

BUFFALO LADS WERE "SHANGHAIED" IN MILL BEDS OF STRIKING SEAMEN

Boys of Immature Years and Slight Physique Made Victims of Press Gang Acting for Lake Carriers—Were Compelled to Shovel Coal Twelve Hours in Each Twenty-four to Help Shipping Trust Beat the Sailors' Union

"Roar" Made by Vessel Owners Shipping Master at Toledo Caused Exposure of Private Detective Methods of Securing Help.

FACTS HAVE BEEN PLACED IN HANDS OF GOVERNMENT

Federal Statutes Prescribe Heavy Penalty for Use of Force or False Inducements in Shipping Sailors on Great Lakes Boats.

BUFFALO, Nov. 19.—With the fierce fall storms buffeting their illy-manned shipping from reef to reef on the great lakes the Lake Carriers are now charged with "shanghaiing" young men from lower lake ports and with compelling them to shovel coal in order to run their boats to Lake Superior ports and back.

The charge is directly made by one of the largest newspapers of this city that early in October agents of the Lake Carriers kidnaped George Blumreich, 18 years old, forced him on to the steamer Minneapolis, then lying in Buffalo harbor, and, after the Minneapolis left port, compelled him to work twelve hours a day in the stoke hole until his health gave way.

The Buffalo Republic is the paper that makes the accusation and adds to the Blumreich story the statement that John Stromberg, 17, and Henry Dobozin, 17, were enticed by stories of big pay and a good time to board the steamer Salt Lake City in Buffalo harbor and were, as soon as the boat put out into Lake Erie, compelled to shovel coal until they became too ill and weak to do fireman's duty.

These lads, it is said, terrified by the serfdom they endured on the up trip, left the boat at Duluth without receiving any pay and beat their way back to Buffalo on freight trains living on what they could beg on the way.

Tool's "Holler" Brought Exposure. A peculiar feature of the case is that revelations of the work being carried on by Lake Carrier agents came about through a "roar" made by the notorious Maloney, shipping master at Toledo for the Lake Carriers.

Maloney came out with a cock-and-bull story that the lake seamen were holding non-union sailors prisoners at lower lake ports to prevent them from going aboard shipping trust boats.

The Toledo Chamber of Commerce hired detectives to look into the charges made by Maloney and found a vastly different state of affairs to what they expected or hoped.

They found that Maloney had been

SHALL CORPORATIONS SIN WITH IMPUNITY

"Shall corporations, because they represent millions of money and are composed and officered by men of position and influence, be allowed to violate the laws of the Nation and the State as suits their own selfish purposes?"

"Shall giant combinations be allowed to commit infamous crimes and escape punishment while poor and unfriendly men are sent to prison for THEIR offenses?"

"The answer to these questions, a few years ago, would undoubtedly have been: 'Whether or not powerful corporations SHOULD be punished, the simple fact remains that THEY ARE NOT PUNISHED.'"

"But within the last five years there has been such an awakening on the part of a long suffering public, the people have become so aroused on this point that the chances for rich corporations to commit crime and get away with it have been sensibly lessened.—Buffalo Republic.

raising the cry of "stop thief" to distract attention from the machinations of the press gangs that he himself had put to work, or at least whose operations he had sanctioned.

The sleuths put to work to unearth the iniquity of the striking lake seamen inadvertently uncovered the shanghaiing and kidnaping above referred to, which the Buffalo Republic in a fair and impartial manner at once made public.

Buffalo Paper Exposed Crime. The Republic in both news and editorial columns gave wide publicity to the facts above and the following excerpts are taken from the paper:

"On several occasions of late The Republic has called the attention of its readers to the high handed proceedings of the Great Lakes Shipping

FACTS CONTAINED IN EXPOSURE OF KIDNAPING

George Blumreich, 18, picked up on Walden avenue, Buffalo, early in October by a private detective, forced on board the Steamer Minneapolis and compelled to work twelve hours a day in the stoke hole of the boat on the trip to Duluth.

He returned to Buffalo too ill to walk and is now recovering from typhoid fever.

John Stromberg and Henry Dobozin, both 17, weighing 110 and 115 pounds respectively, involved on board steamer Salt Lake City by promises of good pay and easy work.

