



OCTOBER, 1925.

GUARANTEED CIRCULATION, 30,000.

No. 35.

WHAT WILL THE MINERS DO?

At the present time public attention is attracted to miners and the miners. The trouble arose through the obvious intention of the mineowners to bring about a reduction of wages, either directly or by means of a lengthened working day.

Everybody—at least professedly—sympathized with the miners, whose work was very hard, very dangerous, and of a most depressing type. It is a pity that all male workers are not considered as a sort of national obligation, to spend, say, six months working in mines as an object-lesson in the kind of life that other people have to live. There would be a widespread recognition of the arduousness, the danger, and the depressing circumstance which falls to the lot of the miner, and the sympathy would become so real as to bring about an urgent and nation-wide demand for short hours and better wages for miners forthwith. Short of the personal experience, it is very hard for unimaginative and "comfortable" citizens to know what working at the coal face means. Darkness (unbroken save for the glimmer of safety lamps), dirt that is everywhere, very often water, too; a hundred yards or so of the earth's crust above them, a comparatively small wage even at the best—that is the lot of the miner. As for danger, consider these official figures of the casualties resulting through mining accidents during the past three years—

	Killed.	Injured.
1922	1,105	185,515
1923	1,207	211,598
1924	1,293	217,050

Our industrial soldiers are waging no easy warfare, and the least we can do is to come to the rescue by corporate action to secure them short working hours, not merely "living" but good wages, and all the devices for safety and comfort that modern ingenuity can devise.

The Sympathizers.

But immediately we begin to talk like this, and to attempt to translate sympathy into action, along comes somebody or other, who has probably never fished coal even from his own cellar, to say that the industry cannot afford it. Well, we know that very well, so long as the industry is run as it is. In fact, that is our argument to prove that the industry is run on wrong lines.

Any such attempt to justify abominably bad wages and long hours is worthy of the worst individualism of the early

part of the nineteenth century. Even a Conservative Government has felt compelled to offer a subsidy while an inquiry takes place into the mining industry, which surely is a pretty sure sign that the miners have put up a good case. True, it is composed of people who cannot help but take the side of the mineowners, and cause their instincts, their traditions, and towards workers generally. This is not said by their class have shaped their attitude to say they are dishonest, but that they are unable to get away from the class they represent. Imagine a panel of prosperous shopkeepers being asked to judge quite into co-operation—why we should give their decision before they themselves had met! The miners, in our view, were perfectly right in asking that their interests should be represented on the Commission.

Colliery Owners' Advertisements.

Meantime, we should like to ask where the money comes from to pay for the costly "advertisements" in all kinds of newspapers inserted by Mr. Philip Gee on behalf of the "colliery owners of Great Britain." Do the Commissioners of Inland Revenue allow subscriptions paid by colliery companies for this purpose to be deducted from profits before assessing tax? And, if so, how can they consider that the expense is a justifiable one for the purpose of producing coal? Mr. Philip Gee's department to bolster up private industry must be quite as costly in itself as a Government Department in control of the mines would be, and the whole of that cost—salaries, expensive and numerous advertisements, offices, &c.—is paid by people who buy coal.

The Subsidy.

As to the matter of the subsidy, it is perfectly right, under existing conditions, that an industry which cannot pay decent wages for reasonable hours should be helped out of the common pool, so far as wages are concerned. That is only another way of charging the whole community more for coal; it is but one more very small attempt to alleviate the fearfully unequal distribution of national income. It is also one more piece of evidence that the crazy method of supplying our needs called capitalism has broken down. Capitalism might, in fact, have been designed by Mr. Heath Robinson in one of his more humorous moments—but starving miners cannot be ex-

pected to see the humour of it! They very rightly make a noise about it, and very rightly draw the attention of the Government to their condition. And it is our reasonable duty, as citizens, to see that something more intelligent than the founding of the O.M.S. is done to remedy matters. If cholera broke out in the East End of Sheffield, we should hardly be rational beings if our City Council ignored the fact and the West End responded to the need by merely forming itself into an O.M.S. to see that no East End dweller were allowed to visit Rannmore for fear of contagion! There is real virtue in seeing that essential services are always maintained, but the first essential service in this case is a decent wage and reasonable short hours for every miner. The O.M.S. ought to be cancelled by economic circumstance to work for six months in the mines; the experience would re-direct its social enthusiasm along right lines.

The Same Remedy.

Along what line shall we find the ultimate solution? In these days inquiry is not necessary; the case has been made over and over again. When England deals with its precious coal resources as Sheffield has done with its water resources the problem will have gone. Water is no longer for us the sport of economic circumstances; in the very dry summer of 1921, when supplies were low, there was no extra charge for water over what we paid in the very wet summer of 1924. This is the complete overthrow of the economic and general ideas of mineowners, and indeed, of all business men, who are afraid of what they are pleased to call "economic laws." Our main criticism of business men to-day is that they are not business-like enough; they are eighteenth century men in twentieth century circumstances.

