

It is not so difficult a task to plant new truths as to root out old errors, for there is this paradox in men: they run after that which is new, but are prejudiced in favor of that which is old.

THE LABOR WORLD

FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, ECONOMIC REFORM AND POLITICAL PROGRESS.

As long as mankind shall continue to bestow more liberal applause on their destroyers than on their benefactors, the thirst of military glory will ever be the vice of exalted characters.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TWO CENTS.

EMPLOYERS INDORSE JOINT BARGAINING

Splendid Testimonials From Manufacturers Who Have Trade Union Agreements.

SEVERAL EYE OPENERS FOR MASSACHUSETTS BOARD

Worcester Inquires Stability of Strike Action.

WORCESTER, Mass., Nov. 4.—Last week several large manufacturers of this state told the Massachusetts board of conciliation and arbitration that trade agreements with their workers created stability in industry. The board held hearings on eight-hour strikes in this city and brought to Worcester men who represented industries working under trade agreements. In no case did the visiting manufacturers express dissatisfaction with the trade agreement, and in every instance the witness testified that he would not return to the working conditions that existed prior to the adoption of the collective bargaining plan.

A Strange Contrast.
The testimony of these business men was in strange contrast to the declaration of Worcester captains of industry who have organized an association for the avowed purpose of conducting their plants on the non-union, or so-called "open shop" plan.
Richard Reed, a Westfield manufacturer of boilers and radiators, and member of the firm of H. D. Smith company, told the board that he wanted his men to be "good" unionists—to attend their union meetings and take an active part in its proceedings. He said:
"My employes believe one of the most honorable jobs is to be appointed on a shop committee to present their grievances. I want every man to feel that he can be a member of the shop committee without fear. I advise my men if they join a union to attend the meetings.
Encourages Shop Committee.
"With the Patternmakers' league I deal with a shop committee. I always recognize the shop committee, and hope that nobody stayed off the committee because he was afraid to come in.
"I had one experience with a committee. I asked its members if they had any authority, and was informed none further than the presentation of their requests. I told the committee, to go back to its union and get some authority, so that I could talk with it. The men did. I want to tell you that there are some mighty good scrappers in these committees, and they tell you some things that you would never learn otherwise.
"I'll meet any kind of a committee whether I can talk their language or not."
Mr. Reed stated that 27 years ago he was privileged to sit in meeting in New York with the executives of the National Founders' association and a committee of executives of the Iron Molders' union. "There were no troubles," said Mr. Reed, "between the employes and the employers. In that conference was effected what was known as the New York agreement."

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CONDEMNNS FACTORY FOLLOWING BLAZE

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 4.—Thomas L. Pfarz, fire marshal of Allegheny county, condemned conditions in the building occupied by the H. H. Woods Paper Box company and ordered the company to vacate its premises as soon as possible. Woods is executor of the Brown estate, which owned the building occupied by the Union Paper Box company, in which 13 persons lost their lives. Woods was held in \$10,000 bail for the coroner's inquest on a charge of negligence.
The fire marshal condemned several other properties.

COURT SUSTAINS EMPLOYER'S CLAIM

Oklahoma Judge Supports Street Railway Manager Who Black-listed Union Men.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Nov. 4.—The criminal court of appeals has reversed the district court of Oklahoma county and annulled the law making it a misdemeanor for an employer to require employes to sign a contract not to become members of a labor union.
The district court fined Manager Bemis of the Oklahoma Railway company \$200 for coercion of laborers. He threatened to discharge them if they joined the street car men's union. On appeal this decision was reversed. In his opinion Judge Anderson followed the decision of the United States supreme court, Jan. 25, 1915, when a majority of the supreme court justices annulled a similar law, passed by the Kansas legislature. Since then the Ohio supreme court, on May 5, annulled the anti-coercion law of that state.
Summed up, these tribunals take the position that the worker has the right to quit work for any cause or no cause, and the employer has the same right.

PATERNALISTIC BOSS "GOOD" TO EMPLOYERS

ATHOL, Mass., Nov. 4.—President McGregor of the Union Twist Drill company, has notified the public that "we have always watched out for the interest of our employes" and that the company will continue to conduct its business "without dealing with labor unions or shop committees or their delegates." About 400 workers are on strike at this place for an eight-hour day, time and one-half for overtime and double time for Sundays and holidays.