Were worked twelve hours in every 24 shoveling coal until they were worn out. When they quit the boat at Duluth got only part of their wages and were compelled to "bum" their way back to New York state.

Evidence of complicity of Lake Carriers agents has been laid before the government and an investigation is going on.

OFFICIALS' NEGLIGENCE ENDANGERS RAILWAY MAIL CLERK'S LIFE

Abuses of Postal System on America's Railroads Cause Issue of Magazine to Take Up Cudgels for Uncle Sam's Employees.

"The Harpoon," a magazine published at Denver, Colo., by Urban A. Walter, a former railway mail clerk, has been running for about three months now and has not yet succeeded in having itself suppressed by the postal department, notwithstanding it is exclusively devoted to "throwing the hooks" into that department and the railroads.

It is published with the intent to "hurt" and the publishers claim that within its short existence over 1,000 favorable newspaper notices have been received for it. It is published monthly.

Has Corrective Mission. Its mission is to correct abuses of which the 16,000 railway mail clerks are the victims, and if it tells the truth there are plenty of abuses to correct and some high officials who ought to be retired to private life.

According to "The Harpoon" the clerks have no right to even petition congress for a redress of grievances, thus in accepting the dangerous job of railway mail clerk a man has to give up some of the rights of an American citizen.

The work is extremely hazardous, and is more so because the employees are not allowed to raise a voice in protest.

Unsanitary Surroundings a Menace. The hazard is not alone because the cars in which the men have to work are frail structures between ponderous locomotives and heavy Pullmans, liable to be crushed like eggshells if there is any trouble, but is due in part to unsanitary conditions that are a disgrace to the government and a menace to the men.

These things are described in "The Harpoon" in a way that will arouse public interest if it does not disturb the self-complacency of the men who are running the department and who apparently care more for maintaining their own authority than promoting the welfare of the men under them.

THUGS CAN'T STOP BUTCHERS' VICTORY

NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—The strike of the East Side butchers is rapidly approaching a victorious conclusion, as already more than two hundred houses have signed agreements granting all of the demands of their men, and only three hundred men are still out.

As usual the bosses are resorting to violence in order to defeat the men, and the pickets are beaten wherever found by the hired thugs of the employees.

MORROW NEAR DEATH. TORONTO, Ont., Nov. 19.—Edward McMorrow, of Chicago, one of the executive officers of the International Street Railway Men's union, a delegate to the American Federation of Labor, is at the Prince George hotel fighting for his life.

He caught a chill while attending the Street Railway Men's conference here in October and it developed into pneumonia.

PERRY WILL REPRESENT PAINTERS AT CINCINNATI

William P. Perry has been chosen a delegate to represent the Duluth Painters and Decorators union at the annual convention to be held in the city of Cincinnati on December 4.

Mr. Perry is one of the most prominent trade unionists in the city and will prove a worthy representative from the head of the lakes.

INDUSTRY'S STRIKE MORE FATAL THAN WORLD WARS

Labor Commissioner McEwen tells Duluth Audience of Blood Shed Through Perils of Peace—Points Out Need of Advanced System of Injury Recompense.

W. E. McEwen, state commissioner of labor, in an address at the Merritt Memorial church last Sunday, strongly advocated the enactment of laws providing just and adequate compensation for victims of industrial accidents and removing the element of negligence from the liability of the employing company for the payment of such compensation.

Throughout a long address, bristling with statistics substantiating his claims, the speaker held the attention of his hearers and at the conclusion received enthusiastic approval of the innovations in the country's liability laws which he suggested.

The following are excerpts from Mr. McEwen's address: "Tell of Livestock Not of Men. The newspapers tell each day how many head of live stock have been killed in the United States, but we know almost nothing of the death toll of human life through accidents in industry.

"The cost of production has been reduced to a science, yet the economic loss entailed through the maiming and killing of the wage earner has been entirely lost sight of. Half Million Maimed Annually.

"The most conservative statistics obtainable indicate that not less than 500,000 wage earners are annually incapacitated or killed. The loss in cash to the wealth of the United States through industrial accidents is \$125,000,000 per year.

