

JOHN MITCHELL SAYS IN LABOR DAY ADDRESS TO WORKINGMEN:

"What is Most Needed Today is a Spirit of Brotherhood and Humanity"



BY JOHN MITCHELL.
Former President of the United Mine Workers of America, Vice President American Federation of Labor and Vice President and Member of Executive Committee National Civic Federation.

Labor Day is always an important event especially to the wage earners; but this year Labor's holiday is peculiarly significant because it marks the dawn of an industrial revival and invites a discussion of the cause and effect of the industrial stagnation from which we are now emerging.

Perhaps the most important lesson and the most practical demonstration of the usefulness and the potency of the trade union movement has been given in these dark days of adversity. Indeed, in industrial affairs as in all other avenues of human activity, the lessons learned in adversity are the truest and surest lessons of all. It is in times of stress and trial that we reason best from cause to effect, and the chastening influence of the hardships endured in times of industrial depression makes us stronger and saner to meet the obstacles that are to come.

It is perfectly safe to say that every factor in our complex social life suffered from the effect of the panic, but the men and the institutions that suffered most were those that made least provision in days of prosperity to meet their exigencies in days of adversity. While the organized workmen felt keenly the effect of the depression, their suffering was not so great or so general as was that endured by the unskilled and unorganized workmen because the organized workers had built up a fund in normal times upon which they could draw to tide them over their most pressing necessities in days of adversity. Another circumstance which proved helpful to the organized workman was the fact that only in rare instances and in a few general cases was that endured by the unskilled and unorganized workman suffered not alone from unemployment, but also from substantial reductions in his wage scale.

The old theory that wages are regulated by an iron law of supply and demand has been disputed for many years, but it required a great industrial depression to disprove and dissipate the antiquated proposition that wages are governed by a cruel and immutable law of supply and demand. While no doubt wages are influenced by industrial conditions, it is nevertheless true that wages are controlled in a large measure by the workmen themselves. Generally speaking, the organized laborers have maintained the scale of wages prevailing prior to the panic, but the unorganized workmen have suffered reductions in their wage scale. As a matter of fact, the records of the trade organizations show that the unions, on the whole, are numerically stronger now than they were two years ago; and with the return of "good times," there promises to be an expansion and growth in trade union membership unprecedented in the industrial history of our country.

The experience of the past two years has emphasized the fact that the best way to minimize the evils of a financial or industrial depression is to maintain at the highest possible point the purchasing and consuming power of the people. It is equally essential to a resumption of commercial and industrial activity that employers and workmen alike shall be patient and forbearing with each other.

But the most valuable lesson that has been taught and learned is the one that will cause both labor and capital to recognize and concede each other's rights, obligations and responsibilities. There is no fundamental necessity for industrial strife; the interests of labor and capital may not be identical, but they are reciprocal and interdependent, and when both are intelligently directed, labor and capital can and do work together to their mutual advantage. Indeed, as time passes and as the real purpose and philosophy of trade unionism as a constructive force is fully understood, opposition to it by employers will decrease correspondingly, and the day will come when progressive employers will insist upon having agreements with their associated workmen as a guarantee against industrial strife, just as they now have insurance to protect them against losses caused by disasters and accidents.

The trade agreement is the most practical solution of the labor question that is within our reach. Men may, on the one side, fume against the labor union, and on the other side they may demand the reconstruction of society, but practical men must recognize conditions as they exist and they should apply themselves in a rational way toward the settlement of their differences without recourse to the arbitrament of industrial war. Washington well said that "To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace."

So it is in the industrial world; the strong unions, intelligently effected—as they are and well financed, are able to guarantee peace and protection to their members; employers having confidence in such unions are guaranteed the service of the best workmen and the assurance of uninterrupted development.

What is most needed is a broad spirit of brotherhood and humanity. The span of life is brief; men may not take with them the wealth accumulated in this world; they can and should strive to leave behind them the reputation of having, to the extent of their ability, contributed to the well-being of society and the means and their ability, contributed to the happiness of mankind.

John Mitchell

NEW ENGLAND READY TO SWIPE POOR INCOME TAX IN THE JAW

Connecticut Has Already Taken a Smash and There's Nothing but a Bare Chance that Other States Won't Follow.

By F. J. Wilson.

Boston, Mass., Sept. 5.—What will happen to the income tax in conservative New England?

Will it last as long as a stack of Kansas alfalfa in front of a husky Kansas cyclone? Or as long as it takes a hungry crow to clean up a Wyoming jack rabbit?

About that long. However, the income tax's finish won't be as violent as that probably. There are nice comfortable ways of killing an offensive measure, without rousing the agitators. A bill can die in committee. It can be strangled quietly and when the upper house, it can go over to two years consideration and sober thought as has already been done in Connecticut.

Will Be Killed.

But it will be killed, that is certain, say the best informed people in New England.

Oh, yes, some people think there's a bare chance in New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont. But there's nothing at all doing in Massachusetts. Connecticut has already turned the cold shoulder. And N. W. Aldrich's country estate of Rhode Island will pass it up when they have for skating in Albuquerque.

