

STRIKE IN EASTERN COAL FIELDS PENDING

WAGE EARNERS SEEK ESTABLISHMENT OF BANKS TO PREVENT MANIPULATION

International Association of Machinists Has Bank of its Own Which Has Already Proved Useful to That Organization During An Industrial Dispute—Vote on Co-operatives.

"Organized labor in Canada is seeking to establish banks with the object of preventing manipulation of the private banks to the detriment of labor," said James Somerville, of Moose Jaw, International organizer of machinists, in an interview last week at Winnipeg. He had just come from Rochester, where he attended the convention of the International Association of Machinists.

Commenting on the proceedings at the Rochester convention, Mr. Somerville said the association had taken a forward step in the matter of handling financial matters by establishing a bank of its own in Washington, D. C., and a strong desire was shown for the extension of the bank movement, so that in addition to labor looking after the savings of workers it would be in a financial position to protect them from a line of attack which, he said, was often adopted.

"That bank," Mr. Somerville stated, "has proved extremely useful already. In a certain town on the Atlantic coast various firms de-

Bakers Define Philosophy Of Trade Unionism

In their report to the convention of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union, the executives of that organization expressed the following statement on trade union philosophy:

"The trade union movement can not rest on any hard and fast line for itself. It has to reckon with the workers as they are and not as it would wish them to be. The growth and expansion of the trade union movement are apace with the growth and advancement of the wage workers' movement, and will continue to be a result of necessity and experience.

"Any propaganda aiming at the destruction of a movement which has taken generations to build up is fallacious, injurious and reactionary.

"We do not venture to say the A. F. of L. represents the finality in the evolution of unionism—no more so than anything else in the course of human progress over and over again, but we do maintain that through the trade union movement, properly conducted, we can secure the complete fulfillment of our desires and aspirations."

LABOR NOT A COMMODITY THAT CAN BE BOUGHT AND SOLD, SAYS FORD

Employer of 70,000 Workers Says Wage-earners Should Get Enough to Keep Body and Soul Together, Educate Children and Provide for Old Age.

Henry Ford believes the labor problem cannot be solved until the world ceases to look upon labor as a commodity that can be bought and sold, according to Dr. S. S. Marquis, of the Ford Motor Company, and official spokesman for Mr. Ford. Dr. Marquis made the statement in an address to the Vortex Club, Detroit, last week.

"Dr. Marquis' position is one that requires daily dealings with 70,000 people employed by the Ford Motor Company. Through the homes of these workers his influence extends to 250,000 people.

"In my talk with Mr. Ford about my work," Dr. Marquis said, "we discussed the minimum wage scale inaugurated six years ago. Mr. Ford explained he was not the owner of the factory in which he works. His time after he leaves the factory should be his own. He should not be confined; he does not want to be confined.

"My first duty is to give back a share of the profits to the workers whose labor made them possible. They are entitled to a share. But I do not believe I should found institutions or endow charities to help the poor. I believe they should have money in their pockets to do with as they like. It is better that a man should have a lath tub in his own home than down stairs in the factory in which he works. His time after he leaves the factory should be his own. He should not be confined; he does not want to be confined."

O. B. U. Receives Another Hard Blow in Alberta

The death of the One Big Union has been sounded in Alberta, according to mine officials who are in a position to know. The absolute failure of their efforts to hold work in the Drumheller mines, and in the mines of the Crow's Nest Pass, has resulted in the loss of prestige which the organization commanded from certain elements prior to the strike.

According to Senator Robertson, Minister of Labor, who was on the scene of the strike, it is thought it cannot recover.

WORKER'S RIGHT TO ORGANIZE IS FUNDAMENTAL IN PRESENT STATE OF SOCIETY, SAYS PRESBYTERIANS

General Assembly Commends Moves to Give Workers a Voice in Industry, An Equitable Share in Wealth Produced, and the Securing of Hours of Labor As Will Afford Leisure for Self-Improvement and Service to Their Families and the Community.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada has issued a pamphlet containing its policy on "Social and Industrial Problems" which was adopted at the General Assembly of that church this year. As it contains constructive suggestions the Canadian Labor Press reproduces it in its entirety.—Editor.

Social and Industrial Problems.

The General Assembly recognizes the prevailing current a sign of the vital effort of the nation to adjust itself to new and changing conditions. It also recognizes that constructive suggestions for the betterment of the social system—the alienation of our natural resources, the drying up of land for the unproductive industries that have been tolerated in our social system—the public indifference toward the conditions in which many of our people live and toward the wrongs they suffer, and they call earnestly for extensive reforms of the abuses complained of by parliamentary action.

