



T-Bone Slim

I have it from Commonweal as of Sept. 1, 1933 quoting New York Times (Duranty despatch) that "the Vatican wants to relieve millions of victims of the Russian famine" and that said despatch is "greeted with the same scorn and indignation that earlier met the news that German Nazis were collecting funds for starving German Volga colonists."

The appeal originally came from "Cardinal Innietzer, Vienna.

(A little salt on that goes a long way.)

Ralph W. Barnes, Herald Tribune, writes: "While there is no means of determining the death toll it is not unreasonable to believe that in the Sovitt Union over the winter and spring as many as 1,000,000 persons, mostly peasants, died from causes due to malnutrition, including outright hunger. The actual figures may be in excess of that."

Mr. Duranty implicitly supports this view and comments: (in part)

"Kremlin had ruthlessly carried through the agrarian revolution of collective farming . . . but it now looks as if the revolution is complete because the harvest is really good."

Comments Commonweal:

"In other words, the operation has been successful, although about one million of the patients died." —

"In North Caucasus price of bread dropped on open market from a very high to much lower level." (They seem to have price system). —

Next day "the price of bread in Moscow itself was doubled."—Ho Hom!

(I will not quote much more because I imagine I see bias in two places).

Prof. Leonid I. Strakhovsky, Georgetown University, broadcasts:

. . . But if we compare records, we find that during an entire century the emperors of Russia sent into exile only about half of the number exiled to Siberia by the Soviet government during one year." —That sounds reasonable. Must have been an off year?

"If the harvest is good?" is one of the reasons I called for salt on these presents; for if they do not KNOW "if the harvest is good", they cannot know anything.

Romance has all the earmarks of truth as I will now show:

"Ivan Windchapski, unemployed Grand Mogul of the Greek Catholic Church, Georgian Republic, is garnering funds for the relief of starving peasants and ex-service men of U. S. A., and wild stories are afloat the heroes of the world war are now eating cats and dogs in their stocking feet in a frost of 56 below zero above Duluth."

How much truth is in that is open to question but even though it be all true I cannot see wherein it does not harmonize with extant insanities.

Perfectly proper too as media for to attain the very necessary hominy for our brave farmers and service men . . .

Further, the ethics are above reproach for then these tramp nations beg food for one another quite forgetting their bighearted selves.

But I do not see the necessity for this form of mania.

Our industrial system is upsidedown: The worker that works hardest gets the least; the one who does least gets most.

Like a top spinning on its peg, our industrial system must maintain its balance through the velocity of its gyrations (dormant centrifugal force)—that's what makes so many of the voters dizzy.

Therefore, to short cut, an organization to lay claims to any revolutionary tendency must aim at complete reversal of this adjustment to the end that he who works hardest gets most—a parasite gets nothing. (Subject to will of those who work). Any outfit that bases its actions upon the maintenance of present top and bottom arrangement with alterations here and ameliorations there is not revolutionary.

Considering industrial slavery is source of all our troubles, the "big boys" troubles and the whole world's troubles let us organize so, and see to it, that the next industrial arrangement that is now forcing itself upon us shall not contain slavery as its fundamental factor—or in any form except such as is agreed to by the workers themselves: self government.