The remedy is co-operative ownership and management of the mines in the public interest. Let there be no mistake about it; both Mr. Baldwin and the mineowners know this is coming!

Where is the Money Coming From?

Briefly, it isn't coming from anywhere. The man who asks such a question brands himself as being too incapable to use his vote with intelligence. If the Conservatives make this transfer of mines from private to public property, it will

be done badly. They very likely will because they know full well that some government or other must soon do so, and they will benefit most in the long run by doing it themselves.

In that event, they will add to the National Debt by handing out Government scrip in exchange for colliery shares, and no doubt for royalties and way-leaves also. Whilst this may possibly mean better conditions for miners, it cannot mean that the mines themselves will necessarily prove more remunerative than before. In the interest of the miners and of the general public we should tax all holders of private capital in order to pay out the mineowners, the resters of royalties, and of way-leaves. By any other method (short of confiscation) the mines will have to pay the same profits (and possibly even more) than they have done hitherto, or a permanent subsidy granted in order to enable them to do so. These profits would be paid out hitherto not as dividend on colliery shares, but as State-guaranteed interest on a national loan.

Unless you keep your eyes very wide open indeed, then, the chances are that a Conservative Government will turn the agitation of the miners for a living wage to the advantage of the monied classes by making what is a speculative investment in mining shares, a very much better remunerated holding in Government Stock. A Conservative Government can make the nationalisation of mines appear to be a financial failure, and it is in its interest to do so. We ask our readers, is it reasonable to trust any Government to pass legislation in which it confessedly does not believe?

There is no satisfactory solution by way of a Co-operative—or of a Liberal—Government. The people must own their own mineral resources, and work them in the public interest. The cost of purchase must be charged to the holders of capital, who is the accumulated proceeds of the exploitation of the workers, especially during the past hundred years. The workers have been robbed of the increased values of land, as well as of land itself; they have worked hard for long hours, and made others richer. They must take back by courageous legislation those things by which alone a people can live, and see that they are used amply, but economically, for the public good. The advantages of every new machine invented, and of every scientific discovery and invention of any industrial importance, must be for the whole community. At the present time these are the means by which the rich assess a perpetual tax upon the poor.

BRIGHTSIDE AND CARBROOK CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

COAL DEPARTMENT.

FREE!

If you want a real one delivered free, Try our SPECIAL LINE.

"Smooth Brights" House Coals
35/- PER TON, DELIVERED FREE.

The Hottest Ever. No Slack. No Dust. Lights Quickly. Free Burning. Brown Ash.

Absolutely "IT."

FOR FULL PARTICULARS OF OTHER QUALITIES, ALL AT KEEN PRICES, APPLY AT BRANCHES.



PARTNERS ALL

Handed and heart sound,
All backs together bowed!

THREE million six hundred thousand (3,600,000) men and women members of Retail Co-operative Societies are the Proprietors of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society. C.W.S. Trade in 1924 was £72,000,000
Share Capital £3,783,837
Reserve, Depreciation, and Insurance Funds £6,579,229
Number of Employees 40,000

ARE YOU A PARTNER?

All people of good will are eligible to join and purchase the productions of the C.W.S., viz., Pure Food, Correct Clothing, All-Leather Footwear, Fine Furniture—in fact, every domestic supply—and participate in the benefits.

ARE YOU A PARTNER?

Join the nearest Retail Co-operative Society at once—it costs about a shilling—and become a Shareholder in this great and growing organisation of consumers.

THE BRIGHTSIDE AND CARBROOK CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

have now

THE MOST UP-TO-DATE MILK PASTEURISING PLANT IN THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE.

PRESENT WEEKLY
OUTPUT IS OVER **14,000 Gallons.**

With our New and Enlarged Plant we have
now the capacity to

DOUBLE THIS OUTPUT.

Our MILK is Supplied direct from
the **DERBYSHIRE DALES.**

All dust, dirt, and possible disease germs are
removed by our Special Pasteurising Process.

PURE RICH MILK OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY ONLY IS SUPPLIED
Recent experiments have succeeded in obtaining 2lbs. of diet and fat
from 16oz. in one day's supply.

— DO NOT DRINK IMPURE MILK. —

GET THE PUREST AND BEST FROM YOUR OWN SOCIETY.

Every Co-operator wanting Strong Boots for Hard Wear,
Nailed or Budded,

Should visit the Stores for choice made by the

Chesham Boot and Shoe Manufacturers Limited.

Makers of the C.B.M. Brand in Men's, Youths', Boys', and Girls' Boots.

