

Labor News From Coast to Coast

India Aims at Self-Government

Simla, India.—By skillfully wielding its limited power over its own purse India is forcing the Labor Government of Great Britain to a showdown on self-determination.

In Bengal and the central provinces where the Indian independence (Swraj) party has captured the majority of the legislative councils, the salaries for the government officials have been refused by a close vote. In Bengal it was 62 against 60, despite heavy bribe pressure brought to bear by Government officials on legislative members. This vote was the second successive defeat of the Government on this issue. The governor ordered the council adjourned and the ministers handed in their resignations.

C. R. Das, the independence leader, declares the vote is the death knell of the British attempt to share the ruling power to a limited degree. He urges the Indians to capture all the other legislative councils and bring the constitutional machinery to a standstill, forcing the government either to rule autocratically or to grant the Indians autonomy.

Mahatma Gandhi and the Independence party, formerly at loggerheads, are coming together on a policy yet to be worked out in detail but which will permit a united front against British alien rule.

The country is in great excitement because of an insult to Indian women offered by Lord Lytton. Several women have brought charges against the police involving assault. The case is still pending but Lytton declared he was surprised that Indian women would concoct charges against their own honor for political purposes. Over 100,000 men and women assembled at Calcutta to protest against Lytton's slander. It is resented the more because his sister, Constance Lytton was a militant suffragette in England and suffered barbarously from the British police while under arrest.

Prohibits Red International Literature

Sydney, N.S.W.—The Australian federal government is prohibiting the entry of literature by unions affiliated with the Red International of labor unions. It is also laying its hands on communist literature coming to Australia from Europe. The government has seized literature in the parcel post addressed to the Labor Council of New South Wales. The labor council is going to give the government an opportunity to prove its authority in the law courts.

Says Reds Have Changed Husband

Washington—Howard Burr, life insurance agent, whose domestic life was unhappy, took his wife to the City Club auditorium here last winter to see a film depicting life in Russia. He wrote a cheque for one dollar to help the Russian children's relief fund. Now he is in jail, in default of \$10,000 bond set by Justice Stafford, because his wife says he is trying to run away to Russia, leaving her without financial support. She is suing for divorce.

Mrs. Burr told the judge that the people she saw at this movie exhibition were "the toughest ever seen," and that the Soviet Government was applauded and the American Government hissed.

Negroes Try to Get Real Emancipation

New York.—The 61st anniversary of Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation was celebrated by the Federation of Colored Women's clubs with the colored detachment of the 15th infantry, N. Y. Natl. guard, but the Natl. Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People was so busy "trying to get some of the emancipation of the proclamation," according to Walter F. White, secretary, that it did not have time to participate in laying a wreath on the Lincoln statue in Prospect park, Brooklyn.

Australia May Alter Its School Books

Adelaide, Australia.—The Adelaide Trades and Labor Council has petitioned the South Australian Minister for Education (Mr. Hill) to delete the boosting of empire and the glorification of war from the schoolbooks of the state, now under labor rule, and order the teaching of industrial history in its place. The minister asked the council to go through the schoolbooks and suggest what should be cut out. He added that the Labor Government was opposed to militarism and believed in school children being taught to abhor war.

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Bryan vs. Darwinism

San Francisco—Bryan is on the loose again against evolution. While in San Francisco to speak for candidate Davis he stated to an interviewer: "I am in favor of legislation to prevent any teacher who is paid by Christian taxpayers teaching Christian children that man is descended from any lower form of life. The moderate would bring Christ down to the level of man and the evolutionists bring man down to the level of the brute."



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Murdock Warns the City Council

If Appointment of Conciliation Board Not Agreed to May Act

Winnipeg.—The question of abolition or modification of the five-year-old agreement between the city of Winnipeg and its employees, which prohibited affiliation with outside unions may be taken out of the hands of the city council insofar as it pertains to certain employees of the Hydro Electric system, according to a letter from the Hon. James Murdock, minister of labor, which was read at a meeting of the city council.

He warned the city if it did not see fit to concur in appointment of a board of conciliation to go into an application made by J. L. McBride on behalf of Hydro linemen he might have to exercise his powers under the Industrial Disputes act and appoint a board himself.

The letter, which was addressed to Mayor Farmer came in reply to wires from the city solicitor, setting out the stand taken by the Legislation committee, namely that there was no dispute between the city and its employees on the matter and that the city could not take cognizance of an outside application such as had been sent to the minister, and that the matter did not come within the scope of

Ask Minimum Wage For Unskilled Labor

Edmonton, Alta.—The Trades and Labor Council of this city passed a resolution demanding that the minimum wage for unskilled labor employed by the Minister of Public Works be forty-five cents an hour. This followed the reading of a letter from the Minister (the Hon. Alex Ross) in which it was stated that the Fair Wage was adhered to in his department.

A letter was read from District 18 of the U.M.W. of A. asking for loans to continue the strike of the miners. It was decided to empower the executive to review the financial position of the Council and to forward a loan if funds permitted.

Complaints were made that men working on the sewers at Calder were toiling fourteen or sixteen hours per day.

A resolution was introduced censuring the British (Labor) Government for the employment of a warship against strikers in Newfoundland. President Farmilo suggested that further particulars be secured before this action was taken and his suggestion was favored, the secretary being instructed to ascertain the facts of the case.

The request of the fire-fighters for one day's rest in seven was again endorsed by the Council, and the workers are asked to support this demand in the coming plebiscite.

Won't Allow Labor M.P.P. to Attend

Vancouver, B.C.—In order to deny Labor representation in the British Columbia lower house at the coming session, the Burnaby municipal council refuses to grant Frank Browne, Labor member-elect from Burnaby riding, a suburb of Vancouver, leave of absence from his work as municipal accountant. Browne, running as the candidate of the Canadian Labor Party defeated Alexander K. McLean, reeve of the municipality, running on the old line ticket. As reeve of the municipality McLean is Browne's boss and he is now attempting to prevent Browne from attending the autumn session of the provincial house.

The Vancouver Trades Council intends to take legal action to compel leave of absence. Meetings are being held and the people told the reasons for the Council's action.

"Every phase of Labor is affected by the action of the Burnaby Council, and unless Labor makes a determined stand at the present time, we might just as well quit as a political organization," said Harry R. Neelands, Labor member for South Vancouver.

Railroad Shopmen Are Laid Off

Montreal, Que.—The Canadian unemployment problem is being seriously increased by the large number of men now being laid off by the railways. Four hundred shopmen have been laid off here by the Canadian National, while throughout central Canada the number laid off by that railway is stated to be nearly 1,000. Several thousand are also to be laid off by the Canadian Pacific, the employees having voted for reduction in staff rather than in working time.

A new phase of the problem has arisen by the appeal to the minister of railways by the secretary of the Canadian National Federation of Railway Employees asking him to take up the question of employment. The Federation has suggested that the reconditioning of engines and cars for future use would provide more work.

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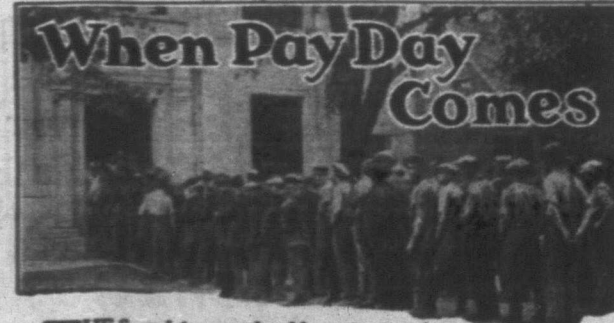
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