. Buzuluk is the chief centre of the famine and the situation there is likely to become worse, as Soviet relief cannot be extended and foreign relief arrives too slowly. Difficulties in transportation increase daily and in many villages 80% of the horses and beasts of burden have succumbed owing to want of fodder.

Mr. Gorvin states that the work carried out by the relief organisations is admirable and that the foodstuffs sent from Europe arrive regularly and are reserved exclusively for the starving population. Unfortunately the relief measures are insufficient to cope with the vastness of the problem. The question of the spring sowing is extremely grave as there are no stocks of seed on hand and even if the Soviet supplies be delivered in full they will cover only a fourth of the demand. The 1922 harvest must in any case be a comparatively small one. It is very difficult to decide whether to give precedence to the question of the spring sowing or to that of feeding the starving.

3) **American Relief Administration.**

In a recent report to President Harding on the results of the American efforts to relieve the Russian famine, Herbert Hoover, chairman of the American Relief Administration gave details of the financial resources of this organisation. They amount to $52,899,700. Of this total $32,000,000 is made up of the Congressional $20,000,000 gift and the Soviet appropriation in cash for the purchase of supplies. The rest was contributed by public and private bodies and individuals in the United States, $10,000,000 being the existing balance of the A. R. A. as derived from such sources, at the time when it began work in Russia.

The A. R. A. has now begun the feeding of adults. According to information of 1 March, twenty-five trains of the Congressional gift of corn had already left Novorossiask. Eighteen of these trains were in the Volga Valley on February 24 on the way to Samara, Saratov, Tzaritka, Ufa and Orenburg, the allocations of corn to these various districts having been made in accordance with previous investigations as to relative needs.

One Russian pound of corn in the raw state per day per person is the adult ration which the A. R. A. aims to provide. Owing to the need for haste it was impossible to provide a balanced ration, but directions are now being given for the cooking of this corn. Cards containing recipes for corn porridge, corn biscuits, corn soup, corn bread and corn gruel are being sent to all A. R. A. inspectors, village relief committees and distribution centres.

4) **Save the Children Fund International Union.**

Mlle Ferrière, Assistant General Secretary of the Union returned to Genoa on 22 February after a visit to the Saratov famine area.

During her stay in the town of Saratov, Mlle Ferrière was particularly occupied in visiting the canteens established by the Save the Children Fund and other committees affiliated to the Union. In the town there are 127 of such canteens, some being merely distribution centres, others children's homes. Each canteen bears a large notice indicating the country whence the supplies distributed emanate. The ration issued daily consists of a bowl of rice mixed with milk or cocoa and a piece of bread or a dish of beans and bread.

The situation in the province of Saratov is much worse than in the town as there are not sufficient rations to go round and a choice must be made of the children to be fed. The number of children who have literally nothing to eat increases daily.

Mlle Ferrière reports that the relief given by the S. C. I. U. is extremely well organised and too much praise cannot be given to the work of Mr. Webster and his colleagues. The system of control established permits a staff numbering 15 to exercise a very minute check on the thousand odd canteens throughout the province. An inspector entering any canteen at any hour can ascertain in half an hour the exact use made of the supplies received since the opening of the canteen.

It is highly important that all the supplies necessary to feed the children be concentrated in district depots by the end of March, as during the spring thaw transportation between the central depot at Saratov and the villages will become impossible.

5) **International Federation of Trade Unions.**

Mr. Arthur Wauters, the head of the first relief mission sent to Russia by the International Federation of Trade Unions, has recently returned to Brussels. He was sent out to organise the transport and distribution of 1,200 tons of foodstuffs sent to the starving by the International Federation of Trade Unions. An article in Le Soir (Brussels) gives some information communicated by Mr. Wauters as to his methods of work. Mr. Wauters lived for two months in the famine area, the region assigned to him being the area contained in the bend of the Volga southwest of Kazan.