The General Assembly draws attention to the fact that selfish and vulgar parade of wealth, at a time when all our resources are required for the necessities of life, the public indifference toward the conditions in which many of our people live and toward the wrongs they suffer, and they call earnestly for extensive reforms of the abuses complained of by parliamentary action.

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DEATH OF WAR BOOM BRINGS PRICES DOWN

Average Fall in Prices Said to Be 30 Per Cent.

The high cost of living in England is at an end. The "war boom is over," according to the London newspapers, who announce the fact with prominently displayed streamers across their front pages. They indicate that the English are optimistic of giving the knock-out blow very soon to the remaining high prices.

SOCIALISTS OF CANADA TO VOTE ON MOSCOW AFFILIATION

The Winnipeg local of the Socialist Party of Canada at its meeting last week declined to entertain the proposal for affiliation with the Moscow third international. It was decided to submit the question to the Dominion executive committee in Vancouver for referendum vote of all locals in the Dominion.

O. B. U. STRIKE IN DISTRICT 18 FIZZLES OUT

Miners Remain Loyal to the Only Organization That Provided Protection.

After almost two years of agitation the One Big Union called a strike in the mine fields of Western Canada on October 1. Few of the miners responded to the call, and latest advice reaching the office of the Canadian Labor Press state that practically all of the mines are in operation and that only a few men remain idle.

The United Mine Workers of America have a two-year agreement with the coal operators in Western Canada and this agreement does not expire for some time. It provides for a "check-off" and it was this the One Big Union protested against. A strike was called to force its abolition. The strike has failed and another dream has gone.

The workers of the western mine fields are determined that they will stick to the only organization that has given them protection, namely, the United Mine Workers of America.

The One Big Union advocates are now seeking new battlefields. However, they have been successfully defeated in the west and when they strike at another point they will do so with sadly diminished force.

SEE CONSPIRACY TO BOOST COTTON

DALLAS, Texas, Oct. 15.—(United Press)—A conspiracy extending through several States to force up the price of cotton by burning gins and cotton gin burnings, in the south.

G. S. Iredell, inspector for the Texas Fire Insurance Commission, today declared that the \$1,000,000 Cameron gin Saturday was of incendiary origin. This is the biggest burning to date.

PRESSMEN DECIDE TO ADD CANADIAN TO E. C.

Over 200 Delegates Attend Annual Convention.

The annual convention of the International Printing Pressmen and Amalgamated Union, which recently held its sessions at the Pressmen's Home, Tennessee, was one of the most important in the history of that organization. About 200 delegates from all over the world, all parts of Canada and the United States very local in Canada being represented.

Some of the important business transacted, among other things, the One Big Union movement was strongly endorsed, the delegates going on record as utterly opposed to it. It was decided that all parts of Canada and the United States very local in Canada being represented.

STRIKE PENDING IN COAL FIELDS EASTERN CANADA

Eleventh Hour Conference Being Held in An Endeavor to Prevent Tie-up.

A delicate situation has arisen in the coal fields of the East. A strike is pending. At the time of writing it is impossible to make any definite statement as to the outcome of the eleventh hour conference that are being held in an endeavor to prevent a tie-up in District 26 of the United Mine Workers of America.

A conference is being held at Montreal between Mr. Gerald Brown, Deputy Minister of Labor, and the representatives of the Royal Commission which investigated the mining in the Maritime Provinces. The officials of the Dominion Iron, Steel and Coal Co. Ltd. and President Robt. Baxter and Secretary J. E. McLachlin, of the United Mine Workers of District 26, the outcome of this conference is awaited with some anxiety by the public.

GET THE RIGHT BRICK

In the "Report on Reconstruction" of the British Labor party is stated in magnificent words the ideal for civilization, "without which humanity will be disgraced:

"If we are to escape from the decay of civilization itself, we must insure that what is presently to be built up is a new social order based not on fighting, but on fraternity—not on the competitive struggle for the means of bare life, but on a deliberately planned co-operation in production and distribution for the benefit of a healthy and vigorous community for every person born into the world.

MEN ACQUITTED OF KIDNAPING P. M. CHRISTOPHERS.

The five men charged with kidnaping P. M. Christophers, organizer for the One Big Union, at Estevan, Saskatchewan, were on Tuesday acquitted by Mr. Justice Brown.

Before the case went to the jury, the judge dismissed the charges against the defendants, who were abandoned and later interrogated by Leon Joubaux, secretary of the federation, has taken place. The semi-official collaboration of the federation is being sought by the prosecution, which they qualify as a political manoeuvre. They in turn are being sought by the federation, a number of politicians, among them Mr. Clemenceau, Mr. Clemencau is, of course, on a voyage to India, and if it is necessary to summon him, the affair cannot be settled until a report date.