"An industrial massacre of thousands upon thousands of wage earners took place last year and raised no outcry, perhaps because the killings and the maimings were spread over twelve months, and through the entire country.

"Our peaceful vocations cost more lives every two days than all that we lost in battle during our war with Spain. It has been pointed out that the Pennsylvania coal fields alone furnish an industrial Bull Run every year.

"In these piping times of peace, we in the United States kill by industrial accidents, and other accidents in four years some 30,000 people more than all who fell in battle and died of wounds, on both sides, during the four years of our civil war.

Railroads Beat Boer War. "We are killing more than twice as many every year as perished by violence in both the French and English armies during the Boer war. There are more killed and wounded on our

RAILROAD CASUALTY COMMITTEE SUGGESTS MANY PRECAUTIONS

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Nov. 19.—The committee of railroad employees and members of the Indiana Railroad Commission, appointed at the convention to examine and report on the accident record for the past year, has submitted recommendations which are being sent to all the railroad companies in the state.

Chief among the recommendations are the following: That the railroad commission compel railroads, in reporting accidents, to give more extensive information concerning the causes thereof, and that roads be required to state whether the employee was on duty at the time he received his injury; that roads be instructed that in order to avoid accidents, the employees must be impressed with the imperative need of literally obeying orders; that the attention of employees be called to the character of accidents reported.

In addition the roads take particular pains to educate their employees how to avoid a repetition of an accident of any class; that the commission thoroughly canvass all accidents reported, and prepare circular letters setting forth the characteristics of every accident, the circulars to be sent to the railroads for posting in a conspicuous place where the employees may have their attention particularly called to them.

BREAK IN BOSSES' RANKS ENCOURAGES N. Y. CLERKS

NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—The dry goods clerks of New York city are making much headway in their strike. Two employers have signed up agreements with the union, giving in to all demands of the strikers, and their clerks have returned to work.

These two bosses have been very active in the bosses' association, and the strikers consider this break in the employers' organization a great victory.

When the strike started all the bosses of the association gave bonds of \$300 that they would not settle unless the association decided to surrender.

The clerks who returned to work are pledged to pay 50 per cent of their wages toward the strike fund while the strike lasts.

UNFAIR, SO THEY LOST THE CONTRACT

CINCINNATI, Nov. 19.—The Messer Furniture Co., which runs a non-union mill and employs non-union carpenters in getting out their trim, have had the contract for the spruing-in work at the Messer building won by the union men because their hands were refused to hire union labor.

Union carpenters are now doing the work.

THE PUBLIC BOOTS THE BILL

PAWBUCKETT, R. I., Nov. 19.—The J. F. Coats Company, limited, otherwise known as the thread trust, announced \$14,638,330 profits for the fiscal year ending November 1.

This is \$3,900,000 more than the profits announced last year and the best recorded in the history of the concern.

A bonus of 24 cents a share is to be paid in excess of the regular quarterly dividend, which is usually 10 per cent.

BOSSES' NEGLIGENCE AND POOR EQUIPMENT BLAMED FOR DEATHS

Report Issued by Government Shows a Death Toll of 23,000 Lives Levied in Less Than 20 Years.

With the Cherry Hill mine horror fresh in mind it is interesting to note that a recent report issued by Dr. J. A. Holmes of the United States Geological survey sets forth that since 1889, 23,000 persons have been killed and 50,000 seriously injured in coal mine disasters.

Though Dr. Holmes, throughout his report, endeavors to create the impression that most of the accidents were caused by the incompetence of mine workers, it is very obvious to anyone who can read between the lines that the terrible toll of death and mutilation is the main due to inadequate equipment and the indifference of operating bosses.

"Practically all mine disasters are the result of explosions of dust or coal gas or combinations of both. Explosion is the result of the use of the open lamp worn in miner's caps, of firing shots or of sparks from electric wires.

He recommended legislation requiring the use of safety lamps and general ventilation of all explosives used, with a view to the reduction of the flame element. Further investigation of the quality of the gases formed in the mines was recommended.

DOES THIS LOOK LIKE CARRIERS' VICTORY?

The matter of help on the Great Lakes is now a serious one. Boats are coming up and going down short-handed and the boats are not being unloaded as fast as they might for the reason that it is said to be next to impossible to persuade men to accept jobs.

