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**GARMENT WORKERS PLAN FEDERATION TEXTILE WORKERS**

Movements in U.S., Canada, Germany for Federation to Control the Manufacture

New York.—Delegates from the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will attend the International Clothing Workers' Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark, which will start August 24. Invitations to the congress have been sent to other American organizations of clothing workers, but the Amalgamated and the International probably will be the only ones represented.

The call for the congress was sent out by the temporary bureau of the International Clothing Workers' Federation. The temporary bureau was formed last December at Amsterdam, at the first meeting since the war. President Benjamin Schlesinger of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union attended this meeting as the sole delegate from the United States.

Accompanying the call for the August congress is a draft of rules for the conduct of the International Clothing Workers' Federation. Union of clothing workers are urged to act on these rules and send in amendments or suggestions before July 15.

Plans for the publication of a federation journal to be called The International Clothing Workers and to be printed in French, English, and German, and for the establishment of a permanent bureau, figured in the call, which states as the purpose of the federation:

"The promoting and maintaining of the industrial organization of clothing workers of all countries in a strong and unbreakable federation in order to further the economic and social interests of all clothing workers; the support of such joint national and international action as the circumstances may require in the struggle against the exploitation of labor and the maintaining of international working class solidarity."

As there are movements in the United States, Canada, and Germany for federation of textile workers with clothing workers, to control the manufacture of clothing in all phases, the August congress probably will take some action to admit textile workers. There are nearly 2,000,000 clothing workers and textile workers in the United States and Canada alone, so an international federation will have tremendous power.

**SIX THOUSAND MINERS ON STRIKE IN WEST VIRGINIA**

Charleston, W. Va.—Refusal of the Williamson Coal Operators' association to treat with the United Mine Workers led to the issuance of an order by District President C. F. Kenly to the six thousand union miners in Mingo county, W. Va., and Pike county, Ky., to refrain from reporting to work on June 30.

**CLOTHING WORKERS TO HAVE ATTRACTIVE LABOR BUILDING**

New York.—Construction of the central headquarters of the New York Joint Board of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America at 11th street and Second avenue, which is expected to be the most commodious and attractive labor building in the United States, is about to begin here.

The new headquarters building, which is to be called The Amalgamated Center, will cost about \$1,000,000. There will be seven floors to accommodate offices and meeting halls and a basement for gymnasium and swimming pool and a sub-basement for the heating apparatus and storerooms.

**PUBLIC HAS DUTIES AS WELL AS RIGHTS**

A. F. of L. Convention Gives Fitting Reply to Claim That Public Has Rights

In favoring the reinstatement of Boston policemen who lost their positions when they struck last September, the A. F. of L. convention gave fitting reply to the claim that "the public has rights."

The trade unionists made an addition to this claim by the statement that while the public has rights it also has duties. By inference the convention took the position that those who talk of "the public's rights" would make a stronger case and strikes would be avoided if the public were alert to its duties where wrong exists and did not wait until it was inconvenienced to talk about its "rights."

It was shown at the convention that the Boston policemen struck after they had exhausted every means of improving intolerable conditions; after they were denied the rights to even join a fraternal organization that had connections outside the police department, and after a social club maintained by them had been dissolved.

The convention declared that conditions before the strike made it impossible to maintain a police force in a democratic country.

"That the Boston policemen's request was fully justified," the convention's resolutions declared, "is indicated by the fact that the men employed to fill their places after the strike were given the wages and other improved conditions which the Boston policemen had requested in a respectful and proper manner."

"The citizens have a right to expect a constant and loyal service on the policeman's part; but the police cannot fulfill their full duty if they are forced to suffer rankling injustice through tyrannical or arbitrary over-officials, or are to be prevented from presenting their claims for higher wages when the welfare of their wives and children makes this an absolute necessity."

"The policemen owe a duty to the public, but the public owe an equivalent duty to those who are employed to wear the policeman's uniform, and the public owe it to themselves to see that no arbitrary, bureaucratic or tyrannical methods are allowed to develop on the part of those who are in direct administrative authority of the police forces."

**U.M.W.A. CHARGES PROFITEERING BY COAL OPERATORS**

Vice-Pres. Murray Says He Can Prove No Relation Between Labor Costs and Sale Price

Seranton, Pa.—Charges of profiteering by coal owners was made by Vice President Murray of the United Mine Workers at the first session of the anthracite mine wage commission, appointed by the president. The trade unionist informed the commission that the miners would prove this charge and expose the coal owners who are attempting to shift responsibility for present prices and conditions to the miners.

"We can prove from official data," said Mr. Murray, "that there is no relation between labor costs of mining anthracite coal and the exorbitant price which is being exacted from the consumer; or, in other words, that the rates of pay of anthracite mine workers are not the determining factor in fixing the price of coal to the consumer. Our contention will be, and we shall demonstrate its correctness, that by propaganda and misrepresentation the attempt has been made to have the public believe that if the wages of anthracite mine workers or other classes of industrial workers are increased it will bring about another step in the vicious circle of the increased cost of living. Nothing could be further from the truth. This claim, we shall show, is merely the experiment which has been used by coal and other profiteers who have robbed and are robbing the public, to attempt to place the guilt of their crimes upon labor."

"We shall show that the interests of the anthracite workers and other classes of workers are identical with the interests of the public and that both the public and the workers are being exploited."

In urging the commission to declare, by recognition of the United Mine Workers, Vice President Murray showed that the present agreement is between "anthracite operators and 'anthracite mine workers' organizations." No such organization as the latter exists, said the speaker, who told the commission that it was time to throw aside this subterfuge and recognize the organization that is bound to carry out the provisions of an agreement that is made with a mythical organization.

**MUSICIANS BACK UP MOVIE GIRLS IN THEIR ORGANIZATION**

The musicians' union at Cincinnati, has organized girls employed as piano and organ players in moving picture houses. These girls were paid \$18 and less for a week of seven days. When exhausted they had to pay for a substitute to hold their job. Since the girls have organized several houses have established a \$25 rate. Some managers are objecting and the morning picture operators' union gives notice that their members will be called out if the girls are not accorded justice.

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**AGITATORS FOR OPEN SHOP ARE NOT PRETENDING**

Frankly Acknowledge Theory Stands For Individual Bargaining

Washington.—"Open" shop agitators are at last dropping all pretense of friendliness to trade unions—even "if they are run right"—and now frankly acknowledge that their theory stands for individual bargaining.

The chamber of commerce of the United States has taken the lead in the new movement. The chamber is submitting to a referendum of its affiliates a series of so-called "labor principles." Section 2 gives this cleverly phrased explanation of the "open" shop:

"The right of open shop operation, that is the right of employer and employee to enter into and determine the conditions of employment relations with each other is an essential part of the individual right of contract possessed by each of the parties."

The above theory is supported by Judge Gary of the steel trust and other anti-trade unionists who refuse to surrender their power over wage earners. These employers "talk big" on the legal right of individual bargaining, which no one denies. They remain silent, however, on the legal, social and ethical right of workers to act together.

The chamber of commerce has stripped the so-called "open" shop of all pretense, and it now stands, as it always was intended to stand—avowedly anti-trade union.

**MACHINISTS RESIST EFFORTS TO DESTROY THEIR SHORTER HOUR**

Every power at the command of employers is thrown against striking machinists at Cincinnati, to destroy their shorter hour movement. Injunctions have been issued and damage suits that total staggering sums have been filed against these unionists, all for the purpose of breaking their solidarity. Some of the bosses locked out their employees because they refused to accept the non-union shop, that the employers call "the American plan."

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