MACHINISTS STILL WINNING 8-HOUR DAY

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Nov. 4.—After a three days' strike the Pittsburgh Machine and Tool company at Bradford, near here, agreed to the eight-hour demand of over 200 employes. The nine-hour rates will prevail. Employes of the Miller Saw Trimmer company are also striking for an eight-hour day and conferences are being held between the interested parties.

URGES EARLY CLOSING.
NEWARK, N. J., Nov. 4.—Trade unionists are urging earlier Saturday night closing of department stores in this city. The Essex Trades Council has appointed a committee to assist in the agitation.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH COMMISSION GOVERNMENT?

The daily papers are warm defenders of commission government as it exists in Duluth. Business and professional men generally seem to like the new form because it so nearly resembles the closed corporations with which they are familiar. But the people in the suburbs—the workmen if you please—haven't a very high regard for the five little one-man-institutions at the city hall, misnamed "Commission Government."
It is admitted at the outset that quicker action is taken in the matter of making public improvements under the present order than obtained under the old form of government. And this is about the only good thing to be said about the new form.

We were promised "a hundred cents worth of government" for every dollar paid in taxes. Are we getting it? We were assured that the city would be conducted at a minimum cost; that while taxes would not be lower, by economy and system much of the money then wasted by aldermen would be wisely used, and better results would be had without increasing the cost of government to the people. More than two years under commission government indicates that the commissioners are not one whit more considerate about spending the people's money than were the aldermen during the most extravagant days of the past.

We were led to believe that politics would be foreign to commission government; that no faithful or efficient employe would be removed because of his politics, and that the letter and spirit of civil service would be recognized as it never was before. What are the results? There is more politics at the city hall than during the most rotten days of aldermanic rule.

Why was "Bob" Metcalf dismissed from the health department? Because of politics, to make room for a faithful election worker. Metcalf passed a civil service examination and was appointed inspector without political influence. He is not a politician and knows nothing about the game of politics. For this reason, and no other, he was dropped from the health department pay roll. His record for service was conceded to be good.

Why did Chief Troyer resign as head of the police department? Because of politics. When he left Duluth we lost the best chief of police in the United States, and we are beginning to realize it now since he is gone. Even the crooks realize it. They seem to feel there is a better chance for making a getaway now than when Troyer was on the job.

Chief McKercher is a good man, but it will take him a long time to learn the criminal ropes as Troyer knew them.
Why was Dr. Murphy, a trained specialist in public health work, removed from the health department? Because of politics. He knew nothing about politics. He spent his time at college in training for the public service. He brought to the department the benefit of his scientific research in matters of public health. And to pay a political debt he was dropped from the service without a moment's notice. He was not out of the position a week when he was offered the secretaryship of the Minnesota Public Health association.

We were told that commission government would encourage the employment of specialists, rather than politicians, to do the important work of the city. The dismissal of Dr. Murphy, the public health specialist, and the forced resignation of Chief Troyer, an expert in his line, because of cheap politics, do not speak very highly for the business end of commission government as at present conducted in Duluth.

It is begging the question to say because the city tax rate is lower now that the cost of government is less. The increased assessed valuations of real and personal property are responsible for the reduction in the tax rate, and not the practice of economy in the administration of city affairs by the five commissioners. They are spending far more money than the aldermen did, and they are doing so without restraint.

The daily papers are patting the commissioners on the back for establishing a purchasing department after two and one-half years of commission government. The commissioners probably would not have seen the necessity for this now were it not for the fact that a goodly number of Duluth people are beginning to realize that the commissioners are not meeting the ideals of commission government.

Because they are not meeting the ideals of commission government, there is a sentiment developing among the people for the strengthening of commission form government by taking away from the commissioners their legislative duties and placing them in the hands of a board of aldermen, the members of which shall act as a check against public extravagances and the usurpation of power by the commissioners.

If there was more board government and less one-man rule under the present form there probably would be no sentiment for a change just now. That there is a sentiment for such is due wholly to the conduct of the commissioners and their failure to follow the spirit of the city charter in observing the ideals of commission government.