Every boat that reaches the harbor at once sends out for men, but the scarcity is so pronounced that but few respond. This condition of affairs makes the watches much longer and those who are on the boats refuse to work all the time and quit.

The employment offices are besieged with orders for help, but although the Bowery is crowded with men at this period of the year, but few seem willing to ship.—Duluth Daily Herald of Nov. 12.

ROADS TOO POOR TO RAISE WAGE OF MEN

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—Officials of the Western railroads and committee of increased wages will meet in a series of conferences beginning the first week in December in the effort to adjust demands made by the men for a change in working conditions and an increase in wages. Both railroad heads and leaders in the employees' brotherhoods express the opinion that differences will be settled without trouble.

Notwithstanding their willingness to confer with the men on the subject of increased wages the employees hold out little hope that their wishes will be granted. The roads are too poor, they say.

SOME ONE HAS SNUG LITTLE REBATE DUE

Some labor union, probably some Duluth labor union, has a refund coming from the Chisholm relief fund.

At the time subscriptions were solicited for the relief of the fire sufferers up on the range a sum of money was received by H. M. Peyton, treasurer of the relief fund, and the senders simply signed themselves "A Labor Union."

The total fund subscribed was found to be far in advance of the needs of the sufferers and there is a refund of about 55 per cent coming to all who so generously chipped in.

So don't all speak at once boys, but the one who is the guilty party can slip up to Mr. Peyton's office and on good and sufficient proof offered, get his rebate without much trouble.

Then he can turn it over to the Labor World for subscriptions for the members of the union.

It will still be a relief fund.

FORM A GIANTIC SHIP TRUST TO BEAT UNION

International Federation of Vessel Owners Has Been Created to Combat Organization of Seamen.

HEADQUARTERS LOCATED IN CITY OF LONDON

Delegates From All Old World Countries Represent Sixteen Tons of Shipping Entered a Huge Plant.

LONDON, Nov. 19.—To combat the organized seamen, a gigantic international federation of employers connected with the shipping industry has just been formed, with headquarters in London.

During the past week delegates from the Ship Owners' Federations of Great Britain, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Denmark and Sweden have met in London and formed the International Shipping Federation. The members of the International Federation represent already more than 16,000,000 tons of shipping.

As soon as certain formalities are overcome the French and Norwegian ship owners' federation will, it is understood, join the International Federation, which, ultimately, is intended to embrace all the ship owners' federations of the world.

GENERAL STRIKE PROPOSED IN PROTEST AGAINST THE JAILING OF LABOR LEADERS

Cigarmakers' Delegate at Toronto Express Resignation Calling for Two Weeks' Cessation of Labor. Leaders Not in Sympathy With Movement.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 19.—By resolution of the Central Labor union, unanimously adopted Sunday, every union wage worker in Philadelphia will go out on a two weeks' strike if Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison, officers of the American Federation of Labor, are put in jail for contempt of court in posting the Buck's Stove company as "unfair."

Delegates to the Labor Federation, now in session in Toronto, will be asked to extend the local movement into a nationwide strike if the officers go to prison, and every union in the country, through its national headquarters, will be invited to join. Nonunion men, as well as organized labor, will be asked to give point to the protest by refusing to work.

Harry C. Parker, delegate of the Cigarmakers' Union, offered the resolutions, and was the only speaker upon them. He traced the history of the case against the three officials and told how the stove company had been posted as unfair after a court injunction had been issued. He cited how the three men had been adjudged guilty of contempt, how this had been confirmed upon appeal, and how it would probably be confirmed upon appeal to the supreme court of the United States.

"It may be a year or so before all this happens," said Parker, "but now is the time to prepare. Let every man put up a quarter or fifty cents a week from this on, so as to be ready. Let him put a few bushels of potatoes and a few sides of bacon in the cellar.

"It would be a great thing to stop the street cars for two weeks. It would be a great thing to stop the railroads and the factories for two weeks. It would make people think."

Mr. Mitchell said the great mass of workmen would always remain the mass they are today. He denied that labor unionism had contributed to this result by leveling men to a common standard in respect to compensation.

