

Labor's Contribution to Federal Debate

FEDERAL LABOR MINISTER CALLS MINERS' SECRETARY

In a telegram sent to J. B. McLachlan, secretary of the United Mine Workers of America, District 26, N.S., Hon. James Mordock, minister of labor, expresses strong disapproval of "the underhanded and dishonest methods of undercutting" and asks for an assurance from Mr. McLachlan that he has not called upon the miners of Nova Scotia to cut their output in order to bring the British Empire Steel Corporation to terms. Mr. Mordock's telegram was prompted by a report which stated that Mr. McLachlan had called on the twelve thousand miners of Nova Scotia to join him in a policy of cutting the output as the most effective method of waging war against the corporation. The telegram follows: "My attention has been called by a despatch appearing in an Ottawa paper dated from Sydney, and reading in part as follows: 'The war is on, class war.' In these words of a manifesto issued tonight, J. B. McLachlan, secretary of District 26, United Mine Workers, calls on the twelve thousand miners of Nova Scotia to join him in a policy of cutting the output as the most effective method of waging war against the British Empire Steel Corporation. I have thought it well to bring the above statement to your attention and should be obliged if you would let me have word immediately if any such document as is here outlined has been issued with your approval. I trust the public will not be misled by such a statement, and I trust that you will take this opportunity, in any event, of expressing the hope that yourself and other officers and members of your organization will cast your vote in the forthcoming election on the policy as indicated in the statement above quoted. You will, I think, on reflection agree with me that any strength which organized labor possesses at the present time is the result of the unshakable and disinterested methods of undercutting, or, as it is sometimes called, sabotage, but of straight and honest dealings, each worker giving the best that is in him for the wages agreed upon. Any union or trade group which has received much publicity I shall gladly do my best to see that any reply received from you by way of disavowal or otherwise received equal prominence. I am, handing this message to the press.

The Herald publishes a telegram which J. B. McLachlan of the United Mine Workers of America, District 26 is said to have addressed to Hon. James Mordock, minister of labor, in reply to the latter's protest against the manifesto of the miners' secretary urging the miners to reduce production. In part Mr. McLachlan said: "Replying to your telegram of Saturday, I wish to state that in the manifesto issued by me, neither the word itself nor the intention once. However, I did in that document strongly advise the miners to cut down production to a point where all profits of the British Empire Steel Corporation would vanish. This tactic as a method of retaliation for a highly unjust encroachment of the employers upon the wages of the workmen and an invasion of their already too slender living, I have proclaimed openly, but there is no dishonest about it; you to the contrary notwithstanding. "I have preached this with the blessing of all my friends and the curses of my enemies. I have reached it by the individuals and thousands, and Mr. Minister, what are you going to do about it? "I shall do it again, knowing the miner has a perfect right to work with his coat on if he wants." Mr. McLachlan said for the week ending December 16, before the week out, California Mine produced 16,881 tons of coal at a labor cost of \$2.02 per ton, and that for the week ending January 13, after the wage cut, the labor cost \$1.75, while for the week ending January 27 the mine produced 2,222 tons at a labor cost of \$2.55. He continues: "Add the overhead charges on that interable 3,000 tons of coal and you may be able to guess why the miners are striking as they fight the nearest wage."

Mr. McLachlan added that the miners have no wage agreement and will not pay dividends on "acres of idle junk, known as the steel works." The preamble to this was when the Record published what it termed a "secret" document and which it says James B. McLachlan, secretary of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick division of the United Mine Workers of America, had signed as a supplement to his manifesto made public Friday, in which the miners were urged to restrict output because of a cut in wages imposed by the British Empire Steel Corporation upon 12,000 workers. The document claims that in many of the mines the men are already raising the cost of production by "striking on the job," and all miners are urged to follow suit. The document explains that the next step will be to place the situation of the miners before the Progressive party at Ottawa. The document says the effect of the action of the men in increasing the cost of securing coal is already to be seen in the increases in wages offered by the company since

MEDICINE HAT TRADES COUNCIL

The Medicine Hat Trades and Labor Council discussed the liquor act and there was some contentious debate. A motion was introduced by Delegate Currie that we "request the Alberta government to make provision to enable the clause in the Liquor Act to become operative which allows a person to have one quart of spirituous liquor and two quarts of malt liquor." The contention was made that the intent of the people was not being carried into effect in the administration of the law, and that while it was intended that citizens should have the privilege of maintaining a supply of liquor in their homes, things had been manipulated to such an extent that such a thing was next to an impossibility except through illegal practices. The council then offered to confer with the provincial officials of the liquor act and most of the officials agreed to a new and better wage scale. However, when submitted to the rank and file of the men, it was turned down, his bitterest opponent being Mr. McLachlan. The company then introduced the wage scale of the consolidation board.