New England has many millionaires, many well-to-do people. The idea of sacredness of vested rights and of property is stronger in New England than in any other part of the country. New England thinks well of Lowell as a poet and writer, but doesn't agree with him that "property will always take care of itself while it is individual liberty that needs guarding."

Connecticut the First.

Connecticut was the first New England state where the proposition came up. The result is illuminating. The income tax was a good Republican measure. At least a Republican congress had started it off on the bump-the-bumps. So Republican Connecticut couldn't very well turn it down outright.

The solution—it was postponed till the next meeting of the legislature, two years away. The solons thought that they needed time to think it over and to see how their constituents thought about it. Lots of things may happen in two years, they reflected.

There may be a fight in Massachusetts. The Bay state has many strong labor unions who will make a fight for its passage. The Central Labor Union of Boston has already endorsed the project. Men who are in favor of it are already putting legislative candidates on record as to what they will do in the matter.

May Pass House.

It may pass the house. But then there's the Senate. In Massachusetts that body of 40 men has done

TALKED WITH MOUTH---OUT!

This is Ormsby McHarg, assistant secretary of commerce and labor, who soon will be out of the government service. A few days ago McHarg attacked the Roosevelt policy of conservation, and in a remarkably short time word came, not from Washington, where McHarg is, but from



ORMSBY McHARG.

Beverly, where Taft is, that McHarg had tendered his resignation. McHarg thought that Roosevelt's conversation policy ought to be left to divine hands, and said so. He called Gifford Pinchot sharply to account for meddling in the divine work. McHarg's name does not appear in the current edition of Who's Who. It is known that he was an assistant chauffeur of the Hitchcock steam roller in the Taft campaign.

stands for a lot of coarse work in this line, but here was the last cry. Result: One big pinch, after which the station register looked like a rag catalogue.

But can you beat it?

WANTS HIS GOLD BRICK FOR HIMSELF

Hoosier Banker Paid \$7,000 for It, by Heck! So It's His Own.

Marion, Ind., Sept. 6.—Just because Banker Jas. Johnson paid \$7,000 for a gold brick which wasn't good, he does not propose to have it exhibited as a sign of his folly. Banker Johnson has brought suit in replevin of the brick. R. L. Whitson was going to show it to everybody at the coming meeting of the Marion Pioneer Society here.

Mr. Johnson, who is a practical man used the \$7,000 trophy for a doorstep when the jewelers told him it was a fine quality of brass.

The Provincial Government has made a careful investigation and finds the spruce wood pest has not yet touched any of Ontario's timber.

All that Labor Asks or Needs



JUSTICE; the rendering to everyone his due.—Webster.

Were we all born mere animals, the due of the newborn babe would be only that which it could take. The weak of mankind, made so by lack of opportunity or lack of possession, would always be at the mercy of the strong, and there could be no such thing as civilization and progress.

But with civilization's birth was born the principle of natural rights. That, under our artist's "Greed" and "Selfishness" which he has placed in the hearts of the common people, the climbing people of the picture.

What does Mr. Gruel mean by "Greed" and "Selfishness" which he places in the hearts of the common people, the climbing people of the picture. Not alone the greed and selfishness that obsess the rich, the high-stationed, the powerful in other respects, but also the greed and selfishness in the hearts of the common people, the climbing people of the picture.

Behind our artist's "Greed" and "Selfishness" are centuries of oppression, centuries of the stealing of opportunities that were the poor man's when he laid in his cradle. Mere birth has given to many the natural dues belonging to millions of others. The ravenous greed of those politically

or socially powerful, the idolatry of the almighty dollar has snatched from millions that fair chance to make a living of which every man is born the possessor and which the world does owe every man.

It was probably impossible for Artist Gruel to show that in the mass of his climbing people there are thousands banded together formally—Organized Labor, whose day this is throughout the land.

All that Organized Labor asks is Justice—the rendering to everyone HIS due; not to a Divine Right Baer his due and also the due of a hundred thousand other men.

Organized Labor knows that the people cannot climb that hill without sacrifice, cannot scale the hard rocks of Gruel's picture with kid gloves on the hands, patent leathers on the feet. It resorts sometimes to strikes, and that a thousand men had better be temporarily idle in this city than that the God-given principle of justice be crucified by merciless greed in that city over there.

It protests against the proposition that men are simply animals, their labor a mere marketable article with rates fixed in a "pit" run by soulless corporations and a monied aristocracy created by the divine right of inheritance.

It cries out against a non-division of rights. It demands the natural rights of mankind, and onward and upward it goes, scrambling foolishly sometimes, falling bruised and battered often, but ever moving upward over Gruel's rough places and rocks toward the rendering to everyone his due—Justice.

ATTEMPT TO DIMINISH LABOR UNIONISM IS NOT SUCCEEDING

PETER POWERS DISCUSSES SCHEME OF PIERPONT MORGAN TO OUST UNIONISM.

By Peter Powers. The threat made by J. Pierpont Morgan to demolish every form of labor union in the United States Steel corporation is being made good so far as he and his managers are concerned, but not according to the men involved.

