

The intelligent, common sense workmen prefer to deal with the problems of today, with which they must contend if they want to make advancements, rather than to deal with a picture or a dream.—Gompers.

THE LABOR WORLD

FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, ECONOMIC REFORM AND POLITICAL PROGRESS

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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The working class movement to be most effective must be conducted by the workers themselves in the interest of the workers. It will not be dominated by the so-called intellectuals or butters-in.—Gompers.

TWO CENTS.

WHAT IS NEEDED FOR PREPAREDNESS

Better Living Conditions Would Best Come People of Nation.

MANY WRONGS MUST BE RIGHTED SAYS WALSH

Diseases Are Caused From Lack of Proper Food and Other Necessities.

New York, July 15.—Abolition of child labor; health insurance; more taxes on land, incomes and inheritances; federal acquisition of natural monopolies; public operations of public utilities; untaxing of the products of labor.

These are among the requisites of a program for "real preparedness" advocated by economists and social workers at a conference in this city. A national movement to put all candidates for office this fall on record on this program is proposed. Similar conferences are to be held throughout the country.

Frank Walsh Is Speaker.

"A man must have a stake in his country to love it and to fight for it," was the keynote of the conference, as sounded by Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the industrial relations commission.

"We all thrilled as children," he said, "when we read of the embattled farmers who fired shots heard around the world. Could we expect the tenant farmers of Texas and Oklahoma to fire such shots? Father, mother, children, all together, get less than \$300 a year. Would they fight for that privilege?"

"Preparedness for war is only a symbol of that infinitely greater thing, preparedness for peace, built on justice and social welfare. The great foe of social justice is monopoly—monopoly of land, of natural resources, and the power to control other men's lives.

Half of Land Used.

"Throughout the United States there is scarcely more than half the arable land that is cultivated, and yet nearly all of it is held in private possession, and a very great part of it in large and growing estates.

"Only a little over a quarter of a century ago Oklahoma was opened to settlement, yet a large percentage of the farms in that state are worked by tenants who have no stake in the land, and who, if guns were placed in their hands, would be 'embattled' to protect some one else's 'altars and fires'—would fight, as they now work, for the benefit of those who exploit them."

Walsh bitterly attacked the vagrancy laws, which he said made criminal of the man who was loafing because he and an employer could not agree on a price for his labor.

Real Preparedness.

"Until the workers have the power to say what they shall get out of their work we shall never have true preparedness in this country. This country will be really prepared when its lands are used for production, its industries for manufacture, its highways for transportation, and its deposits of natural resources are worked and are of access to all men and women of the nation. It would mean an Americanism so robust that none would dare attack us."

William Lustgarten, president of the Loyal American Legion, took occasion to condemn Col. Roosevelt as a "selfish man" and said:

"Everywhere the struggle for mere existence is becoming more intense and is destroying forces that make for improvement and progress. Diseases, because of lack of food, bad lodging, monotonous and weariness of toil and child labor are constantly on the increase. The first requisite of

Continued on Page 2.

NEW SCHEME TO HOODWINK WORKERS

Group Plan of Insurance Thrown As Bait by Milwaukee State Capitol Building.

NEVER INTRODUCED AMONG UNION SHOPS

Wages Sufficient to Provide for Rainy Day Would Do Much More for Labor.

One of the new schemes that certain employing interests are bringing out is "to insure the lives of their employees." A newspaper clipping from a Milwaukee (Wis.) newspaper reads as follows: "Following close upon other large manufacturers of the city, the F. W. Mayer Boot and Shoe company announced recently that it had taken out a group policy of life insurance on nearly 400 of its employees. The policies will be absolutely free to employees of his company."

There are several things about this proposition of "group insurance," so called, to which we would like to call the attention not only of our members and other trade unionists, but of fair minded employers as well, says the Shoe Workers' Journal.

Not in Union Shops.

First of all, we wish to draw attention to the fact, which may fairly be regarded as significant, that propositions of this sort are never introduced into union shops. Why? Because in the union shop the workmen have the machinery to obtain some sort of fair adjustment of the wage question and are not to be subsidized by a sop to be thrown to them when they are dead.