In a letter issued at the same time, Mr. McLachlan charges Hon. G. H. Murray, Premier of Nova Scotia, with responsibility for the deaths of three children who recently started to death at Dominion No. 5, near Glace Bay. Mr. McLachlan is the leader of the more radical element of the United Mine Workers, and proved his leadership last Tuesday by opposing and defeating the Montreal agreement which was signed recently by a vote of seven to one. Other news from Sydney and Springhill, N.S., states that a strike of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick miners will follow the 7 to 1 defeat of a wage schedule arranged between the British Empire Steel Corporation, which controls the mines, and the executive of the men's union, submitted to the rank and file of the workers in a referendum yesterday. The schedule was agreed upon at a meeting of the United Mine Workers, District 26, which has been summoned to Halifax for conference with Hon. E. H. Armstrong, minister of mines.

WESTERN MINE SECTION VISITED

Gerald Brown, assistant deputy minister of labor, passed through Calgary on Sunday evening on his way to Fernie, B.C., where he will investigate the situation which has arisen between the coal miners and operators which it is feared may result in a walk-out of the miners when the present agreement expires on March 31. Mr. Brown will likely visit the principal fields in Alberta, including the Crow's Nest Pass and Drumheller districts, before returning to Ottawa.

DEMANDS INQUIRY

The lockout in the engineering trades was debated in the house of commons as a result of the labor party's desire for the government to institute an inquiry by an impartial tribunal. John Robert Clynes, labor member from Manchester, said labor wished to make opportunity use of the new Industrial Courts Act and to prove that the unions had done everything in their power to maintain peace and prevent injury to the engineering industry. He contended that the question of overtime was the cause of the lockout, which in turn was the result of an act of aggression on the part of the employers. He declared the question of management could not be considered apart from the rights of workers regarding labor and pay, which the employers could not alienate.

SLIGHT DECLINE IN UNEMPLOYMENT

Employment in Canada is improving. At the beginning of February, according to returns which will shortly be issued by the Labor Department, the percentage of unemployment in Canada among members of trade unions stood at 13.9 as compared with 15.1 at the beginning of January and 14.1 at the beginning of February. According to reports received from over 6,000 employers, employment registered expansion during February as compared with January, but the situation was still somewhat less favorable than during the corresponding period of last year.

WINDSOR PULP MILLS MAY CLOSE

The pulp mills of the Canada Paper Corporation at Windsor, P.Q., will no longer be in operation, if the letter of the injunction served on the company Saturday in accordance with the judgment of the supreme court is carried out. Some time ago the supreme court confirmed the judgment of a lower court in the action taken by A. J. Brown, K.C., of Montreal, to prevent the company from using sulphate and soda for the manufacture of paper at the plant here. Mr. Brown claimed that the older mills from the use of sulphate and soda prevented him from enjoying his country residence here. The closing of the plant will throw about 75 men out of work.

LABOR MEMBERS MAKE NOTABLE SPEECHES ON THE ADDRESS

IRVINE AND WOODSWORTH'S CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOTEWORTHY

What were acknowledged generally as speeches of an outstanding nature were the contributions to the debate at the Federal sessions on the address by the two Labor members, Irvine of Calgary and Woodsworth of Winnipeg. William Irvine, who continued the debate, at the outset, expressed sympathy with the prime minister in the death of his brother, Dr. MacDougall King. To Mr. Irvine there were two paramount issues before the country. The necessity of readjusting the government and institutions in accord with the changes going on in industry, and the problem of finding clothing and shelter for a people who according to the Dominion statistician, produced twice as much clothing and shelter as they consume. As there had been a revolt against the party system in some of the constituencies (Progressive cheers), it was time that there should be a change in this regard in parliament. The country was face to face with a new social order.