MUNICIPAL TOPICS.

By COUNCILLOR E. S. NICHOLSON.

At the City Council meeting held on Wednesday, September 30th, the two orders lauding items were: (1) The proposal for the Corporation to find work for the able-bodied unemployed in receipt of relief, and (2) the half-yearly financial statement.

The Local Budget.

Alderman Blanchard, in introducing the budget, pointed out that the total estimated expenditure for the year was £1,420,768, which was reduced by £234,776 from various sources, including transfers for relief of rates from trading departments, leaving a total of £1,185,992. As the amount of precepts raised for the half-year to September 30th was £663,048, this leaves the amount required for the half-year ending March 31st next £522,942. This will entail a rate (including Year Rate) of 8s. in the pound in the old Sheffield Union area, and 10s. in the pound in the old Ecclesall Union. The reason for this difference of 2s. in the pound is that in the arrangement for the amalgamation of the two Unions it was provided that the Poor Rate in the Ecclesall Union should not exceed 2s. in the pound for seven years. In the criticisms which followed Alderman Blanchard's statement, it was pointed out that something like one-third of the huge sum budgeted for was for redemption of debt and interest. Attention was called to the practice which had operated (and still continues) of borrowing money for renewals, &c., in the trading departments and at the same time devoting employees (so-called) in these departments to the relief of rates. This year the Tramways undertaking has contributed £31,383, the Electric Supply Department £80,767, and the Markets £2,339. Since 1920 the Electric Supply Department has contributed £230,234 to the relief of rates, and since its inception the Tramways has contributed towards the same object no less a sum than £64,178. If some of this money had been used by this department to "pay its way," it would not have had to find last year £43,958 for interest and £59,870 for sinking fund—equal to a 100 per cent. rate.

Task Work.

Amongst the minutes of the Finance Committee brought up for confirmation was the following: "It was reported that representatives appointed by this committee at their last meeting had conferred with representatives of the Sheffield Board of Guardians with reference to certain schemes of work which the Guardians had requested the Corporation to provide for able-bodied unemployed in receipt of relief from the Guardians, and that certain schemes had been approved on the conditions now mentioned."

Councillor Humberstone, on behalf of the Labour Group, moved an amendment that this should not be confirmed, and that the Corporation should employ the men direct and take them off relief, thus removing the stigma of pauperism. A long and spirited debate ensued. It was pointed out that before the Council accepted the meagre statement on the minutes it ought to know more of the arrangements entered into. From what had leaked out, it would appear that if a man was entitled to, say, 7s. from the Guardians as relief, he would have to work 12 hours (whether 8 and 4, or 6 and 6, or six 2's we cannot discover) for 2s. 6d. an hour. Whilst at this work, if a man should be injured he would not be entitled to the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Act, nor entitled to have stamps put upon his card in conformity with the Unemployment Insurance Act. The contention of the amendment was that if the Corporation could find the work to do it should be done under proper conditions, without pauperising the man. In reply to the argument that the Corporation could not find money for any more work, it was pointed out that for the work suggested to be done the money, and therefore it was merely taking it out of the left-hand pocket instead of the right hand. Another point

which was emphasised was the fact that for work of public utility undertaken to provide work for the unemployed, the Corporation is entitled to apply for a Government grant of 60 per cent. of the wages cost. Under this "task work" scheme such grants would not appear to be available, and therefore such scheme seems to be uneconomical from that point of view. During the course of the debate it was stated that since the jobs on which work is to be found for men on relief is the making of an open-air bathing pool in Bowden, Hemmets Wood. It was shown at once that the committee responsible for this work had already decided to apply for the 60 per cent. grant, and this fact merely emphasises the simpler nature of the proposal and the simplicity with which it is bound to be regarded. The Labour amendment was lost by 23 votes to 30.

A further amendment was then moved, that work under the scheme should not be proceeded with until arrangements had been made, with the Ministry of Labour for stamps to be affixed to the men's unemployment cards. During the debate on the former amendment several members of the Citizens' Party had expressed themselves as favourable to the cards being stamped, and the chairman of the committee agreed to representations being made to the Ministry to this effect. Under the circumstances, one hoped that this amendment would have been accepted. It, however, met the fate of its predecessor, being defeated by 30 votes to 21. It behoves the Labour Group, alike on the City Council and Board of Guardians, to keep a watchful eye on the working out of this scheme.

Id. in the £ Hospital Scheme.