The picture given by Mr. Wauters is very depressing. The ravages of famine and typhus combined have produced a situation which is almost desperate. The Commission established 1,000 kitchens, which distribute rations to 10,000 children. It is hoped
to be able to increase the number to 100,000 later on, but even that will be quite insufficient. There are, in fact, 370,000 starving children, out of a population of 800,000: Mr. Wauters testifies to the good will shown by the Soviet Government in assisting the work and states that there is no risk of anything being lost on the journey. This good will however, he states, is paralysed by administrative anarchy. The conditions of transport are extremely defective. As an instance, he mentions that goods which left Riga on 4 January did not arrive at their destination until 4 February. Engines frequently break down, or have to stop for want of fuel in deserted places where there is neither telephone or telegraph. The horses which Mr. Wauters requisitioned for over 2,000 sledges were continually collapsing on the road from the effects of insufficient feeding.

6) Red Cross Society (Belgium).

The Belgian Red Cross have been charged by the International Famine Relief Committee with the centralisation of Russian Relief work in Belgium. Arrangements have already been made to receive 200 starving children from Russia. It is hoped to increase this number to 600 in the future.

A delegate of the Belgian Red Cross will shortly leave for Russia to control the distribution of the food and clothing to the value of 750,000 francs granted by the Belgian Government and the other supplies received from voluntary contributions. The Belgian Red Cross is at present considering the possibility of installing a Belgian kitchen, or canteen in the famine area.

7) Women's Organisations.

The High Commission in the following organisations: National Association of Women in Norway, 3 contributions; 12,500 Norwegian kroner; National Council of Women, Sweden, 1,700 Swedish francs; National Council of Women, Denmark, 6,178 Swiss francs; Women of Iceland, 57,153.

8) Canada.

An influential Save the Children Fund Committee has been formed in Canada. Mr. Mackenzie King, Premier of Canada, will act as honorary president and several other Federal Ministers also hold offices. A national executive is being formed and each province will have a local executive.

As yet the Federal Government has made no promise of a definite financial grant but it is understood that as soon as there is evidence of substantial measure of private generosity, it will be supplemented by the Federal Treasury. The free services of the Canadian national railways and Canadian merchant marine have been promised for transport of foodstuffs and other supplies. No separate organisations will be set up in Russia, it being the intention to use the machinery of the British Save the Children Fund.

The Committee are already able to report the receipt of some substantial subscriptions.

9) Great Britain.

The three societies who are at present engaged upon the work of famine relief in Russia, the Russian Famine Relief Fund, the Save the Children Fund and the Society of Friends, have agreed to combine their efforts. Sir Benjamin Robertson, who recently visited the famine area, has undertaken the direction of operations on their behalf, assisted by a representative from each, and an all-British appeal is being issued to obtain the support which is required for this purpose.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Epidemiological Report.

Russia

A report, dated February 10, calls attention to the very serious health conditions prevailing in Minsk. The hospitals, with accommodation for 700, are all crowded. There is a lack of sanitary materials, food, fuel, soap and bathing plant. A party of 5,000 persons of German origin who recently arrived from the Volga region are very heavily infected. Five hundred Polish refugees remain sick in the town.

Ukraine

Semi-official information received February 20 states that cholera is spreading rapidly in the Ukraine and that the needs of the moment are much in excess of the resources of the Health Administration. There is a serious shortage of sanitary material and drugs. Enteric fever is likewise spreading. The number of cases treated in the hospitals in the Ukraine during November and December last was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cholera</td>
<td>437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typhus fever</td>
<td>7,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relapsing fever</td>
<td>18,458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typhoid fever</td>
<td>14,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fever (not diagnosed)</td>
<td>5,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's infectious diseases</td>
<td>9,410</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Epidemiological Report of the League of Nations, 22 Feb. 1922.)
AGRICULTURE

Sowing Prospects.