The immediate question was whether the government proposed to meet the changes now going on in society half-way. To some, it might smack of irreverence to the British constitutional system to talk of making changes in it. Really, he spoke in a spirit of profound respect for the British system. Its greatness was due to the fact that it possessed elasticity of life, the power of adaptation. Every institution, it was said, had sprung from a great human need, but sometimes institutions outlived their usefulness and became hindrances. What was needed was a recognition that human needs must have precedence. Systems of government had been made by men for men, and there was no good reason why they should not be made better. There was a tendency in institutions, when they had outlived their usefulness, to mould men to them selves rather than to be moulded by men. That was what the government seemed to want to do at present. The prime minister had said that he had invited Progressives into his cabinet, but it was on condition that they should become Liberals. That was the system seeking to modify the members of the house, rather than giving to the members of the house the right to modify the system. Liberals formed the government because they were the largest group and received their opportunity because the system of voting made it difficult for the people accurately to express their opinion. The government represented the financial interests of this country, with due regard to the great masses of the people. The official opposition also represented, when it did represent, the big interests. At present the Conservatives were the "political unemployed." The third group represented the organized farmers, and the fourth group organized labor. The latter group would have had a larger representation had there been any improved voting system. The member for Winnipeg Center (James S. Woodsworth) was the leader of the Labor group, and I said Mr. Irvine, "am the group." (Laughter.)

Each group represented certain economic interests, and each possessed the right to contribute to the work of parliament, but the rules of parliament were in need of change before these contributions could be made. (Continued on Page 3.)

Items of Interest from Overseas

REACH AGREEMENT

A provisional settlement has been reached in the building trades dispute affecting 700,000 operatives. The union representatives in conference with employers agreed to accept a graduated reduction of wages and modification of the number of hours of work per week, commencing April 1. The employers proposed to extend the present 44-hour week to a maximum of 50 hours per week in summer with a shorter week in the winter.

MINER'S BRAVERY

For the "bravest deed of the year," Thomas Brannon, a young miner, was yesterday awarded the Stange gold medal and £5 by the Royal Humane Society. Brannon is employed at the Nettleton Colliery, Norderden, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, and on November 14, while working in the Hall Pit, Nicholas Fawcett, the deputy foreman, was overcome by fumes 40 yards from the entrance. Passmore had gone in to bring out some gear so that the miners might begin work in another part. Brannon was called and at once tried to rescue Passmore, but was driven back by the fumes. Although this part of the pit was strange, and quite unlighted, Brannon did not cease his efforts, and the third attempt, when he dragged his comrade out of the darkness. Passmore afterwards recovered.

NOVEL STRIKE

Blackpool, Rev. Adam Hamilton, pastor of the Alexandra Road Congregational Church, went on strike for a fortnight. In a letter to parishioners he complained of empty pews at services. "There is something wrong either with me or the congregation," he said. "I shall wait a fortnight for the parish to decide which."

FEELING DECISION

A deputation consisting of the Lord Mayors and Mayors of northern cities and towns, including Sheffield, Glasgow, Newcastle and Barrow, waited on Lord Lee, First Lord of the Admiralty Office and drew attention to the serious situation which had arisen as a result of the suspension of work in the proposed new battleships following the Washington conference agreement.

MONTREAL CON-TRACTORS CLAIM OVER-PROTECTION

Vigorous action is being taken by the Montreal building trades with a view to having some alteration made in the scaffolding laws of the Province, which they claim are irksome and create unnecessary impediment in the way of rapid building operations. The feature of the law to which the greatest exception is taken, is that which provides that when scaffolding is erected more than fifteen feet high, a permit must be obtained and paid for, and the work must be seen and approved by a provincial inspector before the scaffold may be used. This restriction is unnecessary, it is maintained by the builders, in that their financial obligations under the Workmen's Compensation Act and other liabilities for accidents connected with their operations, are sufficient to guarantee that builders will take every possible precaution to see that scaffolding and every part of the structures they erect are perfectly safe, both for people working on them and for those around them. Further, the city has its own inspectors who examine buildings periodically during construction, and whose business it is to see that no dangerous unsatisfactory structure is erected, permanently or temporarily. Building men therefore feel that they have already sufficient inducement to make their scaffolding safe without the annoyance and delay caused by additional interference from the Provincial authorities, and they think this provision might well be done away with.

