

CATALONIAN CORRESPONDENCE

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COLLECTIVISATION IN CATALONIA

Barcelona, June 20

Great interest has been shown in the collectivisation decrees of the Government of Catalonia, although these decrees are not usually fully understood by foreign commentators. The following explanatory article has been abridged from one written by the Spanish Ambassador in Brussels, Don Angel Ossorio y Gallardo.

"In October, 1936, the Government of Catalonia instituted the Decree of Collectivisation, which, from the economic and sociological point of view, was of extraordinary interest. The following is a brief summary of the essential parts of the decree.

The industrial and commercial enterprises of Catalonia are classified in the following manner:

A) Collectivised organizations, in which the responsibility of the direction belongs to the workers, represented by a Committee.

B) Private businesses, directed by the proprietor or the administrator, with the collaboration and under the vigilance of the workers' Committee of Control.

Those businesses which, on the 30th of June, 1936, employed more than one hundred paid workers, must be collectivised, as must also be those whose owners or directors have been recognized as Fascists or have abandoned the concern. The number of workers in this case is immaterial. Other enterprises, also without reference to the number of workers, may be collectivised, by agreement between the employer or owner and the workers.

Former proprietors or directors are employed in the collectivised organization in administrative or technical positions, wherever their collaboration is most useful.

The direction of the enterprise is entrusted to a Council, which is elected at