

Claims Labor Federation Would Set Up Gov. of Autocracy

UTICA, N. Y., Feb. 13.—Charges that behind the announced plan of the American Federation of Labor to obtain the election of a Congress and a President favorable to its policies exists "a sinister movement of a small coterie of labor leaders, who have grown powerful by the contributions they have levied upon labor" to set up a "government within a government," were made here last night by United States Senator Miles Poindexter of Washington in an address before the Utica Republican club.

"The farmers and laboring men of America," he asserted, "have in every crisis been the great bulwark of our free institutions, and they will not follow the mistaken leadership which would place the government under the despotic control of a government within the government."

"Ruined by Few Leaders" This government within the government is not ruled by labor, but is an autocracy of a few

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Leaders who would not only impose their will upon labor itself, but would extend it, not only by the ballot, but by strikes and starvation of the entire people of the United States. It is as obvious as the "invisible government" against which the people protested in 1912. There is no question of the right of the American Federation of Labor to gain control of Congress and of the President by way of the ballot box, if it can do so in accordance with the programme it has just issued. It would be an evil day for the United States and

most of all for labor itself, if any class in this nation, whether employers or employees in industry, capital or labor, should succeed in any such program, but that is one of the perils which the nation must face as the price of free government.

"Mr. Gompers curses Congress," he continued, "but is not specific in his complaints. On the contrary, the announcement stated that 'all of the essential legislation in labor's bill of grievances of 1906 was enacted. This proclamation states that the 'free institutions of the country are menaced,' but the only specific reference is to the proposed anti strike legislation. The right to strangle the transportation of the nation on which the lives of the people depend is not one of our free institutions."

"The officials of the American Federation of Labor, oppose not only the anti strike legislation, but oppose the establishment of a government tribunal for the hearing and settlement of industrial disputes. The position of Mr. Gompers is that these questions must be left to the labor union themselves to settle under the compulsion of trying up transportation and essential industries. This would seem to present clearly the issue of government by due process of law or government by coercion. To claim the right of any private organization to lay an embargo upon the people's supply of food and other essentials of life, is to claim the right of private and civil war by one class in the community against the community itself.

"Labor Deserves Much" Labor, as the foundation of our industrial structure, is entitled to every consideration—perhaps the first consideration—at the hands of the government, and, in general, it has received such consideration. The railroad bill, as reported, contained liberal provisions for profit sharing and other benefits for labor. These were opposed and stricken out at the instance of the officials of the American Federation of Labor, presumably because it would tend to lessen the control of these leaders

over labor." The American Federation of Labor the senator declared, "claims the right to enforce its demands by taking the control of transportation out of the hands of Congress, where it is vested by the constitution, and to assume such control itself. If this question is submitted to the ballots of the farmers, and of labor itself, and, to all classes of American people, who in the last analysis must decide it, there is no question that the constitution will be preserved."

Grimsby Man is Richer By \$50,000

Thomas Little of Grimsby has been bequeathed \$50,000 in his uncle's will. Little was born in Halton county about fifty five years ago; the son of Thomas and Mrs. Little. His father was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, and married a lady of English birth and they came to Canada and settled in Halton. The father had two brothers, William and Franklin. Franklin had one son named William who now resides in Hanover, Mass., and who is a joint heir to the fortune. William Sr. remained in Scotland and followed up the profession of clog making and later branched out into the leather and shoe business. He never saw either of his nephews and it is doubtful if he ever heard from them to any extent.

According to the letter received by Little the old uncle died about the first of January and left twenty thousand pounds to be divided equally between himself and his cousin in Hanover. No other particulars were given, except that further information and documents would be forwarded in due course of time.

The recipient of this legacy came to Grimsby about twenty years ago

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to manage one of the late Henry Smith's farms, later going to Niagara Township to manage a farm. He came back to Grimsby about seven years ago and took charge of one of Mr. John Hewitt's farms and is still connected with the late gentleman's estate. The late Mr. Hewitt in his will left Little \$200 and his eldest son \$200, so that this legacy is the second windfall in four months that he has received.

Mr. J. W. Walsh, president of the Fort William Trades and Lobos Council, is in the city on official business. Brownell's Profit sharing sale ends Saturday night. Don't miss it. 357 3rd St., and 2121 Main St., Niagara Falls, N.Y.

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The manufacture and final preparation are carefully and skillfully done.

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