An article in Economicheskaiia Zhizn describes the progress made up to date in providing the seed required for 1922.

According to the calculations of the State Plan (Gosprom) which were based on data received from the Central Statistical Department, the area of arable land to be sown in the spring of 1922 was 6,244,000 desiatinas and required 33,000,000 poods of seed.

The Council of People's Commissaries, taking into consideration the actual resources of the country, reduced this, first to 25,000,000 and finally to 19,800,000 poods.

At present it is extremely doubtful whether even this amount of seed can be furnished as numerous centres have notified the impossibility of providing the grain required, and even where sufficient stocks are available the present state of the transportation services causes grave doubts as to whether they can be conveyed to the collecting points in time to be utilised. Another factor militating against the realisation of the government project is the want of facilities for sorting the seed. These are entirely wanting in many centres and must act adversely on the ultimate success of the plan. The transportation service however remains the greatest stumbling block. According to plan 8,200,000 poods of seeds were to be transported in December last, but on account of transportation difficulties only 1,077,000 poods, or 13% of that total, were moved.

In January, although a considerable improvement is to be remarked, the total moved only reaches 2,414,525 poods or 15% of the estimate for that month, and altogether according to reports received up to 24 January 3,492,025 poods have been moved, which represents 17% of the total amount.

It is evident from this that February will be the decisive month and that 8,000,000 poods of seeds must be transported without fail during that month while the remaining 4,000,000 poods must be moved in the first fortnight of March.

It is highly important that attention be given to the speeding up of movements of grain trains and their average daily speed considerably increased.

There is no doubt that the Government and central organisations will take all possible measures for the provisioning of the famine area, but this is not enough. It is indispensable that every railwayman, all workers in agricultural organisations and all local agricultural bodies should clearly realise the immensity and the importance of the present task.

(Economicheskaiia Zhizn, 15 February 1922.)

GENERAL

CHANGES IN THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

The Fourth Congress of Workers in the Soviet Judicial System was held in Moscow from 26 to 29 January 1922 at the request of the All-Russian Soviet Congress, in order to adapt the organisation of the Soviet Judicial System to the new economic policy of the Bolshevik Government.

The organisation of justice in Soviet Russia up to the present may be summarised under the following heads:

(1) Revolutionary tribunal. This was created by a decree of the Council of People's Commissaries dated 4 November 1917, and was completely reformed by a fresh decree dated 12 April 1919. The object of the Revolutionary tribunal is particularly to fight political and economic counter-revolution, to prevent abuse of power and to deal with acts directed against the regime established by the revolution of October 1917. It is thus an extraordinary tribunal. There are three judges, who are changed monthly but are eligible for re-election. The tribunal has absolute and unlimited power to inflict penalties, and it may refuse to admit or give a hearing to parties. There is a supreme revolutionary tribunal for more serious crimes, which also serves as a final Court of Appeal. It is under the control of the All-Russian Executive Committee.

(2) People's Courts. These courts were instituted at the beginning of the revolution in order to take the place of the former courts. A people's court consists of a judge elected by the local Soviet and two or three assistant judges (according to the importance of the case) appointed by factory committees, trade unions and all other local organisations of workers and peasants. The people's 'court is competent in all commercial and civil cases; prosecution and defence are in the hands of "honourable" citizens of both sexes.

The people's courts of a District Government constitute a judicial circuit, at the head of which is a council of people's judges, who form a Court of Appeal consisting of the President, and his deputy, as permanent judges, and two or six deputy judges selected.
from among the people's judges and sitting in rotation. The penalties they may impose are fines, public censure, imprisonment and penal servitude.

(3) Extraordinary sessions of the people's courts were instituted in order to deal with more important matters, because the Soviets considered that the courts were not acting with sufficient severity. There is no appeal against their decisions, but the Central Executive Committee has the power to modify them.

