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BEVIN OUTLINES STANDARD OF LIFE OF ENGLISH LABOR

London, Eng.—The standard of life English labor is trying to obtain if not a matter of eating and sleeping," declared Ernest Bevin, the Dockers' representative in their recent successful

fight for a minimum wage of \$4. "The claim and challenge that I put forth in that inquiry is that neither God nor nature ever intended that there should be a master class and a working class," he asserted. "There is nothing in biology, in science, which proves the logic or the right of the existence of the two classes, it is human greed and grab that has caused that ignoble

state." Bevin expressed the hope that as a result of the Dockers' Inquiry and the coal commission, they would find a way to remove the two kinds of poverty—that of physical want and also that of the mind. Americans are also beginning to rebel against the high cost of pork barrels.

FIRE FIGHTERS OF ONTARIO HAVE SCORED TRIUMPH

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where hearty co-operation with the Toronto committee was assured. It was then decided to explain the object of the desired legislation to as many members of the legislature as possible. Liberals, Conservatives, Farmers and Laborites were consulted and general sympathy with the principle of the legislation was expressed.

A rough draft of the required legislation was first made by James Simpson, member of the Executive Committee of the Toronto District Labor Council, and a conference with Hon. Walter Rolfe, minister of labor, followed. Mr. Rolfe promised the fire fighters he would do all in his power to assure the passage of the legislation.

Peter Hurd, who addressed the Municipal Committee on behalf of the fire fighters, emphasized the necessity of the fire fighters having the one day off in seven, as such a right was now enjoyed by nearly all workers in other callings.

He pointed out that fire fighters could not enforce their demands for better conditions by means of strikes without inviting public disfavor, and therefore they desired to obtain the one day off in seven by legislation which would apply to all towns and cities in the province.

"Is there any objection to this Bill?" asked Hon. Mr. Nixon, Provincial Secretary.

Mr. Crockett, U.F.O. Labor member, favored the bill with the exception of the last sentence in Clause Four which read as follows: "and every employee who remains on duty in violation of the provisions of the said section 2, shall incur a penalty of not more than \$10.00."

"There may be employees who lack back bone and who will work in violation of the Bill, and I don't think they should be penalized," said Mr. Crockett.

Mr. Charles Swayze, Labor Member for Niagara Falls, suggested that exception might be made in cases of emergency.

Mr. Peter Hoenn, Labor Member for Kenora, said he had had considerable experience on the steam railways where the employers were allowed to interpret "cases of emergency" and advised against the insertion of such words in the Bill.

Mr. Hurd pointed out that every fireman took an obligation to be on duty in cases of special emergency and therefore it would not be necessary to amend the Bill to provide for emergencies.

Corporation Council Geary, representing the City of Toronto, stated that he was not there to oppose the Bill but suggested that if it was enacted into law it should not go into effect until January 1st, 1921.

Mr. Hurd, for the fire fighters, stated that it would be satisfactory if the Bill was effective on that date.

It was finally decided to delete that part of section 4 providing for a penalty for violation of the Act by an employee. With this amendment and the insertion of a clause making the Act effective on January 1st, 1921, the Bill was approved unanimously.

AMALGAMATION OF AUSTRALIAN LABOR PAPERS IS REPORTED

London.—An amalgamation of the Australian Labor papers which will give a total capital of \$2,500,000 is on foot, according to reports received here. The scheme will include twelve important papers, and will mean the formation of the largest newspaper concern in the commonwealth. A greatly amplified cable service will be one of the results of the plan.

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PEOPLE

(Continued from Page One)

The University Extension Movement in Great Britain has been to a large extent self supporting. Admission fees, course tickets and local subscriptions have in some cases entirely, and in others largely, paid the lecturers' fees and expenses. The balance has been met by funds placed at the disposal of the central authority by private subscription or from the general funds of the University. On the whole the cost of carrying on the work does not seem to be high. The cost of lecture courses as announced by the University of Cambridge, which may be taken as representative, is as follows:

For a course of six lectures from £20 to £36.

For a course of twelve lectures from £34 to £56.

These fees are inclusive, i.e. they cover lecturers' fees, travelling expenses, syllabi, correction of students' papers and the hire of lantern slides and text books.

The figures will probably require some revision upward, under the present advancing scale of costs of all kinds of supplies and staff salaries, as well as travelling expenses.

The extent of the Extension Work being carried on by the English Universities may be inferred from we note that during the year 1912-1913, which is the last full year's work completed before the war, the University of Liverpool conducted 422 lectures and classes with 1,704 students in average attendance, of whom 425 took examinations.

For the same period the University of Cambridge reports 2,405 students, 268 of whom wrote on examinations, of which number all but ten were successful. These figures do not include the Tutorial Classes, of which more will be said later.

The Annual Report of the Oxford Delegation shows a total of 1,345 lectures for the above period divided into 161 courses given in 125 centres with an average total attendance, including Tutorial Classes, of 14,130 persons.

Equally striking figures could be presented for London, Sheffield, Durham, Victoria and others.

We now come to the most important development of the University Extension Movement among the working men of England. This is known as "The Worker's Educational Association," or more commonly, as the W.E.A. Very soon after the commencement of University Extension lectures numbers of the keener students became anxious for more intensive courses of study than those provided in the ordinary Extension lectures. From this demand arose many local colleges such as Leeds, Liverpool, Nottingham, Sheffield, Reading, Exeter, and Colechester, but even these additional colleges did not fully meet the need. For various reasons the efforts of the universities to influence working men had not been as successful as it was at first hoped they would be. Perhaps the chief reason was because the working men was suspicious that the University Extension Movement was only another attempt of the "master class" to retain its slipping hold upon the reins of power. This attitude of the working man is well expressed in the speech of Mr. J. M. MacTavish, a dockworker, before the Oxford Conference of 1907, in which he says in part:

"Democracy will realize itself, with or without the assistance of Oxford; but if Oxford continues to stand apart from the workpeople, then she will ultimately be remembered, not for what she is but for what she has been. . . . We want the workpeople who come to Oxford to undertake definite work. But what is the definite work to be? We want them to come back to us as missionaries, but what is their message?"

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