On the minutes of the Electric Supply Committee was a recommendation that so far as that department was concerned the employees' contribution to coe-funds be made. In this connection Councillor Humberstone pointed out that whilst last year the workmen employed by the Corporation contributed £5,746, the Corporation itself contributed only £593, and £443 of that was by the Tramways Department. He suggested that the department's contribution should date back to the inception of the scheme. If the Corporation had paid in ratio to their employees, their contribution would have been £7,915 instead of £593. It was pointed out that there were quite a number of accidents in this department which necessitated hospital treatment, and Councillor Humberstone stated that since the inception of the rd. in the pound scheme there was a deficit in the cost of the treatment of Corporation employees of £2,712. It would appear, as stated by a member of the Council, that the Corporation has been "sponging" on its hospital. Whilst we are of opinion that the time is overdue when municipalities should be responsible for all hospitals instead of only those for the treatment of infectious diseases, until such time is reached the civic authorities should at least be in the forefront and set an example to other employers in the penny in the pound scheme.

Women Police.

There was an echo of the turning down of the Watch Committee's minutes two months ago in the notification on this month's minutes that two women were to be appointed to the police force.

**LEICESTER 'SELF-HELP'
BOOT & SHOE MANUFACTURING
SOCETY.** : Darnall Rd., Leicester.

Manufactured in all kinds of
LATVIE & GIBBS' BOOTS & SHOES.

TRADE UNIONS EMPLOYED. All English
No Slaves, No Child Labour, No
Capital and Colours. : Ask in your Name the
"SELF-HELP" Brand.

ALEXANDER WITH HIS CONSTITUENTS.

HILLSBOROUGH MEMBER'S FINE WEEK'S WORK.

At the King Edward Hospital. Mr. ALEXANDER spent a week of the Parliamentary vacation amongst his constituents, September 7th to 14th. In the first place, he paid a visit to the King Edward VII. Hospital for Crippled Children, in Rivelin Valley, where Dr. Pattison is doing a splendid work on behalf of children suffering from tuberculosis and wasting diseases. The hospital is not merely devoted to physical curative methods, but is also doing a fine educational work. The children are being taught as well as healed.

Mr. Alexander was delighted with the splendid humanitarian work that is being carried on at this institution, under the enthusiastic management of Dr. Pattison, who is devoting the whole of his time and intelligence to restoring these kiddies back to a happy and healthful life. No more Christian work is being done anywhere in the country than in the Rivelin Valley, on behalf of these unfortunate children whose whole lives would otherwise be blighted.

With the School Children.

Mr. Alexander's interest in education is well known, and his seventeen years'

experience in a County Council Education Office has served him in good stead as a public representative on more than one occasion. He is closely conversant with elementary education, and was anxious to acquaint himself with the various day schools in the constituency. Accordingly, during the week's visit, he spent several morning meetings one or more of the elementary schools. Neepsend Council School (where Mr. Alexander is president of the Parents' Association), Bole Hill Council School, Walkley Council School (Greaves-street), Hillsborough Council School (Parkside-road), and Langsett-road Council School (Barton-street), were all visited in turn. The Member for Hillsborough was pleased to note the very definite progress in elementary educational methods in the city, and the information gathered during the visits will be very useful in the House when educational matters are under discussion. We may add, also, that the initiative and originality of the teachers—who give far more time to the work than is generally understood. The Member for Hillsborough was pleased to note the very definite progress in elementary educational methods in the city, and the information gathered during the visits will be very useful in the House when educational matters are under discussion. We may add, also, that the initiative and originality of the teachers—who give far more time to the work than is generally understood.

At the Hillsborough Institute.

On Friday, September 11th, Mr. Alexander addressed a well-attended meeting in the Hillsborough Co-operative Institute. Councillor A. Spencer presided, and in opening the meeting, stated that if it were true the people got the Government they deserve, the British people must be in a bad way. Referring to the question of unemployment, he showed that ten months of Tory Government had not only left the problem of unemployment unsolved, but had accentuated the problem; and the result of their present policy was to increase the poor-law burden on local authorities. They had increased rates and rendered unemployment in this city still more prevalent. He also denounced the suggested scheme of task-work as "playing with the problem," and he strongly advocated the acceptance by the Government of full responsibility for unemployment as a national matter.

Present Government's Failures.

Mr. Alexander examined in detail the work of the present Government. Quoting from the "Daily Mail," the "Westminster Gazette," and "The New Statesman," he showed that on the admission of all parties—even Tory newspapers—the Government was an abject failure in every respect, particularly in the realm of foreign policy, where British prestige had been lowered to a deplorable level.

Missed Opportunities.

Pointing out the position when the Labour Government retired, he clearly

demonstrated that the Tories had as fine a chance as any Government of our time, and yet they had missed every opportunity, and instead of following the splendid lead given by the Labour Government, they had thrown away all their chances, and were now bankrupt and concerned. The Conservative Party was returned on a false cry. The Red menace was merely a smoke screen to divert the attention from the successful work of the Labour Government which preceded them. As the Zinoviev letter had succeeded, another smoke screen, in the shape of the "Red Menace," was being thrown up in order to conceal the Government's abject failure.

