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SIX MILLION BOYS AWAITING CHANCE TO MAKE GOOD

Boys' Club Federation of N. Y. Plans Wide Extension of Work

The Boys' Club Federation of New York is planning for a wide extension of its work during the coming year, (especially in the industries), in the interest of the 6,000,000 underprivileged boys of America whose need, following the war, is said to be an immediate and vital one.

The Federation is a national organization operating without profit to itself; its purpose being character-building and citizenship; to give practical directional training to the boy of limited opportunities; to build him up physically and to carry him over the danger period of his youth. As a result of such training, it has been shown by statistics, juvenile delinquency has been materially reduced and that such boys, under the influence of the Club, are soon weaned from the street and prepared for future citizenship, better jobs and higher wages.

It is estimated that 66% of the boys of America belong to this class, a vast army for good or evil, and to bring these 6,000,000 underprivileged boys into club formation on a community basis—as broad and comprehensive as the public playground, though more intensive—is the task that the Boys' Club Federation has set for itself.

PROGRESSIVES WIN OUT IN PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia.—The progressive element in Philadelphia labor circles defeated the conservative forces led by Frank Feeney, which have hitherto controlled the Central Labor union. Officers have been installed who are pledged to carry to the limit the fight against the Chamber of Commerce and kindred bodies fighting the union shop.

Ousting of the Feeneyites means that many local unions heretofore refusing to affiliate because of the policy of the central body will join forces with the progressives.

Co-operative banking as a weapon in the war thrust upon later by the exponents of the "American plan" is potent in the eyes of the progressives. It is expected a loans credit system will shortly be inaugurated.

DETROIT LABOR WANTS REGULATION OF "TEK" AGENCIES

Detroit, Mich.—Petitions for an ordinance providing for licensing and regulating private detective agencies, promulgated by the Detroit Federation of Labor have been filed with the city authorities. If acted upon fairly the proposition will be submitted to the voters in the primary election August 31, Charter provisions, however, allow the city country thirty days time in which to decide whether to enact the ordinance into law without submitting it to the voters.

ELEVATED FARES ARE "GOING UP" IN CHICAGO

Chicago.—Advance of elevated railroad fares here to 10 cents, or four tickets for 35 cents, permitted by the public utilities commission, has aroused a storm of protest. It develops that Chicago's elevated companies eagerly accepted 5-cent fare contracts from the city for periods still many years from date of expiration.

This open defiance of contract obligations, with sanction of the state commission, compels the municipality to carry its fight for contract rights up to the supreme court.

MINERS OFFER SUGGESTION FOR NATIONALIZATION

Idea Is Really For Socialization Rather Than For Nationalization

(By William Hard, Staff Writer, The Federated Press)

I hear a new idea among miners how to nationalize the mines. It is certainly time for Labor to work out some idea on that subject carefully and definitely. The present existing system under which the mines are owned and operated purely by capital and by the representatives of capital is very sick. Pretty soon there may be many suggestions of many new systems each claiming to b the old systems each claiming to be the old syslabor to unite on a labor suggestion and to present it to the country vigorously.

The idea which I am now going to try to outline was discussed to some extent among delegates at the Montreal convention of the American Federation of Labor. It is an idea really for socializing the mines rather than for nationalizing them. It begins with establishing a certain amount of ownership by the workers themselves and it postpones the question of ownership by the national government. The reason for this method of procedure is in part political.

The national government, under its constitution, is said to be without the power to own mines. In order to give it the power to own mines, there would have to be an amendment to the federal constitution. In order to get an amendment to the federal constitution the friends of labor's program would have to be able to command a two-thirds vote in each house of congress and a majority vote in each of the legislatures of three-quarters of the states. It would be a very long task.

Turning away from it, certain students of the subject have been making an analysis of the constitutions of several states. They claim now that much can be done toward the Socialization of mines without waiting for any new amendment to the constitution of the nation.

Mining companies are today necessarily organized under state laws. They do business under state charters. But in the constitutions of twenty-six states it is found that there is a provision to the effect that all charters of corporations can be revoked. Therefore the mining companies doing business under charters from these states can be terminated and dissolved.

It is found further that in the constitutions of twenty-six states there is a provision to the effect that in the organizing of corporations there can be stock issued to represent the labor contributed. There can be stock representing contributions of labor as well as stock representing contributions of capital. Therefore in these states there could be new mining companies organized with labor representation as well as with capital representation in their ownership and management.

