

Labor News From Coast to Coast

Overseas News

Labor Mayors Win in British Cities

London.—Labor Mayors were chosen in twenty-three cities and towns of Great Britain recently by the Borough Council men elected last week. The list includes two Lord Mayors, Alderman Percival Bower, who was re-elected at Birmingham, and John Arnott, the first Labor Mayor of Leeds.

Other Labor Mayors are at Chatham, Chesterfield, Ollithero, Colne, Darlington, Daventry, Halifax, Huddersfield, Leicester, Loughborough, Merthyr-Tydvil, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Preston, Pwllhel, Rawtenstall, St. Helens, South Shields, Stafford, Stoke-on-Trent, Widnes and Wigan.

C. T. Taylor, the new mayor of the London Borough of Shoreditch, where the Laborites control the Council, was until a few years ago a dustman and scavenger employed by the Council over which he now presides.

Lincoln elected its first woman mayor, Miss McNeill. Miss Lucy Dale was elected mayor of Dunstan, supported by every council man except her father.

Alleges Henderson Was "Gagged"

London, Eng.—The Daily Herald, Labor organ, under headlines extending across the front page, "Henderson gagged in America" will describe the cancellation of lectures to have been given by Arthur Henderson, Home Secretary in the Labor Government of 1924, before the Y. M. C. A. and Rotary Club of Hartford, Conn.

The cancellation, it says, was the result "not of Government action, but of intervention of an anti-Labor political organization known as the National Security League, one of the most prominent and active of the organizations which under the pretext of combatting Communism have almost destroyed freedom of speech in America since the war."

The Herald cites, as persecuted in the United States or denied hearing, four other well known foreigners: Jean Louquet, prominent French Socialist, Frederick W. Petwick-Lawrence, Labor M. P., Count Karolyi of Hungary and Shapurji Saklatvala, Communist M. P.

May Emigrate Here From South Africa

London, Eng.—The emigration of South Africa's "poor whites" to Canada and Australia because in their own country they are unable to compete with the blacks, is the novel method of dealing with this pressing problem advocated recently before the Economic Commission which is considering this problem, states the Johannesburg correspondent of the Morning Post.

About ten per cent of the European population of the Union, it was stated, is unfit for anything but pick and shovel work, and this section was unable to keep up to the white standard of living when in competition with the blacks.

It was therefore advocated that a State department be formed to assist these white laborers to emigrate to countries such as Australia and Canada, where there is no colored competition and where "they would be an asset."

Premier Bruce Wins in Australia

Sydney, N.S.W.—The general election in Australia has resulted in a victory for the Government in the House of Representatives. The status of the parties will be: Nationalists 35; Country Party, 13; Labor 28; Independent, 1. This will give the Government a working majority, but the Government may secure a bare majority.

For the first time voting was, by law, compulsory. This fact, while greatly increasing the poll over the last election, appears unlikely to have brought the total to much over 80 per cent of the electorate.

Groups of nine electorates each in Melbourne and Sydney give the following results: In Melbourne the Labor vote increased from 110,000 to 210,000, non-Labor from 67,000 to 171,000. In Sydney the Labor vote increased from 113,000 to 154,000, non-Labor from 75,000 to 140,000.

Analysis of the 1,812,000 votes so far counted gives Labor 760,000, Nationalists 756,000 and the Country party 156,000. Probably there are 800,000 or 900,000 votes to come.

Labor leaders declare unofficially that they expect almost all the Senate vacancies will go to the Nationalists. They are very downhearted.

Anglo-Turk Mosul Controversy

The Hague.—The international court judges have decided to alter their original plans of hearing the Mosul case and to allow the two powers involved to state the preliminary case before the court, Monday. A statement will be made for the British by Sir Douglas Hogg. Accommodations are being provided for the Turkish representative. Great doubt exists as to whether Turkey will send a representative since she has declared she will refuse to abide by any decision of the international court of the league of nations which will favor England and harm the interests of the Angora government of Turkey in her struggle to regain the oil fields of Mosul, which were handed to England by the league of nations in a mandate for Iraq.