On the question of the Communist danger, he would only say that no reform could be successfully carried out by force. To attempt this was to ask for one of two alternatives—either anarchy or dictatorship.

False Economy.

Quoting freely from the "Daily News Trade Editor," the "Lloyd's Bank Monthly," the "Daily Mail," Mr. J. R. Keynes, the "Ministry of Labour Gazette," and "The Times Trade Supplement," he demonstrated, point by point, that the Government had failed to use its opportunities of developing foreign trade, and had done nothing to increase the demand in the home market.

Referring on to the treatment of the unemployed, he outlined the details of the Government's new Bill, which had changed the terms of extended benefit to the detriment of the worker. It increased the Minister's powers, it again substituted the waiting period of six days on the specious economy plea of saving £6,700,000. That "saving," declared Mr. Alexander, was merely a transference of the Government's responsibility to the local authorities in the way of poor-law relief. This so-called economy had been instituted at a time when the Government was relieving the rich taxpayer to the tune of £42,000,000.

He showed how the Prime Minister's pledge re food prices had been absolutely violated in the Food Commission's report, and in the substitution of the useless Food Council.

Compulsory Insurance.

He next dealt with the Government's pension scheme, declaring it was not a pension scheme at all; it was merely a compulsory insurance at the expense of overburdened industry and over-taxed workers. Even the "Daily Mail" had asserted that thousands of workers, if they lived long enough to receive their pension, would only receive 40 to 50 per cent. of their total contributions. The Labour Party had secured certain amendments, after continuous and deter-

mined opposition, which had somewhat improved the Bill. Even now, however, the Bill absolutely failed to give adequate pensions to widows, orphans, and old people; and the workers would learn in the very next future that they had been entirely misled on this question.

Organisation Meeting at Topley.

On Saturday, September 12th, Mr. Alexander took part in the opening of the Walkley Bank Allocation Society's Show. On Sunday, September 13th, Mr. Alexander spoke in the afternoon and evening at a meeting of the Co-operative Party, organised especially for the Sheffield and Ecclesall meeting, and held in the Sheffield and Ecclesall guilds' federation camp at Topley. At the afternoon meeting, Mr. A. Ballard (secretary of the Co-operative Party) outlined a scheme of organisation, with a view to bringing the work of the Co-operative Party before the whole of the members of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Society, and organising dividing councils, ward committees, &c., on similar lines to that being done in Attercliffe, Brightside, Hallam, and Hillsborough.

Mr. Alexander also spoke on the value of co-operative political representation in the House.

The House of Commons and its Work.

At the evening meeting, which was attended by over 200 people, Mr. Alexander dealt with "The House of Commons and its Work," tracing the origin of Parliament from the Witan-agemot of Saxon days up to the present time. He showed that although the Parliamentary method seemed cumbersome and slow, it was, none the less, democratic and effective. Demonstrating first the evolution and constitution of the House in the four periods—medieval Parliaments from 1295, the change in 1407—the struggle between the Crown and Parliament—the first beginning of Cabinet Government—the electoral reform of 1832—the Acts of 1867, 1872, 1884, 1885, and 1918. Secondly, he dealt with the functions and influence of Parliament, and asserted that the term "Mother of Parliaments" was quite justified. Parliamentary functions he defined as making of laws, finance, administration, redress of grievances. He also described the various committees—the Committee of Ways and Means, Standing Committees, methods of voting, and so on. He concluded that although Parliament was gradually evolving a more efficient method of dealing with its business. He advocated devolution, and strongly supported the Parliamentary method as against any other method of reform.

The afternoon meeting was presided over by Mrs. Clark (president of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Guilds' Federation); and the evening meeting by Mr. J. A. Loosden (chairman of the Sheffield Co-operative Party). Altogether, the meetings were a huge success, and were a splendid augury of the future of the Co-operative Party in the Sheffield and Ecclesall area.

In reply to advertisers mention the "Sheffield Co-operator."

LADIES, GIRLS, AND BOYS' FOOTWEAR.

Sperope Brand :

MADE UNDER TRADE UNION CONDITIONS.
STAMP No. 12.

STOCKED BY ALL CO-OPERATIVE BOOT DEPARTMENTS IN SHEFFIELD.

You can't do without it!

Once you have seen it, you must get it regularly.

Why?

Because it is the cheapest, the best illustrated, the most interesting, the most entertaining collection of stories, articles, and poems published.

What?

The "MISGATE MONTHLY," which costs 6s. 6d., and beats the magazine at a shilling. Order it at your co-operative stores, bookstall, or railway bookstall.