With this object in view, a letter has been addressed to the Minister of Public Works at Quebec. Hon. Mr. Halliwell, drawing his attention to the above points, and asking the Minister to suggest the quickest and most effective way of having action taken in this sense. This letter, which has been drawn up by D. K. Trotter, secretary of the Builders' Exchange as a whole, was forwarded to Mr. Gaultier yesterday. As soon as a reply is received, the Minister's suggestions will be given careful study, and further steps will be taken, if necessary, with a view to obtaining legislative action.

B. OF L. LEADING ENGINEERS IN DOMINION

In regard to the dispute between the Canadian Association of Railway Engineers and the Locomotive Engineers and the representative organization on the Canadian National Railway, a ballot was taken of the engineers, and the result shows 731 for the B. of L. E. and 284 for the C.A. of R. E. The dispute arose when the railway management, on account of the activities of W. B. Best, late deposed general chairman of the engineers on the C.N.R. system, decided they wanted to know which organization was the representative one, and requested that the engineers settle the matter by ballot.

LOWERING COSTS

A further two per cent. drop in the cost of living for working class families between February 1 and March 1 was recorded in the government labor Gazette. The figure now stands at 86 per cent. above that ruling in July, 1914, and is the lowest since December, 1917. One effect of the new index figure now shown is that railwaymen's wages will be reduced two shillings weekly.

GLOVE INDUSTRY

The kid glove industry, which has been carried on for many years at Grenoble, France, is passing through a crisis principally due to the falling off of export trade, says a Reuter despatch from Paris. Several of the Grenoble plants are considering the question of operating on part time. The fall of the market has made German competition very formidable, especially in the United States market. Another difficulty is the large quantities of second rate goods which have been thrown on the market. Meantime, many Grenoble glove workers are giving up their trade for other more highly-paid work.

HARSH TREATMENT

The Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades Federation, the National Union of Foundry Workers, and the National Federation of General Workers have issued a manifesto in reference to the lockout of the amalgamated engineers and the ballot now (Continued on Page 4.)

QUEBEC LEGISLATURE AND INTERNATIONAL UNIONISM

President Tom Moore of the Trades Congress stated in a Toronto interview that the session he introduced in the Quebec legislature regarding incorporation of trade unions is not entirely new. The Employers' Association of Manitoba, has had an identical-for the Manitoba legislature for some time, but owing to the recent happenings there, it has not been presented. We are well aware of the influence behind these resolutions, and have been carefully watching the moves that are being made. If any legislation is introduced against international unions, the international unions will be heard from. Three sittings of the Quebec Legislature were necessary to allow of all the members who wished to express their opinion on the question of international unions, and their views regarding the desirability of the Canadian workers forming themselves into unions which were essentially Canadian, or not subject to the dictation of labor leaders across the boundary line. At one session an effort was made by Irene Vautrin, Montreal to get the question put over till next year in order that the Labor people might hold conferences, but the motion was defeated by the 38 votes to 18. In that vote Hon. A. Laframboise, Labor member for Dorion, and Minister without portfolio, was the only member of the cabinet to side with Mr. Vautrin, while Messrs. Naive, Renaud and Du Tremble also supported him. After a vigorous speech by Hon. J. A. Taschereau, in support of the amendment proposed by Edmond Robert of Rouville informing the labor organizations of the province to give themselves a constitution which will be essentially Canadian, the supporters of the internationalists, with only four opposing the amendment. Messrs. A. Laframboise and J. Gauthier, the two labor members, felt that the only way to settle the matter was to side with Mr. Vautrin, while Messrs. Naive, Renaud and Du Tremble also supported him. The debate was continued by General Smart, who maintained that once they got the men under their control they took away the liberty of the individual. The debate had been in the public interest and had shown the temper of the people of the province, that they did not want the trades unions to go too far, and that a square deal was required. He did not wish to press his motion and accepted the amendment proposed by Mr. Robert, believing that for the present it went quite far enough, and hoping that it would lead to better conditions between employers and employees. Premier Taschereau acknowledged the right of workmen to join unions and even a strike. They had had strikes before but they had been settled by arbitration, and they had been submitting a proposal which the men wanted to see the employers had changed their minds. He admitted that there were hot heads in every class of society, but he reminded the House that if Quebec had good labor laws it was the International Union of Mine Workers who were the cause of the situation and he did not believe there should be a single member of the House voting against such a resolution. J. Gauthier (St. Mary), who is the organizer of the I.T.U. for the province, declared that it was untrue that orders for the printers' strike had come from Indianapolis. The men themselves decided by 53 to 25 to go out, and he tried his best to effect a settlement. Mr. Laframboise, at the request of the employers, and if the latter had respected the arrangements the strike would have been settled immediately. But after submitting a proposal which the men wanted to see the employers had changed their minds. He admitted that there were hot heads in every class of society, but he reminded the House that if Quebec had good labor laws it was the International Union of Mine Workers who were the cause of the situation and he did not believe there should be a single member of the House voting against such a resolution. This ended the debate and the vote was then taken on the demand of Mr. Bezeville, the five necessary to support it including Mr. Naive, who wanted a vote taken so as to emphasize the opinion of the House. The debate was on the following motion: "That this House, recognizing that the Canadian workers are one of the most elements of our population, invites the Labor organizations of the province to give themselves a constitution which will be essentially Canadian, and to continue to cooperate in the industrial development of the province in an orderly manner, and with respect to our laws."

FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT GRANT EXTENDED

An extension of time in the federal government's unemployment relief order-in-council has been made by the government. The time in which the government will continue to assist in promoting work, undertaken by provincial or municipal authorities, has been extended from March 31 until April 15, and the provisions for federal aid in direct relief where work cannot be provided has been extended until April 30. The view of the federal government, it is stated, is that the operation of P. C. 191, the original order-in-council, has largely realized its purpose, but the object of the work will be more fully met by the slight extensions given. The order passed on January 25 last took the form of both of extending assistance to municipal or provincial authorities in financing work undertaken for the relief of unemployment and of bearing a portion of relief which municipalities might find it necessary to extend to individuals unable to find employment and in necessary circumstances. BARBERS ORGANIZED. Indianapolis—Officers of the Journeymen Barbers' International union report that new locals have been formed at Waterville and Turlock, Cal.



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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

EMANCIPATION OF LABOR

On numerous previous occasions the necessity, the purpose and the advantages of trade union organization have been pointed out in these columns. Every organized worker knows that all labor organizations have chosen as their principal mission to secure for its members better wages and working conditions. He knows that this object can only be accomplished by means of a strong organization, which derives its power from the combined determination and energy of its membership. He further understands that the organizations of labor are an inevitable necessity for only through them the workers are in a position to successfully defend themselves against all attacks directed against them by the employers' associations, which are being waked by them for the realization of their fondest aims under which they hope to destroy the labor organizations and to degrade their members to weak and unprotected slaves.

However, many workers have not as yet thought of the fact that the organizations of labor are factors of culture and civilization, which cannot be appreciated highly enough for the reason that they in a beneficial manner influence their standard of knowledge and education, increasing their interest in economic, political and scientific questions and making them more eager and fond of learning, thus leading them onward to a higher standard of civilization. This will be proved more conclusively in the following paragraphs.

Let us go back about three or four decades and find out how at that time it looked about the working class. A small group at that time fought and strove for higher ideals while the great mass remained entirely untouched by the ideal thoughts for great erliberty or organization. The employer was complete master over "his" workers and the latter, unprotected and subserviently tolerated every cut in wages and the inferior working conditions imposed upon them. Sure enough, there was repeated and much complaint about the prevailing miserable times but the key was missing, which would have opened the portals leading to better and more beautiful times. The occasion lowering of the living standard of the workers too often was soon forgotten. The employer was the dominating power and the few labor agitators, appearing at different places and occasions, had a hard road to travel. Theirs was the mission to overcome the great obstacles which ignorance and stupidity placed in their paths.

Thanks to their untiring work of education they finally succeeded in this mission. By and by light began to penetrate into the minds of the workers. They were made to realize their condition so unworthy of any human being and the means were shown to them whereby they might emancipate themselves from these miserable conditions and reach a higher standard of civilization. "Unite and you will become a power." The workers heeding this advice began to form organizations, which originally grew but slowly, finally developing into the great powerful bodies of our present times.