CHILDREN GO TO WORK

Within a year after they were legally permitted to go to work, a child out of every four in Connecticut left school for that purpose, reported the Federal Children's Bureau.

This year, 1920, 1,000,000 children and those engaged in agriculture and domestic service. Three-fourths of the children went to factories, the remainder to mines, and the rest to the metal industries and girls to textile and clothing factories. Of the boys, 10 per cent. left the first job within a month, and more than one-half shifted work before six months. The greatest amount of shifting for both girls and boys occurred in the clothing industry, and the least in the textile industry.

TEXTILE PRESIDENT ATTACKS RADICALISM

John Golden, president of the United Textile Workers of America, in his annual address at the organization's convention in Manchester, N. H., recently, attacked the open shop as an attempt to kill trade unionism and to establish "wildcat radical labor unions." His denunciation of radicalism was greeted with a significant demonstration of approval.

Independent unions founded in recent years, he said, were disintegrating rapidly because of "their extreme radicalism and their avowed disloyalty to everything." The mass of textile workers in Canada and the United States whether organized or unorganized, he said, are suffering from anarchy or socialism, he asserted.

Mrs. Sarah A. Conroy, secretary-treasurer, reported that 100,000 women had joined the organization during the year.

EASTERN MINERS PROTEST INCREASED MEDICAL FEES.

Because the coal field doctors are asking an increase in rates for an exorbitant increase in rates, the United Mine Workers of District 26 have decided to import medical supplies from other districts, set them up in business and sell them at a community drug store for the mutual benefit of the newcomers and the old.

The doctors have been making up their minds to increase their medical treatment without further delay. The arrangements altogether unless they give it.

RAILWAYMEN PROTEST C. N. R. PRESIDENT'S ORDER

Announcement by President D. B. Hanna, of the Canadian National Railways, that employees of that railway should be allowed to run for political office, has provoked a storm of indignation and protest on the convention of the Division of Railway Employees, American Federation of Labor, which met at Winnipeg last week. It is the intention of the railway employees to present to the C. N. R. a resolution to the effect that they will not accept any such order.

The order issued by President Hanna, read as the following: "I am hopeful that there will be a peaceful settlement between miners and operators in District 26," said John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, "and that there will be no more strikes."

FEW LABOR DISPUTES IN UNITED STATES

Labor disturbances in the United States are now practically negligible, according to information made public recently by the statistical service of the Department of Labor, which announced that only 73 disputes were handled last week by the service and that only 11 of these were strikes. In most instances employers and employees have made definite agreements that the questions arising will be settled without interference with production.

There are a few lockouts reported, but it was pointed out that a time when general strikes are being agitated in Great Britain, when Italian factory operatives have practically revolutionized the system of industry through their insistence upon having an active part in managing, and when 600,000 workmen are reported on strike in Saxony, the largest strike in the United States is a purely local matter affecting the workers in one trade in Tampa, Florida.

PROSECUTION OF LABOR FEDERATION

Although the prosecution of the Confederation Generale du Travail, of France, which is held to be an illegal association, proceeds slowly, it is nevertheless, not being abandoned, and an interrogatory of Leon Joubaux, secretary of the federation, has taken place. The semi-official collaboration of the federation is being sought by the prosecution, which they qualify as a political manoeuvre. They in turn are being sought by the federation, a number of politicians, among them Mr. Clemenceau, Mr. Clemencau is, of course, on a voyage to India, and if it is necessary to summon him, the affair cannot be settled until a report date.

BACK PAY AND RAISE FOR C. P. R. WORKERS

Negotiations completed by the system board of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers and Express and Station Employees, have secured for 2,000 employees on Canadian Pacific Western lines increases in back pay and raises.

Back pay alone will amount to approximately \$500,000, the announcement made by the board last week.

BRITISH FOOD DEARER

The Ministry of Labor of Great Britain reports that the price of all foods increased 191 per cent. between July, 1914, and September, 1920.

SUGAR REFINERIES HAVE CLOSED DOWN

Neither Manufacturing Nor Selling Pending Enquiry.

(Montreal Star, Oct. 15.)

The sugar refineries are marking time, pending the Government enquiry and are neither manufacturing nor selling. The Acadia, of Halifax and Atlantic St. John, as well as the Canada and the St. Lawrence refineries of Montreal are closed, and say they have decided to discontinue business for the time.

At a conference yesterday with H. H. Drummond and J. W. McConnell, plans for future action were discussed, and it was afterwards stated that the refineries are preparing statements for submission to the Governor-in-Council at Ottawa.

MANITOBA'S NEW WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAW EFFECTIVE JAN. 1.