BRIGHTSIDE AND CARBROOK CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED.
FURNISHING DEPARTMENT STAMFORTH ROAD AND FIR VALE.

We have now received a new range of our well-known

VALUE FOR MONEY FURNITURE

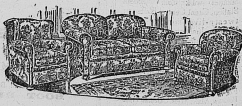
See our wonderful
Chesterfield Suites from £18 10s.
Dining Room Suites " £16 10s.
7 Pieces, Solid Oak.



Reclining Chairs from 37/6.

Reclining Bed Chairs from 50/-.

CIVILITY. ATTENTION. FREE DELIVERY.



See our Showrooms at your leisure.

OCTOBER, 1925.

Between You and Me.

I HAVE been interested in reading the programme of the Conservative and Unionist Conference. The Tory opposition's annual conference is to be held at Brighton on October 7th, 8th, and 9th, and we are told that "its main aim, in reaching resolutions will occupy attention."

Amongst these "keenly interesting resolutions" is a resolution to be moved: "That it is inadvisable that a definite Conservative movement within the trade unions and co-operative societies should be inaugurated immediately to confront the redoubt and avowed propaganda of Socialists and Communists therein."

This, from the no-politics-in-the-co-operative-movement brigade, is rather amusing. When co-operators themselves, in conference assembled, decided to take up political action, it was "violating the principles of the movement," and so on, according to the Conservatives. Still, they are going to organise a definite movement "within the societies" for political purposes. As I have contended all along, the Tories do not object to politics in the co-operative movement. Their objection is to progressive politics—co-operative politics; and their opposition is organised on this basis and for this purpose.

Another interesting resolution is that which "Reproves the failure of the Government to provide facilities for the passage of the Trade Union (Political Fund) Bill."

It is suggested that all members of trade unions should be given an opportunity of declaring to which political party their political loyalty shall be allocated.

The local Tory journal, in commenting on this, suggests that Conservative working men and women should "not be misled in the game. Their action alone will prevail," after which "there should be less heard in the future of the domination of Communistic doctrine in quarters hitherto sacred to the principles of sane and progressive democracy."

Well done the "Telegraph"! Hitherto sacred to the principles of sane and progressive democracy! Does any one of our readers ever remember a time when the local Tory journal supported either the co-operative movement or a trade union in any light, and under any circumstances whatever. Time and again the "Telegraph" has accused, misrepresented, abused, and opposed the trade unions and the co-operative movement. Now, in order to secure certain Conservative political ends, we are told that trade unions and co-operative societies hitherto have been "sacred to the principles of sane and progressive democracy." Let me hereby thank the editor of the "Telegraph" for nothing.

I have also been interested to watch the development of the "Red Menace" boys. Wherever the Conservative and Liberal papers, for that matter—

are "hard up" for a case against the Labour Party or the Co-op, (and they are always hard up in this connection), they splash their papers with the "Red Menace."

The Zinovieff letter, Mr. Cook—even Mr. J. H. Thomas at one time—have been examples of the "Red Menace" against co-operators and trade unionists which sane, progressive trade unionists and co-operators must stand four-square, etc. After the Zinovieff letter had been found and proved public to be a huge fraud, Mr. A. J. Cook dared to ask for the support of his fellows in resisting wage reductions below subsistence level. Immediately Mr. Cook became a disciple again when the community must stand four-square, etc. After Mr. Baldwin was compelled to recognise the justice of the miners' claim, there was the Trade Union Congress at Scarborough, which would reveal the disension existing in trade union ranks and show again the "Red Menace" of Communist activities. The "Morning Post" and the "Sheffield Telegraph" waited breathlessly (we don't think) for the revelations of this "Red Menace" at Scarborough. Strange to say, however, nothing happened, except the ordinary formal business of the Congress, which carried on its work as it has gone on, without any "Red Menace" formulated its policies, set up its committees and sub-committees, and showed quite definitely that the "Red Menace" is a figment of imagination on the part of the capitalist papers, who were at that time rather hard up for some sensational stunt, there having been no gruesome murders or high society divorce cases upon which to write their glaring headlines and alarming reports.

Then it was discovered that the Labour Party Conference would soon be held in Liverpool. Here again the "Red Menace," here again the Communist activities; here again the danger to the State and to sane, progressive labour, etc.; and here again another complete fiasco from the Press-point of view.

The Labour Party executive's decisions regarding Communist membership were carried by an overwhelming majority of nine to one. The newspaper journalists and writers were left with a poor case. You see, they had worked this case so much that people are wondering when these dreadful things are going to come to a head, and I am quite sure that the editors of the two local papers were in a fearful plight to explain away their terrible prophesies.