It was through these labor organizations that the workers gained in strength, power and self-consciousness; through them they increased their knowledge and education for their teachings gave them much cause for deep thought. They created among the workers a greater desire for knowledge. As a result thereof periodical labor publications made their appearance, every national trade union established its own official publication and in the course of years the trade union press attained its present powerful position of influence. Within but a very few decades the great work of education and enlightenment carried on by the trade unions made wonderful progress.

Today we find millions of workers within the ranks of the trade unions. Ever-increasing industrial struggles force the workers in ever-growing numbers into these militant bodies and the organized employers show for help against these organized and well-disciplined working masses. The latter are subjected to many treacherous attacks on the part of their opponents but firmly facing and combatting all obstacles they determinedly march onward toward their final goal, asserting themselves in their struggle against the absolutism of the employers and striving for their final and complete emancipation and just reward. Thus they seek to carry out the historic mission of the enlightened workers who have realized their class conditions.

The older ones among our members, who know from past experience what great work has been accomplished by our trade unions in all these years past will adhere to them and continue to strive with them with love and devotion and the younger ones, who joined our ranks in later years, will do well to always remember that the many good things, which they have found through and in—the organization, required years of never-ceasing educational work and untold sacrifices. That they must always bear in mind and never forget. And that remembrance should inspire them to ever thought and ever action. Defend and protect your organization as you would defend and protect a precious talisman. Your organization has not only brought you better working conditions, it has also brought to you unity, self-consciousness, a better knowledge and a higher education. Unity makes us all strong, knowledge leads us onward and education is the greatest factor of emancipation. These factors supplement each other and are indispensable in the victorious onward march of the working class toward its final emancipation.—Exchange.

TEXTILE BOSSES EVADE PUBLICITY

Providence, R.I.—Textile strikers are attempting to force employers to prove at a public hearing that their wage-cutting policy is necessary. The workers have tied up this industry in Rhode Island because of a 20 per cent. wage cut and an attempt to re-establish the 54-hour week. As a public hearing the workers will show that not only is the 20 per cent. wage cut unjustified, but, on the other hand, will show that part of a year ago should be returned to the workers," said President McMahon of the United Textile Workers. The statement of the manufacturer

OUR NEW SERIAL

The Captives of the Kaid

By B. MARCHANT

Synopsis of Previous Chapters.

Thirteen-year-old Lalla was the granddaughter of Squire Trevor of Oakenhurst Manor. One day while visiting the picture gallery she came across a picture turned face to the wall. She was told that it was the picture of the Squire's eldest son who had been drowned by his father and had never been heard of since. During a thunder storm Lalla is lost in the woods, and is brought home by a young sailor who had hurriedly left without waiting to be thanked. Circumstances lead to the belief that the stranger is the son of the Squire's eldest son. Mrs. Trevor's brother accompanied by Lalla and her mother, start on a cruise to the West Indies. A storm wrecks the yacht and the crew are taken prisoners. Sid at Bashir, a native of the harbor of Arkose, is in the effort of burying his wealth in different places. Once he and his servant Hashem are followed by a boy named Ighil, who sees his master killed by the servant and the paper with the plan of where all the wealth is buried taken from him. A few years later when Ighil died a rich man whom Ighil recognizes as Hashem is made Kaid. Twenty years have passed when a big ship casts anchor at the harbor to inquire for a yacht that is believed the stranger glided away into the shadows in search of his mules, and, growing ferociously, Boom followed at his heels.

The short half-hour the stranger had spoken of, grew into nearly two to have been wrecked there a short time before. Lalla's dog is found by Ighil badly wounded. Captain Elberby, of the large vessel, was refusing an audience with the Kaid. Ighil tells the story of the Kaid to Timbuctoo, who decides to hold up the Kaid. Timbuctoo demands information as to the whereabouts of the Squire's survivors.

Sir Basil was the first to realize this, and to urge his little band of followers to, at least, a temporary patience and acquiescence, since it would avail them nothing to be wounded, or perhaps killed, in the futile endeavour to assert their rights to freedom. And then, with a brave, calm front, though an inwardly sinking heart, he had set the example of resigned fortitude, which his men copied with varying success.