(4) The local organs of the Commissariat of Justice are attached to the District Government Soviets and exercise local judicial powers in accordance with the constitution of the Soviet Republic, by which District Government Soviets possess limited jurisdiction in their respective territories. They are under the supervision of the Commissariat of Justice at Moscow.

(5) The Extraordinary Commission for fighting counter-revolution and speculation (Cheka). This Commission was formed at the beginning of the revolution, primarily in order to discover hoarded food stores, afterwards chiefly in order to fight counter-revolution. It had branches in every town, which were given police functions and judicial powers, i.e. the accused persons were arrested, imprisoned, cross-examined (often tortured) and in many cases shot. It was the organ of the terror. The Cheka acted against all «suspects» with extreme severity and rendered other courts insignificant or useless. The «administrative sections for judicial enquiry» under the Cheka undertook enquiries and examinations, thus replacing the magistracy and regular courts.

The Proposals.
The modifications suggested in the resolutions adopted by the Congress are as follows:

People's courts.
The Congress recommends the abolition of the local organs of the Commissariat of Justice when the courts are re-organised. A single court would be preferable which would have greater authority if based on definite laws and regulations. A supreme organ of judicial organisation should be created in the form of a Supreme Court of Appeal to regulate and control the activities of the courts. The «extraordinary sessions» of the people's courts should be retained in order to deal with more important cases.

The Revolutionary Tribunal.
On the question of the revolutionary tribunals, the Congress supported the thesis of Lunin who emphasised at length the need for maintaining these special tribunals as bodies intended to fight all counter-revolution and speculation aimed against the gains achieved by the revolution of October 1917 and the dictatorship of the proletariat:

Extraordinary Commission for fighting counter-revolution and speculation (Cheka).
The administrative sections for judicial enquiry under the Extraordinary Commission for fighting counter-revolution and speculation should be abolished, and their work assigned to organisations for examination and enquiry attached to the people's courts and subject to the control of the magistracy. This would make the Extraordinary Commission a simple police organisation and would deprive it of its judicial attributes (1).

The bar, magistracy and bench of solicitors.
A corps of magistrates, as well as a Bar and Solicitors' Bench should be created. Further, courses for the instruction of new workers under the judicial system should be instituted.

The Criminal Code.
Criminal investigations should come within the jurisdiction of the People's Commissariat of Justice. A criminal code must be drafted, based on the principle of protecting the proletariat and its rights against the petty bourgeois and international capitalism. Obviously the code will differ from those adopted in other countries. Penalties must not be considered solely from the point of view of punishment, but also as measures of social protection.

Crimes.
A distinction should be made between crimes committed against the present state of things, i.e. the legal revolutionary order, which should be punished by certain minimum penalties, and crimes known as «remnants of the old regime», for which the penalties may not exceed a certain legal maximum.

Preventive detention should not exceed twenty-four hours without confirmation by the judicial bodies, if the accusation has been established, and by the magistracy, if the enquiry has not yet reached any result.

No charge should be brought after the lapse of a period varying from three to five years, according to the crime.

These resolutions, together with others relating to the improvement of the position of judicial workers, were transmitted to the People's Commissariat of Justice. Decision lies in the hands of the latter body, as well as with the Council of People's Commissaries and the All-Russian Soviet Executive Committee.

(1) Since the meeting of the Congress the Cheka has been abolished by Decree and a State Political Department (attached to the Commissariat of the Interior) set up in its place.
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In view of the importance which the Soviet press attaches to this Congress, and as most of the resolutions were supported by the Commissary for Justice, they will probably be adopted.

A first result of the Congress is indicated by the following Moscow telegram (1) dated 22 February 1922:

« Moscow, 18 February 1922.—The People’s Commissary for Justice has finally drawn up the penal code which is shortly to be submitted for approval to the All-Russian Executive Committee and the Council of People’s Commissaries. This code of 247 sections is entirely different from those of other countries. »

(1) (Rossiia Vnesi, 23 February 1922.)