Now we find that this overwhelming resolution, this complete defeat of the Communists, had no serious effect on their activities in the trade unions, co-operative societies, or the Labour Party; that, in fact, it was not a defeat at all; that, indeed, it will make no real difference.

ference; they will still continue their "insidious" propaganda, and so on; so but you, dear reader, have read it so many times that you will not desire repetition in this enlightened journal. We think our co-operative magazine, the "Militant Monthly," hits off the situation beautifully, as follows:—

"But the dear old public must have its Red Menace splashed over it every morning. You know it—that hydra-headed monster which threatens to choke the British Empire by thrusting the poison fangs of its all-embracing tentacles into the very heart of civilisation, sucking out life blood by the loath-like underground influence of its poisonous tentacles, and generally making a mess of things."

"As one of my favourite poets once expressed it:—
"Even the dawn is Red,
And the sunset, too;
All Nature, someone has said,
Wears the bell-same hue."

My cheeks, her hair, your nose—
Red, yes, Red as the rose,
Red as the blood that flows,
When brothers get to blows.
Red, Red, all, all is RED—
Lobsters and tungs and loam—
I'm tired and I wanna go to bed,
Show me the way to goodness!"

FOOTWEAR FOR GENTS AND BOYS.

Holyoake Brand

IS THE MOST RELIABLE.

TRADE UNION STAMP No. 6

can be purchased from any co-operative Dept. or Post Office at Sheffield.

MANUFACTURED BY THE KETTERING CO-OPERATIVE BOOT SOCIETY, HAVELOCK WORKS, KETTERING.



Cheerio!

The Brute.

"The owner of that house," said Brown, "built it out of the blood, sweat, and groans of a fellow-man who is the proud father and the walls of women."

Ah! Ah!

Old Bawley considered himself a lady-killer, though the ladies seemed unaware of it. He was walking with a friend when they passed a pretty girl. At once he turned to his companion with a superior smile.

"Oh, that's nothing to worry about," replied his friend, consolingly.

How He Won the War.

As old soldier, on leaving the army, wrote to his colonel on follows:—"Sir, after what I've suffered I'll tell the army to go to blazes. He asked me a reply in the usual official language as to movements of troops must be entered on Army Form 13XVZ, a copy of which I am enclosing."

Not So Wasteful.

Employer's expert: "You are wasting too much time on your personal appearance."
Shoemaker: "It's not wasted. I've got to look the way I am, or I'm already engaged to the junior partner."

At the Clinic.

"Yes, miss, but my husband took the child's temperature, because he's more of a scholar; and he said I was to tell you that it was perfectly normal."

A Popular Notion.

ASKED why he went into the grocery business when he had had no previous experience, a divine at Salford Bankruptcy Court said he thought it was better than working.

Financial Note.

Visitor: "I say, youngster, can you direct me to the bank?"
Treasurer: "I can for a shilling."

Visitor: "Well, that's rather dear, you know."
Treasurer: "Oh, is it? Well, you can't expect a fellow to be a bank director for nothing."

Ceremonial.

Members of the Naval Board were examining young applicants for appointment to a navy college.
"Well," said an old admiral to one of the youths, "what must an officer be before he can have a funeral with full naval honours?"
"Dead," answered the bright youth.

Heard in Court.

A POLICE magistrate looked round the court and said to the constable: "Who is bringing this allegation?" And a little woman got up and said: "Please sir, I'm the allegation."

It Didn't.

"In the manager?" inquired a traveller. The office boy, plucking over a pony dreadful with his chair tilted back and his legs stretched out upon the desk, made no reply.

"I asked if the manager was in," said the visitor.

The boy threw him a disdainful glance and a cloud of cigarette smoke drifted nostrils, and resumed his reading.

"What you hear me?" snapped the visitor.

"Of course I heard you," answered the boy courteously.

"Then why the dickens don't you tell me if the manager is in?"

"Now, I ask you," retorted the office boy as he re-crossed his legs upon the desk, and prepared to resume his reading, "does it look like it?"

Post-Mortem Swank.

An old fellow on his death-bed, in making his will, instructed to his lawyer:

"And to each of my employees who have been with me twenty years or more I bequeath £2,000."

"But generosity!" the lawyer exclaimed. "No, not at all," said the sick man; "you see, none of them have been with me over a year, but it will look well in the papers."

Bodily Expressed.

The superintendent of the Sunday School was a stickler for regular attendance, and one Sunday his enthusiasm carried him away. Dear fellow, the workday was so much encouraged from the platform, "out of the whole school only one of us is away—little Maggie; let us hope that she's ill."

A Duffing Cook.

TRACED: "How work this one: Two eggs at 2d. each; a pint of milk at 3d. a quart and half-penny of sugar at 6d. a pound. What do they make together?"
Small girl: "Please miss, a custard."

TO THOSE IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

The BRIGHTSIDE & CARBROOK CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY will allow members

£1 to £5 WORTH OF GOODS.