The new Workmen's Compensation Act passed at the last session of the Provincial Legislature will come into force January 1, 1921, according to notice sent all employers of labor by Nicholas Fielder, secretary of the board. The legislation is much wider in its scope and brings many additional classes of labor under the scope of the act. Increased compensation is provided for injured workmen, and the act is designed to protect the interests of the injured workmen and their families.

In spite of the greatly increased cost which will be paid in compensation to injured workmen, the act is designed to protect the interests of the injured workmen and their families.

BIG DAMAGES UNDER COMPENSATION ACT.

In the Supreme Court at Montreal, recently, Mr. Justice Surveley handed down judgment awarding Emil Belanger \$17,500 damages in his action for \$25,000 against the Co. Limited, for injuries received in an accident which employed in the service of the defendant.

The accident occurred on April 3, 1913, when Belanger, who was working at the cotton pressing machine in the shops of the company defendant, had both hands caught in a roller and mangled to pulp. Plaintiff was only 25 years of age, and at the time earned a salary of \$27 per day. In the judgment giving him \$17,500 as compensation, Justice Surveley said plaintiff's earnings at earning capacity was now worthless.

Charles R. Rodier, K.C., appeared for plaintiff and Casgrain & Company for defendant.

HOOVER EXPECTS DECREASE IN LIVING COSTS.

The apex of the high cost of living has been reached in the United States and from now on prices will undergo a continuous downward readjustment, Herbert Hoover declared at Toronto, Kan., last week.

"Labor wages do not need to come down with the high cost of living. If labor increases production, he concluded.

LABOR'S STANDARDS NOT STATIONARY.

There is a widespread belief that wages should be fixed on a cost-of-living basis. This idea is pernicious and intolerable. It means putting in a hand and a foot in the fire. It means fixing a standard of life and liberty which must remain fixed. American workers can not accept that proposition.

They demand a progressively advancing standard of life. They have an abiding faith in a better future for all mankind. They discard and

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METAL POLISHERS TO TAKE REFERENDUM

On November 17 the Metal Polishers' International Union will hold a referendum on a proposal to increase the salary of the international president from \$1,000 to \$2,150 and of the international secretary from \$1,250 to \$2,410.

Trade Unionists Can Most Effectively Combat This Campaign by Purchasing Only Union Labelled Goods Only From Stores and Shops Where Shop Cards or Working Buttons Are Used.

The Union Label Trade Department of the American Federation of Labor has issued the following circular to all members of the Trade Union movement:

"The 'Open Shoppers' as represented by the National Chamber of Commerce through a referendum vote taken by that organization, have served notice on the Trade Union movement that they are opposed to and intend to destroy all forms of industrial democracy as represented by the trade agreement.

This challenge to the exercise of fundamental rights cannot be ignored by the workers, and the best way to meet it is by a concerted and united movement where each union in affiliation to the American Federation of Labor can use its purchasing power to help every other union.

The organized workers of this country receive more than \$1,000,000,000 each year in wages and salaries. The fact that this vast amount of money comes to us through organized effort, a large portion of it is spent for the commodities made and sold by our avowed enemies,

"OPEN SHOPPERS" SEEK DESTRUCTION OF ALL FORMS OF INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY

The General Assembly affirms its conviction that the right of the workers to organize in any legal union is fundamental in the present state of society, and that the right of the members of each craft to deal through their chosen representatives with the management of the industries in which they are working should be recognized at once by their employers and the Government.

In view of the fact that the rights of the entire community may be imperilled by general sympathetic combination, whether of capital or workers, the Government is urged to investigate into the causes of the present distress, provide better machinery for the settlement of disputes, and to prevent profiteering and removing other artificial causes of the high cost of living and to maintain the rights of all classes in the community.

The General Assembly would point out the danger in the present tendency to create artificial legal classes, each for the furtherance of its own interests. While such organization may be necessary to each class, the Government should see to it that the spirit of faction and mutual suspicion can be avoided only by the different classes submitting to arbitration in any legal dispute to the common good. In the grave difficulties and dangers of the period of readjustment and reconstruction, the Assembly would urge all our people to unite in the service of the nation as a whole, and to establish firmly these principles of justice and brotherhood which alone can bring us enduring peace.

Above all else, the Assembly, without attempting to degenerate at all in regard to workmen, would affirm its belief that the only permanent cure for the evils of our time is the practical application of Christian principles to the whole conduct of life.

SAYS O. T. A. IS UNBRITISH.

That the Ontario Temperance Act is a most un-British piece of legislation was the comment of Mr. Justice Maclean, in Chambers at Toronto, on the 22nd inst., in the motion to quash the conviction of John Newton of Cobourg, who was fined \$500 by Magistrate W. H. Fryd for having liquor in a place other than his private dwelling. His Lordship's decision was reserved.