Not only has the trust thrown out the open shop mask in dealing with the iron, steel and tinplate workers and the seamen on the lakes, but the corporation has now declared war upon the miscellaneous trades. Secret instructions have just been sent to all mill managers to discharge all machinists, molders, carpenters, painters, bricklayers and other workmen who may be suspected of being connected with unions, or even express sympathy with the organization idea. Scores of these workers are now being weeded out.

The trust has ceased to endeavor the humbug its workmen or the public with open shop pretensions. It proclaims the closed shop—closed to union men.

Visited Centres. During the past 10 days I have visited a number of the strike centers and talked with many tinplate workers, officers and men. Summarized, the situation is this: Then Amalgamated association lost one plant partially and secured two former nonunion plants, with the chances favorable to closing down one or two almost any day.

Up to the present the number of nonunion workmen to walk out of the trust mills, exceeds the number of union men, and hundreds of the former have joined the Amalgamated.

The trust is offering unheard of wages and long-time contracts to skilled workmen to desert the union, but few have accepted what they designate "the dirty silver pieces."

At this juncture the unions are devising ways and means to finance the strike for a year or more.

In the near future it is likely that the three national organizations involved in the iron and steel strike will form a close federation.

Most Anything

Josh Wise Says: "Th' man that shirks his union dues is th' man that rocks th' boat."

"Labor unions are FOR the workman, but AGAINST no one."—John Mitchell.

"The largest labor union in the country is the United Mine Workers of America."

"Idleness is the sepulcher of a living man."—Latin proverb.

"Many of the strongest labor unions today were formed during the progress of the American civil war."

"A useless life is but an early death."—Goethe.

"An alchemist while seeking to discover a mixture of earths that would make the most durable crucible, one day found that he had made porcelain."

"Labor, wide as the earth, has its summit in heaven."—Carlyle.

"The Mohammedans have 'only 355 days in a year. In 36 years they would have Labor day once oftener than we do—if they had Labor day."

"Wm. Gifford, known as 'a good poet but poor shoemaker,' was an

Englishman who graduated from a cobbler's bench to an editor's chair, and acquired fame and fortune, which was more than most editors do, nowadays.

—The United States department of labor was organized in 1885.

—"Industry is fortune's right hand, frugality her left."—Old proverb.

—Wm. Murdock, inventor of the oval lathe, was a poor millwright.

—"Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well."—Earl of Chesterfield.

—Work, work, work. Till the brain begins to swoon; Work, work, work. Till the arms are heavy and dim! Seam, as 't were, and seam. Band, till the buttons I fall asleep. And sew them on in a dream! —Thos. Hood' Song of the Shirt."

—The growth of modern trades unionism dates from 1842.

—"There is no necessary hostility between capital and labor."—John Mitchell.

—The first convention of the American Federation of Labor was held at Terre Haute, Ind., on Aug. 2, 1881, which was preliminary to the convention at Pittsburgh the following November, the first officially recognized meeting of the body.

—"Nothing is impossible to industry," is one of the Sayings of the Seven Wise Men. It is accredited to Pericles of Corinth.

—For 13 years the Knights of Labor existed with its purpose and name a secret, on the ground of the dislike of employers to organized labor. At one time it had 700,000 members.

—I took a walk on Labor Day. To see what I could see. I found the labor man at play. No thought of work had he. But lo! the man who does not wear the toiler's well worn, sweat and superannated members. It will be modeled after the union printer's home at Colorado Springs.

—I found at labor everywhere Flitting up the house.

CHILD TOILET VICE—

Woman's Charges are Brought Against Him Proved by Investigations.

(By W. G. Shepherd.)

Special Correspondence.

Princeton, N. Y., Sept. 5.—John Sherman, former United States senator, charged by Florence Kelly, of the National Consumers' League, with employing children in factories.

The charge is true, she says. The New Hartford Cannery, operated by the Vice President's brother, Stanton Sherman, allows children to work during the school year, when peas, beans and corn are ripe.

Soaked in Juices.

Their tiny fingers, soaked in raw vegetables and their acids, ply the heavy childish faces are tanned and the straining rush of their handwork goes into cans that are later with brilliant labels.

Their product enriches the pockets of the Vice President's brother, Stanton Sherman, Vice President of the United States, and enables him to get into any Washington. In fact, he enabled him to get into any Uncle Joe Cannon's office.

will not do you any good about Sherman's children can't be breaking the news, no!

Coming to It.

he's coming as near it. Corporations have a way of doing many evil things. That's why they have some of the laws themselves. Sherman can hire children, Sherman, Vice President of the United States, has taken advantage of the New York act that greatly pleased the heartless, prosperous children of New York when it had eight years ago.

By what I myself know, Miss Kelly says the fact doesn't permit children to work. I suggested, "once Kelly is a crank like the reformers," said Mr. Sherman.

listen to the self-satisfied

top you can see the Sherman law aids him to drive.

DETROIT DROBLEM OF PAVING GIVEN TO /HO HAVE NO WORK

By Hugh Allen.

Sept. 5.—"When a poor to you—maybe it's wind you know he's deservin' and kids, and all that, it's due, and he can't be landlory any longer."