Had there been a weapon in the hand of any one of them, it had been had for the Kaid that day. But the truth was that they were a defenceless company, and, therefore, at the mercy of the great, black tyrant, into whose clutches they had fallen. The two women and the child were to be left undisturbed at present, the Kaid consented to say, with the air of one who grants a favour; and, though inwardly gnashing his teeth, Sir Basil was fain to be grateful for even such a mercy.

How many miles was it to Mogadore, and the nearest coast, he wondered; and then he tried to remember all he had heard of the natural resources of the country, so that he might judge whether a man without food or weapons could stand a chance of winning through to the town with the story of black treachery to his victims. This wonder and speculation had absorbed his thoughts during the first day, but a whispered consultation with the mate during the darkness of the night had assured him of the entire futility of such a plan.

It would take two months or more to go on foot to Mogadore, even if a man had provisions and a weapon to guard him from attacks alike of savage animals, and equally dangerous, treacherous men. Then, allowing for at least a month's delay in getting the boat to work, and five or six weeks to do the journey back again, by that time the rest of us would doubtless be got clear away to



Could Not Sleep

Mr. Earnest Clark, Police Officer, 338 King St., Kingston, Ont., writes:

"For three years I suffered from nervousness and sleeplessness. I believe my condition was brought about by overwork. I had frequent headaches, neuralgic pains and twitching of nerves and muscles. I had indigestion, was short of breath and easily tired. I commenced a treatment of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, and seven boxes of this medicine relieved me of all my symptoms. I am now feeling one hundred per cent. better than I was, and have to thank Dr. Chase's Nerve Food for the good health I am now enjoying."



"Why, yes, of course, I am English; and, pray, what are you?" demanded Lalla, very much disconcerted by the sound of tears in the voice of the poor tourist in sackcloth.

"English, too; only I had the misfortune to be shipwrecked on this inhospitable shore. But speak again, little maiden, and tell me about your life; my troubles are so familiar to me, that I am quite tired of hearing them; so talk to me in the sweet home speech, and let me know how it is that you have come to be wandering here alone."

"I am not alone; at least, I mean the others are not very far away. Mother and Mrs. Bent, the stewardess, are at a hut just over beyond that topmost tree that you can see on the side of that hill, whilst Uncle Basil, and the men from the Squire's workshop are working in a clay pit just over there; and she pointed behind her to indicate the spot."

"So many!" cried the poor fellow eagerly. "My dear little maiden, run and tell them I am here, and then, if they have human hearts in their bosoms, they will come and set me free."

But Lalla could only shake her head sorrowfully, whilst big tears gathered in her eyes. "I am so sorry for you, poor man, but we are prisoners too; and Uncle Basil and his men have horrid sentries posted to shoot them down if they leave off work, or try to escape."

"But there are a number of them! They can surely strike a blow in self defence! If they don't, they will come to be what I am now, and death would be preferable to this!" he exclaimed bitterly, wringing his hands and sobbing like a child, whilst Lalla sobbed too from sheer sympathy.

"Oh, I am so very, very sorry for you," she wailed.

"Bless you for those kind words, my child; but I had staid sorely in the hot and headstrong days of my youth, so I deserved to suffer. Only those men you speak of, if there are more than one or two, tell them that I have no arms, and that I am a tyrant, before it crushes them quite."

"I will tell them; at least, I will tell my mother, and she will whisper it through the door to Uncle Basil, or Mr. Davidson, when they next take care of us in the night. But I don't go near the men when they are at work; for, yesterday, one of those horrid sentries pointed his musket at me, and I ran for my life; here Lalla shook the long hair out of her eyes, clenching her small fist, as if nothing would have given her greater pleasure than to personally chastise that same evil-minded sentry."

"Poor little girl! Keep as close to your mother as possible, my child; only send my word to the men to make a bold bid for their freedom, before their strength deserts them. How I wish Ighil would come again! He would help me to help them—I am sure that he would."

"Who is Ighil?" asked Lalla, with great interest.

"A black man who has been kind like a ministering angel to me; the only friend I have had in all these dreadful, weary years; and again the poor fellow sobbed, as if the burden of his misery was quite too heavy for endurance."

"Years!" echoed the little girl in dismayed astonishment. "Have you been here so long?"