"In establishing a minimum wage organized labor has not deprived the employer of the privilege of specially recognizing exceptional efficiency where he finds it."

GRANGERS FAVOR SUFFRAGE. DES MOINES, Iowa, Nov. 19.—Though vigorously opposed by Mrs. Patterson, delegate from Maryland, a resolution favoring women's suffrage was passed by the National Grange association's session this week. The resolution was introduced by Mrs. Kestley of Washington. The only reason given by Mrs. Patterson for opposing it was that she did not want it. The resolution follows: "Resolved, that this convention, assembled at Des Moines, hereby demands the same political rights for all citizens, regardless of sex. In order that the government of the people, for the people and by the people, may be established in this nation."

SUGGEST ARBITRATION TO HEAL ELECTRICAL SPLIT

GOMPERS AND THE CAPITALIST LAW

The capitalist position on the Gompers case seems to be: If his jail sentence is not legal, we'll change the law and make it legal.

That is good doctrine from their standpoint. But, suppose the workers—who have a majority—reply: If his sentence is legal, we'll change the law and make it illegal.

Capitalism has won a famous victory in the Gompers case, but it cannot afford many such victories.

WOMEN WILL STUMP SUCKER STATE FOR ORGANIZED LABOR

Members of Label League Plan Extensive Campaign in Interest of Eight-Hour Law in State of Illinois.

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 19.—Women trade unionists of Chicago will "stump the state" in furtherance of a plan to bring about the enactment of a law in Illinois making eight hours the maximum time for daily toil by women engaged in gainful occupations. Announcement of this effort was made by officials of the Chicago Women's Trade Union League.

The plan is an outcome of the recent convention of the National Women's Trade Union League in Chicago, during which an eight-hour law for women was strongly advocated.

Appeals for co-operation will be made at union labor meetings in various cities, and whenever all opportunity affords public meetings will be addressed. An appeal also will be made to members of women's clubs. It is expected that substantial progress will be made in this way toward influencing the next legislature to place an eight-hour law for women on the statute books.

WENT 3698 MILES TO REGISTER HER VOTE

NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—Those who do not believe American women want to vote will be surprised to hear that a woman in New York city traveled 3,798 miles in six days, at a cost of more than \$200, merely to cast her vote at the election in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Miss Alice Fisher, the actress, now appearing at Wallack's theater in "The Fourth Estate," is the ardent suffragist.

The manager gave Miss Fisher permission to be absent for the time necessary to make the trip. Miss Fisher left on the Saturday before election day. Her train reached Cheyenne Tuesday morning, and after voting she caught a noon train for the East, getting back in time for the Thursday evening performance.

"ROOM AT TOP" IDEA IS A BACK NUMBER

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 19.—In the course of a recent address in this city John Mitchell, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, declared there is no more room at the top.

"The school teacher's advice to the pupils and the mother's command to her son to climb to the top," said Mr. Mitchell, "is a futile echo of the past for there is no more room at the top. It does not mean that men should not take advantage of every opportunity for self advancement, but I do insist that no man has a right to go up by treading upon the bodies of his fellow men."

Mr. Mitchell said the great mass of workmen would always remain the mass they are today. He denied that labor unionism had contributed to this result by leveling men to a common standard in respect to compensation.

"In establishing a minimum wage organized labor has not deprived the employer of the privilege of specially recognizing exceptional efficiency where he finds it."

OFFICIALS ARE OPPOSED TO GENERAL STRIKE PLAN

TORONTO, Nov. 19.—Leading officials of the American Federation of Labor here do not regard favorably the proposition of a general strike.

While the matter has not yet come officially before the convention the majority of delegates seem opposed to it.

President Mitchell of the Mine Workers has openly declared against it.

WINTER PROGRAM IS PLANNED FOR LEAGUE

The Women's Label League will hold their regular meeting in Kalamazoo hall next Monday evening.

Several candidates are to be initiated and as the charter remains open for the rest of the term the league expects to secure a large number of applications. The members of the league are planning a series of sociables and card parties for the winter.

GAS KILLS DELEGATE. TORONTO, Nov. 19.—Earl E. Russ, delegate to the American Federation convention, of Niagara Falls, was found dead in his room here Tuesday night. The gas was turned half on.