ATTORNEY'S FEES ARE PROTECTED BY COURT

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Justice Gould of the District supreme court, has ruled that congress has no right to direct what per cent of a claim shall be given to lawyers. Thomas Fahey was voted \$1,840 by congress.
When this and similar bills were allowed, congress directed that attorneys for the claimants should not receive more than 20 per cent of the moneys. Fahey had previously signed a contract calling for 33 1/3 per cent and was sued by his attorneys for the difference.
Justice Gould held that congress had no right to direct how the money should be spent.

RAILROADS BUSY; TRAFFIC IS HEAVY

Erie Does Biggest Business In Its History. B. & O. Enjoys Prosperity.

NEW YORK, Nov. 4.—At the offices of the Erie railroad it was said that freight tonnage figures for last month showed that the business done in September, 1915, was the greatest ever recorded on the books of the company.

Tonnage on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad has increased 40 per cent, it is said, within the past 90 days. The New Haven railroad is moving more freight today than it has moved for years before and the New York Central lines report that business is so good that hundreds of extra men have been added to handle the traffic and that quick delivery of the several thousand cars recently ordered is being urged.

Steamship companies report the same condition and have pressed into service every possible craft to carry the enormous volume of exports. It is stated that it is no uncommon thing for a trans-Atlantic liner to be turned back to England within 48 hours after her arrival, an unusual procedure before the past few months.

NO SEWERS FOR 7,000 PHILADELPHIA HOUSES

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 4.—The social service committee of a local church reports that there are 70 miles of streets in this city without sewers and that 7,000 homes are without the benefit of underground sewerage. It is estimated that 55,000 persons are directly affected by this condition and that the health of 50,000 others in the immediate neighborhoods of these undrained sections is imperiled.

THREATEN TO RECALL ARIZONA GOVERNOR

PHOENIX, Ariz., Nov. 4.—Petitions have been placed in circulation for the recall of Governor Hunt, as a result of the present strike of copper miners at Clifton. "The state's executive," it is claimed, declared that the grievances of these workers were just, and if he sent troops there to break down any or all who antagonized a settlement would be imprisoned.

CLERKS WANT EIGHT HOURS.
BOSTON, Nov. 4.—At a meeting of the adjustment board of the Brotherhood of Railroad Clerks of the Boston & Maine railroad it was voted to demand higher wages and an eight-hour day.

U. S. INVESTIGATES IDLE COAST LABOR

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—The United States department of labor, through its bureau of labor statistics publishes the results of the third study in the series of investigations being made into unemployment. The following 12 cities in the Rocky mountain and Pacific coast states were canvassed: Butte, Los Angeles, Oakland, Ogden, Portland, Sacramento, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma. In those cities 38,837 families were investigated, and the number of wage earners were found to be 49,999. The unemployed total 5,373, or 21.9 per cent, and the part-time wage earners are 9,971, or 20.2 per cent.

Portland, Ore., with 20 per cent, has the highest average of unemployed. Oakland, with 26.9 per cent has the highest number of part-time wage earners. The lowest percentage unemployed, 4.5, was found in Ogden. Butte reports the lowest number of part-time wage earners, 12.7 per cent.

COPPER KINGS TURN DOWN ARBITRATION

CLIFTON, Ariz., Nov. 4.—Copper mine operators have refused to arbitrate the demands of their striking employes for higher wages. The strike started last month. It was originally caused by the dismissal of workers who joined the union. Representatives of the miners submitted this plan for a settlement, which was rejected by the operators.

"All of the demands of the employes to be submitted to a board of arbitration. The men to return to work at their former wages pending the decision of the board of arbitration. When the board has rendered its decision the men to receive the advance in wages, if any, from the day they return to work. This difference to be paid on the first day after the board has decided on the scale, in a lump sum, in addition to the wages due for the past 15 days. Two members of this board to be appointed by the employers, two by the employes and a fifth member to be an employe of the department of labor, to be appointed by the secretary of labor, and the findings of this board to be final and binding on both parties."

BRITISH DELEGATES ARRIVE IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Nov. 4.—Ernest Bevin and Charles G. Ammon, fraternal delegates from British trade unionists to the American Federation of Labor convention at San Francisco, arrived in this city last week. In discussing English conditions, Delegate Bevin said "unionists" in his country were not opposing the increasing number of women in industry because of the war. "All we ask," he said, "is that women be not introduced into factories and railway work at less pay than men get."
"Our fight against conscription is an economic one, having in view possible conditions after the war. What we have now represents more than 100 years of concerted action and work, and to ask us to give up these conditions and accept conscription is asking more than is required of landlords and manufacturers."