"Yes, and never in all that time have I heard a word of English save that which I taught Ighil to use, until you came today with your sweet words of pity," answered the man, passing one lean, brown hand across his face, so that he could see

more plainly the fair-haired child standing on the ridge above him.

"What is it you are doing with all those boxes?" asked Lalla, making a move as if to go, for she guessed that her mother would be getting anxious at her prolonged absence.

"Making bricks for the sun to dry and harden," he answered, dabbing a mass of wet clay and chopped straw into one of the box-like frames, and then carefully smoothing it over.

"It looks rather nice work, something like making mud pies—Did you ever make mud pies when you were a boy?" Lalla demanded eagerly.

"I don't remember about the pies, but I know we used to get clay, and build a dam across a little stream that ran through the beech-wood. One day my brother Raymond and I built the dam so thick and strong that the water could not break it down, as the stream overflowed, doing no end of damage, and making the Squire—that was our father—so angry that he cut off our pocket-money for a month. Ah! but what happy days they were!" and the poor captive groaned again in anguish of heart, as he contrasted that long-ago past with the present.

Lalla gasped for breath. This man had had a brother Raymond; called his father the Squire; and spoke of the stream running through the beech-wood. Was he—could it be any possibility chance that this poor wretched prisoner, hidden away in the lonely Squire country, was the original of that famous picture which hung in the little room opening off the picture-gallery at Oakenhurst Manor.

"Oh, tell me, please—tell me, what is your name, and where did you live when you were a boy?" she panted.

The man looked up from dabbing clay and straw into another frame, surprised at her eagerness.

"I have not always been a captive to my captives," he said, with pathetic humility; "but I was proud enough of it once, for I am a Trevor of Oakenhurst Manor, near Westminster."

"Oh, oh!" cried Lalla, skipping in a perfect ecstasy of delight; and then, without another word, she darted away to tell the wonderful news to her mother.

(Continued next Week)

FEDERAL MEMBER SUGGESTS INDEMNITY CUT.

One member of parliament has risen in the house to urge that his own indignity, along with those of the 234 other members of the commons, be cut down. In the course of his speech in the debate in the debate on the address, T. E. Ross, Progressive member from North Simcoe, urged the government to practice the strictest economy. He said he would go further, and would make a suggestion which probably would not be favorably received by his fellow members. This was that legislation should be introduced in the present session to reduce the members' indemnity from \$4,000, where it now stands, to \$2,500, the point from which it was increased two sessions ago.

The increase at that time, said Mr. Ross, had not been justified. He admitted that "the laborers were worthy of his hire" and that employing cheap men was not always economy, but he believed the indemnity should have remained at the former figure, and he would support any measure to get it back there. The member for North Simcoe added that he was making the suggestion voluntarily.

The attendance in the chamber was very light and Mr. Ross' suggestion was not received with any outburst of applause.

COAL STRIKE SEEMS INEVITABLE.

Secretary of Labor Davis and John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, exchanged views today on the threatening situation in the bituminous coal industry and

both were said after the conference to be of the opinion that a national strike in the union fields was inevitable. Mr. Lewis assured Mr. Davis again of the willingness of the miners' union to open negotiations for a new national wage contract, a proposition which mine operators are refusing to entertain.

Later Mr. Lewis declared the cessation of work in the union mines after April 1 was "coming about automatically," and asserted that "a bold commercial policy of the operators for which the public must pay" was in part responsible.

"If there is no conference between the miners' union and the operators," he added, referring to the bituminous situation, "there can be no wage contract drawn up. If there is no wage contract there won't be any coal dug after April 1 in union mines."

FOOTWEAR PRICES DROP ACROSS THE LINE.

Reduction in the price of shoes has been announced by the manufacturer of Boston and the old colony district generally comprising one of the largest men's shoe making centres in the United States. Although an authoritative announcement of the cut is lacking it is understood to be between 25 and 50 cents a pair, wholesale price.

The price reduction follows the recent award of a wage cut of 10 per cent., made by the State Board of Conciliation and Arbitration. This wage cut, it was said, amounted to from 12 to 15 cents reduction in the factory costs of Brocton grade well shoes and from 11 to 15 cents a pair in the shoes in adjoining towns.

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