(Larger amounts by special arrangement only.)

DRAPERY. HARDWARE. BOOTS. FANCY GOODS.
CROCKERY. FURNISHING. MILLINERY. COAL.

YOU MAY REPAY 1s. to 5s. per week AT YOUR OWN BRANCH.

ASK YOUR BRANCH MANAGER FOR FULL PARTICULARS TO-DAY.

Men's and Youths' High-Grade Footwear The "Blandford" Brand

WALKING, TENNIS, CRICKET, HOCKEY, GOLF, FOOTBALL.



Manufactured by the Midland Boot Manufacturers Ltd. WELLINGTON, ENGLAND.

SHEFFIELD & ECCLESALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED.

Tailoring Department, :: The Arcade, Ecclesall Road.

Overcoat Days are Here!

PREPARE FOR THE WINTER WEATHER.

Our new Stocks of Overcoats have just arrived. You will find this range the finest we have ever had. The demand for Quality is increasing rapidly. Men and Youths accustomed to good clothing are no longer satisfied with price alone—its Quality they want at reasonable prices.

WE CAN SATISFY YOUR DEMANDS FOR
QUALITY, LONGEST WEAR, AND LOWEST PRICE.

		s.	d.
Men's Overcoats	from	32	6
Youths'	"	21	0
Boys'	"	12	11

SEE OUR WINDOWS.

BRIGHTSIDE AND CARBROOK
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED.**GROCERY and
PROVISION Depts.**C.W.S. Tea, Coffee, and Cocoa. CANNOT BEATENC.W.S. Soaps, Candles, and Tapers.
QUALITY EXCELLENT. PRICES REASONABLE.C.W.S. Federation Self-raising Flour. : Egg
and Custard Powders. ALL GOOD LINES.

C.W.S. Crumpsall Biscuits of every description.

Danish and Canadian BUTTER.
DIRECT IMPORTATIONSpecial Value in CANADIAN BUTTER.
PLEASE TRY IT AND SAVE MONEY.HOME-FED BACON AND HAMS, WILTSHIRE
SIDES AND PICNICS. :: Home-rendered and

Imported Lard. :: All of the Finest Quality.

C.W.S. Silver Seal and Purple Seal MARGARINE.
UNSURPASSED FOR QUALITY.

Finest Cheshire, Canadian, & New Zealand CHEESE.

Californian Dried and Tinned FRUITS.
ONLY THE BEST BRANDS STOCKED.

Corned Beef, Tongues, Salmon, and Sardines.

SPECIAL LINE.

TRY

Middleton Tinned Dessert Fruit.GOLDEN PLUM, VICTORIA PLUM, STRAWBERRY
AND RASPBERRY. Special Value.

ALSO TRY OUR

**Luscious Tinned Loganberries (Lohrsel
Brand.)**BRIGHTSIDE & CARBROOK
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED.

Bakery Department.

**SUCCESSFUL
AGAIN!**

We were awarded A SILVER CUP and TWO DIPLOMAS, in competition with all Co-operative Societies, for the BEST COMMERCIAL LOAF at London, September 5th, 1925. This speaks for itself, but our SUPER LOAF MILKMOOD is right on TOP for Quality and Value, as noticed by the rapid growth in sales. We are now making 15,000 2lb. Loaves per week, and we are trying to double this. Will you help us by purchasing all your requirements from your own Bakery Department? Our VI-MALT LOAF—THE HEALTH GIVER, and CONFECTIONERY at TIP-TOP VALUE. You are also safe in getting your supplies from the most HYGIENIC FACTORY in the DISTRICT.

D

PROSPERITY BEGINS WITH CO-OPERATION.SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED.

Drapery Department.

The Arcade :: Ecclesall Road.

BARGAINS
TO INTEREST ALL CO-OPERATORS**BARGAIN No. 1.**

Special purchase of Ladies' proofed Mackintoshes in Navy and Fawn. All sizes. Usual price 24/11. Clearing at 12/11 each. Only a few left.

BARGAIN No. 2.

Four leading numbers in Ladies' Light Weight Continental Velours. Made in four sizes. All the newest colours. Unbeatable value. Only 8/11 each. Cannot repeat when sold.

BARGAIN No. 3.

Men's lined Union Shirts, neat patterns. Materials for repair given with every shirt. Made at Your Own Sheffield West Street Factory. Ask for the ARCADE SHIRT. Cannot be beaten at 6/11 each; 2 for 15/6.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Our Soft Furnishing Department in the basement is well worth a visit to inspect our large and well-assorted stock of NEW DOWN QUILTS, in Saten, Satin, Jap Silk Covers—filled with pure down. Price from 29/11 to 8 gu.