Mr. Ammon is president of the Pawcett association (postoffice employes) and Mr. Bevin is organizer of the Dock, Wharf and Riverside Workers' union.

A PERSONAL VIEW OF KEIR HARDIE, BRITAIN'S GREAT LABOR LEADER

By John McLaren, Organizer Boston Socialist Party.

It seems as if an ill fate were pursuing not only the "International," but also its bright lights. The removal by death of Bebel was a fell blow to the German Social Democracy as was also that of Jaures, by assassination, to the French Democracy. And the death of Keir Hardie is even more of a loss, as his voice was ever the clearest in the whole international for peace—the absolutely necessary condition for any progress.
It is necessary to know something of the life of Keir Hardie before one can appreciate him as a man or as a leader of men, for he was an intensely practical man, moved more by the every day realities of existence than by any theoretical notions about it. This fact accounts for his great success and at the same time explains the failure of men of greater talents such as Hyndman, Blatchford, Cunningham-Graham and Bernard Shaw.
His Early Life.
He first saw the light on Aug. 15, 1856, in a typical one-roomed miner's cottage, in Ayrshire, Scotland. So poor were his parents, people of rare and noble character, that he was put to work as a messenger at 7 years and at 8 we find him working in the pit! The great hardship of this is made apparent most vividly when it is stated that during the winter months he never saw daylight, for he, with his fellows, had to work 12 to 14 hours daily, thereby precluding such possibility.
Before taking up his place as a breadwinner he had the advantage of one day's schooling; but he was fortunate in having a mother who, notwithstanding her too many duties, devoted herself to him until he knew his letters. The rest he had to do for himself, and, considering that he had on one to guide him in his choice of studies, he did remarkably well for by this time he was 21 years old, and, in spite of his very limited leisure time, he was fitted to become the editor of a weekly paper in his district. This is no so surprising, though, when one learns that his prime favorites among the moderns were Thomas Carlyle and John Stuart Mill.
Did Not Fight in Vain.
In 1877, when he had just turned 21, there was considerable dissatisfaction among the Ayrshire miners. The long hours and the miserable pay were too much for them, so they stopped work in order that their grievances might be redressed. Hardie was their chosen spokesman. This was a signal proof of the very high esteem in which he was held by his fellow-workers.
The miners did not fight in vain, but their leader was dismissed and blacklisted for so great temerity, for such it was accounted in those days in Scotland.
Blacklisting, for most workers is a terrible thing, as it means no end of hardship, but, fortunately, Hardie's thorough mastery of shorthand and his great knowledge of working class problems obviated that difficulty for him and, in the end, made him a much more effective champion of the people's rights.
His first journalistic work was done as editor of a local weekly, the Cumnock News, which he made famous

through his brilliant advocacy of much-needed social reforms. And while editor of this he was made secretary of his local miners' union, an office usually filled by leaders who have been blacklisted.
Although able to shine as a journalist and writer, Hardie's genius best suited him to politics. He saw clearly, as none of his time did, that the British government was more the institution of a decadent aristocracy than an institution of the people. This now universally accepted view, perhaps his most important contribution in clarifying and arousing the working class spirit in Great Britain, he was the first to set forth, when, in 1886, he sought to enter Parliament as an independent workingmen's candidate for the Mid-Lanark division of Scotland. This effort could hardly be called a failure, for every nook and corner of the British Isles resounded with the din of that one fight. Gibes and sneers were abundantly showered upon him from all quarters, but he was undisturbed and remained strong in so-called defeat. He trusted the workers and knew that they would receive his message as soon as they had fair opportunity to hear and understand it.
The Newspaper Propagandist.
The experience of the Mid-Lanark contest taught Hardie that, while the press was good for general news, he could hardly hope for any impartial treatment of the new cause, which he was espousing, and so he founded a paper through which to carry the message of Socialism to the people. For a short time it was called the