Six Trade Unions in Huge Alliance

London.—The executive committees of six great trade unions, representing four million men, recently adopted the draft constitution of a working alliance in times of industrial dispute affecting any one of the affiliated unions. The unions concerned are the Miners' Federation, the National Union of Railwaymen, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, the Electrical Trade Union, the Transport and General Workers' Union and the Amalgamated Engineering Union.

The objects of the alliance, as laid down in the constitution are: First, to defend hours of labor and wage standards; second, to promote or defend any vital principle, and third, to take such steps for mutual co-operation on economic and industrial matters as may from time to time be decided on.

It is in the third point that the sting lies, for it envisages the possibility of a joint strike of all six unions, should any one of them be involved in a dispute with employers. Such a strike would of course be tantamount to a general strike, for it would affect the vital social services of the country, tie up food and fuel supplies, close down electric light and power plants, and inevitably throw men in many other unions out of work.

Winter Work For Men in Britain

London.—Several large contracts which will employ many men in the engineering trades have been secured by British firms.

A contract for the supply of the whole of the power signalling apparatus for Charing Cross and Cannon street stations, Modern Transport announcements, has been placed by the Southern Railway Company with the Westinghouse, Brake and Saxby Signal Company, Limited of Chippenham, Wiltshire, and I.K.G.'s Cross.

The amount of this contract, a Southern Railway Company's official informed a Daily Mail reporter, is between £20,000 and £40,000.

An order has been placed with Main Ropeway, Limited, engineers and contractors, 47 Victoria street, Westminster, for an aerial ropeway, installation in the Malay States for the transportation of tin ore. The plant will be entirely of British material and manufacture. The amount of the contract is about £30,000. Work will be provided for five hundred men for several months.

It is reported that the contract for building a steel railway bridge at Desuk, Egypt, has been secured by Messrs. Dorman, Long and Co., steel manufacturers and constructional engineers, London, S.W., at present constructing the Khartoum-Omdurman bridge. The amount of the contract is stated to be £139,000.

Soviet Russia Big Order

Moscow.—According to the Ivestia, the delegation of the Soviet textile industry that is now visiting London has placed a big order with the very well known firm in Manchester of Platt Brothers, the biggest factory in the world producing machinery for the textile industry.

The order can be executed in 12 or 14 months.

The managing director of the firm said that it is the biggest order which was ever given to the firm. Representatives of the Soviet trade delegation in London declared that so far they have placed in England orders for 1,000,000 pounds out of the whole sum of 15,000,000 pounds sterling assigned for equipment for the textile industry in the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

Indian Factory Report Is Good

The 1924 annual report on the Indian factories act shows that during the year the total number of registered factories increased from 434 to 465, and the number of those actually working from 339 to 434; while in the same period the number of operatives increased from 49,210 to 59,842.



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International Labor News

Belgium
Forsake Tobacco Industry—Because of the bad situation said to exist in the Belgian tobacco industry, approximately forty per cent of the tobacco workers have abandoned their tobacco occupations and obtained work in other industries since 1924.

Canada
Labor Surplus—A present there is said to be a moderate surplus of both skilled and unskilled labor in the Sherbrooke district, the result of which is an exceptionally heavy emigration to the United States.

England
Unemployment Relief—Subject to the approval of the Birmingham City Council, its "General Purposes Committee" has planned winter unemployment schemes that are estimated to find work for nearly 4,000 men.

Germany
Wage Increases—Wages were increased considerably in many important trades in Hamburg during the quarter ended September 30, 1925. The increases were particularly noted among the harbor, storehouse, and coal workers, and in the mineral oil industry, rice milling, the chocolate industry, the cigarette industry, paint and varnish works, laundries, bakeries and fishing occupations.

New Zealand
Seamen's Strike—As the result of the recent strike of British seamen in New Zealand ports, overseas shipments of meat, dairy products, etc., have been seriously disarranged, with considerable inconvenience and loss to local interests. The seamen were contending for the restoration of a former wage scale, therefore applicable to labor between ports.

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