I have mentioned two lists of twenty-six states each. The states in the first list are largely the same as the states in the second list, and they include most of the important mining states. They include, for instance, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Ohio, Illinois, Kansas and Oklahoma.

Such were the statements made at Montreal regarding the law of the matter. It is claimed that because of this legal situation it would be possible to establish a progressive participation by labor in the ownership and operation of coal mines just as soon as the friends of the idea could command a bare majority of votes in certain state legislatures and a bare majority of votes in the federal congress. These would be three steps. Two would be taken in the states and one at Washington.

The first step would be—in any given state—as, for instance, in Pennsylvania—to revoke the charters of existing mining companies, giving them two years—say—in which to wind up their affairs and sell their properties.

The second would be to enact the details of the organizing of new companies to buy those properties and to carry on the operating of them. The new companies would be organized as follows:

Stock to capital to the amount of the money actually put in. Stock to labor to the amount of the total annual wages of the workers employed.

The labor stock would be held by the workers as a necessary incident and consequence of working. Holding stock would go with being employed. If a worker left one mining company and became employed by another, he would lose his stock in the first company and become automaticaliy the owner of stock in the second. In each case the stock would be to the amount of his annual wages. He could vote it by proxy through representatives of his own choosing. It is calculated that in a mining company thus organized the total value of the shares of labor stock would be greater than the total value of the shares of capital stock.

It is then further provided that at the end of each year of operation—after wages have been paid, and after a fixed return on the money actually put in has been paid—there shall be a certain division of surplus.

Half of whatever surplus is earned shall be regarded as "corporate" surplus and shal be payable as dividends on the capital shares and on the labor shares. But in a certain proportion to dividends in any year there shall be a certain reducing of prices to consumers in the next year. The "corporate" half of the surplus shall be a reward of efficiency but also a further incentive to efficiency.

The other half of whatever surplus is earned shall be regarded as the "national" surplus. Out of it shall come extensions and betterments of plant. Out of it shal lalso come the funds for retiring the capital shares, if desired, and for extinguishing private ownership through full and fair compensation.

Such would be the two steps to be taken in the states—the dissolving of old mining companies and the forming of new ones on a new model. The third step—at Washington—would be to provide that no mining companies may send their product into inter-state commerce unless they are organized in accordance with the new model. It is claimed that such legislation by Congress can be readily and successfully devised under the constitution as now written. The result of such legislation would of course be that the new model companies—the socializing companies—would be the handlers of the great bulk of the coal business of the country.

These claims, these calculations, these proposals, I repeat as made. I do not argue for them or against them. Clearly, though, they have one great merit at this time. They amount to a plan. They amount to a detailed scheme for a system of immediate outright nationalization. If he will send me a statement of it—addressed to this newspaper—I will put it into a following article. We may be sure of one thing:

We are going to have lots of schemes for governmental control of the kind that will be good for coal operators and good for large consumers of coal. We need plenty of debate on schemes that will represent the serviceable ideals of labor and the needs of all consumers—especially the small and numerous consumers who buy coal to heat their homes.

TRIBUTE TO CANADA BY AN AMERICAN

After Visiting Canada Found It Land of Unlimited Possibilities

(By Frederick William Wile)

One day not long ago I saw an advertisement in a New York newspaper headed "Canada's Century." It turned out to be what I suspected it was—a panegyric on the Dominion's commercial, financial and general economic advantages, writes Frederick William Wile. In The Spur. It struck me as flamboyant, exaggerated and typically North American altogether. A couple of weeks later, by the irony of a happy fate, it fell to my lot to visit Canada—a maiden excursion. I was there only a week; saw only Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal; trekked, de luxe over the Canadian Pacific across the narrow fragment of territory which embraces dry and wet Canada in seductive proximity. Yet nothing said about Canada's future is capable of exaggeration. It is God's other country. It is a land of unlimited possibilities.

Like most Americans who cross the northern border for the first time I went to Canada expecting to encounter primitiveness on every hand. I knew it had some big cities. I was thoroughly well aware of Canada's achievements in the war. Yet primeval conditions, somehow, were definitely associated in my mind with the land of Strathcona, Macdonald, Laurier and Borden. I heard a wag in Ottawa say that most Americans thought Canadians were white Eskimos. I have been magnificently disillusioned. Canada is everything I did not expect her to be and immensely more than anything I ever imagined she could be. She is a one hundred per cent nation.