Miner, but the more appropriate title of the Labour Leader was given it later. It was an uphill fight to keep the paper going, but Hardie's heroic efforts, with the aid of a few loyal comrades and friends, won the day. The venture became so successful that the Independent Labor party, numerically the strongest Socialist party in Great Britain, took it over as its official organ, and it became the most influential Socialist and labor journal in Great Britain.
Began Bitter Fight.
While conducting the Labour Leader, Hardie was in constant demand as a speaker in trade union and Socialist circles. The question uppermost at this time was unemployment, and the workers were glad to learn of the cause and the remedy. In his agitation on the unemployment question he was so successful as to be elected to the House of Commons in 1892 as the "member for the unemployed." Something approaching a panic was created among the Liberals and Tories by the advent of Hardie into the House of Commons, for they knew such an event heralded a fundamental change in the thinking of the working class.
No sooner had he taken his seat in the House than a crop of clanders and misrepresentations were created, a desperate method of fighting this man in the "hodge-podge" of the House of Commons. They greatly feared the influence of his words upon the workers as he would tell them about the real causes of poverty and unemployment with an eloquence and sincerity unequalled in

working class agitation. The immediate result of the disorders was the election of 1895, but, judging from subsequent events, that defeat was the best thing that could have happened, for, through it all, and perhaps because of the attacks made upon him, he proved himself a man and won from the people a reputation for sincerity and honesty in all that he said and did.
Experience in Parliament.
The experience of three years in Parliament was helpful for now Hardie understood the workings of the government. It was much easier for him to persuade his fellow trade unionists to take political as well as economic action and that the only way to be successful in that was by sending men of their own class to represent them in parliament, through an Independent Labor party. Hardie raised the question of political action at the Trades Union Congress, held in Glasgow in 1892. This body corresponds to the American Federation of Labor here. The result was so encouraging that they realized that the Labor party was a certainty in a few years. At the Trades Union congress, held at Plymouth in 1893, a resolution was adopted inviting all trade unions, co-operative societies and Socialist organizations favorable to political action in the interests of labor to form an alliance. And, as a result, the Labor party was formed in 1899, with James Ramsay MacDonald, M. P., as secretary. The contributions of Hardie and MacDonald to this achievement were very great.
This Labor party is a political alli-

ance of trade unionists, co-operators and Socialists. The Socialists consist of the Independent Labor party and the Fabian society. The functions of the latter society are pre-eminently educative, while those of the former are political. Hardie was a member of both, but his connection with the Independent Labor party was the most fruitful. He presided at the first conference called at Bradford in 1893, for the purpose of founding the party, and so potent was his influence on such the esteem in which he was held by his brother Socialists that he was elected president for five years in succession. This was a great tribute, for Robert Blatchford, Ben Tillett, Tom Mann, Philip Snowden, Ramsay MacDonald and Bruce Glasier were among those present in these years. Since these days Hardie's services were in constant demand by the party, both as an executive and as a speaker. In the latter capacity he was unique, for no one in all Britain was able to muster the crowded gatherings that marked his thirty-odd years of agitation.
The Return to Parliament.
While busy with all this creative work, he was not unmindful of parliament and, as a result, he was elected in 1900 to represent a Welsh constituency. Merthyr Tydfil. His presence was much felt in Wales, especially in the mining districts, not only among the trade unionists and Socialists, but also among churchgoers. The most striking demonstration of this was given in Merthyr Tydfil, when church parades took place and special ser-

mons were delivered in honor of the Independent Labor Party conference held there in 1912. And let it be stated here that Hardie was always respected by Catholic and Protestant alike, for he never slighted or in any way criticized the religious tenets of his hearers, always maintaining that religious belief was a purely private affair and, therefore, foreign to the economic movement as such.
Chosen Labor's Leader.
The year 1906 was a momentous one for labor and Socialism in Great Britain. Thirty members were elected to parliament to represent labor from the Labor party's efforts. Each and all were tested and tried unionists and Socialists, and Keir Hardie was chosen their leader in the House of Commons. This culmination, though, was hardly enjoyed to the full by him as he was stricken seriously ill. He had an iron constitution, but his 39 years of incessant labor as agitator, writer and executive officer were too much for him. His recovery required a long rest and the doctors ordered a tour around the world for him. His journey took him through Canada, Japan, China, the Straits Settlements, Ceylon, India, West Australia, South Australia, New South Wales, New Zealand and South Africa. He returned from this tour much better in health, and, though his trouble left its mark physically, there was nothing wanting of the old fire and righteous indignation of the Hardie who was turned adrift in the world for championing the cause of his fel-

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REX AND LYRIC THEATERS DO NOT EMPLOY UNION LABOR