Canada A Nation

I use the term "nation" advisedly, and underline it. For no American can breathe Canadian air nowadays without becoming instantly conscious of the virile, insistent spirit of nationhood omnipresent in the Dominion. Everywhere I encountered a word new to me—Canadianism. Everywhere men, women and children are bent upon accomplishing the "Canadianization" of their country and institutions. Here and there, of course, the voice of radicalism is heard, and nationhood is defined as independence from the British Motherland. But unless my inquiries took me into the wrong circles of Canadian society, I found that the best thought of the Dominion is for nationhood within that Sir Auckland Geddes calls "the framework of the Empire." Canadians are proud of their membership in the world-wide British Imperial Commonwealth—fully as proud I should say, as Mother Britain is of her great children overseas.

It was not surprising to run into anti-Americanism in Canada. A people that have fought and bled in the great war as Canadians fought and bled—and long before we of the United States made up our minds to follow their example—can be excused for objecting to the stigma which the United States Senate put upon them. Canadians point out, with justification that I hold unanswerable, that they would be more than human if they did not resent the suggestion that, as a nation, they are unfit to rank with Haiti, Panama, or Liberia. By denying the right of Canada, Australia and the other self-governing British Dominions to places of their own in the League of Nations, the United States Senate dealt a blow to Canadian pride that may be forgiven, but will not soon, I fancy, be forgotten. Canadians produce their casualty list in the war, place our own alongside, and ask if the pro rata percentage of human sacrifice they made for liberty's cause between 1914 and 1918 does not entitle them to play a full-sized nation's part in the regulation of world affairs.

PRES. WILSON'S CHALLENGE HAS BEEN ACCEPTED

Everett, Wash.—Ruby Herman, wife of Emil Herman, who as state secretary of the Socialist party, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for alleged violation of the espionage act, has accepted President Wilson's challenge to "point out a single person wrongfully imprisoned under that act."

Herman has served 23 months. The sole evidence on which he was convicted was a small sticker pasted on a bookcase in the state offices. That sticker read, "Young man, don't be a soldier—be a man!" It was pasted there, not by Herman, but by a former occupant of the offices several years before the war.

No evidence was produced at the trial to show that Herman ever knew the sticker was on the bookcase. It was brown with age and had been hidden for weeks by the calendar, which a detective removed when the offices were raided.

"In view of these incontrovertible facts," Mrs. Herman writes the president, "can you longer allow my husband to remain locked up?"

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U. S. SPENDS EIGHT BILLION ON LUXURIES

Tobacco Heads List With Motor Cars a Close Second

According to the statistics compiled by the treasury of the United States government, "Uncle Sam, his wife and family," are spending upward of $8,700,000,000 a year on luxuries. Tobacco heads the list with an annual outlay of $2,110,000,000; cigarets cost $800,000,000; snuff and loose tobacco a like sum; cigars $510,000,000. The tidy little sum of $2,000,000,000 goes for motor cars and their parts. Candy makers reap a harvest of $1,000,000,000, while $5,000,000 in spetu aannually for chewing gum. Soft drinks cost the public $350,000,000; perfumery and cosmetics, $150,000,000; furs $300,000,000; carpets and luxurious clothing, $1,500,000,000; pianos and phonographs, $250,000,000, and so down the list.

"The labor and capital employed in producing these things might otherwise have been employed in producing coal, food, houses and other necessities. In other words, the nation might have had more bread if it had had less cake. And as is always the case, the dancer pays the fiddler. In this instance, the luxury consumer is paying a higher price for his necessities because he is abnormally consuming luxuries," is the comment of the Research Commission.

We are satisfied that a day of reckoning is coming. Hungry stomachs will force the luxury loving world to turn its attention from the froth and frills to the necessities of life. We are an extravagant people. Canada's per capita expenditures for luxuries is not far below the amounts spent by our neighbors to the south.

Seattle.—Five retail stores have moved from the McDermott building in the downtown district during the past week. Non-union labor entered into its construction, and so organized labor withheld its patronage from the tenants of the stores.