This group insurance plan says to the wage earners: "If you have been good boys and have worked for me at my prices and conditions for a year or more, I will insure your life free of cost to you while you continue in my employ at the wages and conditions which I shall fix for you without any of your assistance or advice."

The moment a wage earner leaves that employment he ceases to be insured. While he has worked there he has worked at the employer's price, and yet the employer has nerve enough to tell him that he, the employer, is giving the wage earner life insurance free of charge.

Does the employer really pay for this insurance? Certainly not. His intention is to offer the insurance as a bait by which to lure the employee to work contentedly for him at a low wage scale, so that when the employer has paid the insurance premiums he has made a net profit on the labor.

Looked at from the shortsighted angle, this may appear to be good business to such employers. An employee may work, for instance, for \$3 to \$6 a week less money and in ten years may have received \$1,500 to \$3,000 less in the pay envelope, but can comfort himself with the cheerful reflection that when he is dead his family will cash in \$500.

Not Good Industrial Policy.

As a farsighted business proposition we submit that this group insurance plan is not a good industrial policy. We think it will appeal to the average "fair minded" business man that it is better policy to give the wage earner a fair standard of living. Wage earners will be better satisfied with a more satisfactory pay envelope here and now than with a life insurance policy which at best will only give their family a pittance after they are dead and which the employer can discontinue any time he sees fit.

Suppose, for instance, the F. W. Mayer Boot and Shoe company or any other concern carried on this group insurance for a period of five years and at the end of that time dropped it. If their employees have remained in their employ because of the insurance then there is five years of their life which they have spent qualifying

Continued on Page 2.

TIME TO ASCERTAIN TRUTH ABOUT MESABA RANGE STRIKE SITUATION

Governor Burnquist is taking too much for granted in dealing with the strike on the iron ranges. We will put it in another way. He is relying on information culled from prejudiced sources and fails to exercise the judgment he is capable of exercising in attempting to get at the facts in the controversy between the strikers and the mining companies.

The governor knows there are two sides to every question. This is no exception. Daily papers are trying to begot the issue by laying the entire blame on the few 'agitators' who belong to the Industrial Workers of the World.

But we repeat what we stated in these columns last week. No set of agitators would be able to start anything on the iron ranges or anywhere else unless there was 'something rotten in Denmark.'

Yes, there are two sides to the question. There are two sides to the shooting affairs that resulted in the tragedy which snuffed out the life of one of Duluth's best citizens, Jamie Myron. Governor Burnquist has one version of it. His representative, sent to the range to investigate the trouble got his information from one side and, we are reliably informed by Mayor Boylan of Virginia, made no attempt to get the other side, the miners' side, of the affair.

For example: The truth has been withheld regarding the activity of the mine guards in connection with Mr. Myron's murder. It is said by those in a position to know that the shooting was started solely on account of the aggressiveness of one Nick Dillon, a mine guard, who received his training as a bouncer for a house of ill fame in the outskirts of Virginia.

Our informant tells us,—and this is a matter of common knowledge among the people on the range—that Dillon stormed into the miner's home and demanded that the striker submit to arrest.

The woman at the house told the mine guard that her husband would not be arrested by Dillon. She told him that her husband would submit to arrest by Officer O'Hara of Biwabik. This angered Dillon who, acting under the authority conferred on him by the mining corporation and the sheriff of St. Louis county, attempted to make the arrests.

We presume that legally Dillon has the 'right' to make arrests.

But we don't have to presume this: We know that if the mine guards attended to their business of protecting the mining properties; if the St. Louis county authorities would stop deputizing the private guards of the mining corporations, the trouble on the range would quickly adjust itself.

The strikers on the range would be peaceable if the St. Louis county authorities would give them a square deal.

Deputizing private mine guards and giving them the authority of county officers is not giving a square deal to the strikers.

In the first place these men are not paid by the county, but by the mining companies. They know their masters; they will do their masters' will. Theoretically, they are officers of the law, but actually they are private thugs of the mining companies, with the cloak of legal authority thrown about them by the sheriff of St. Louis county.

In the very nature of things they cannot act with the fairness and discretion of real officers of the law, paid by the people of the county.

They are not officers of the law. They are not servants of the people, employed to protect the public interest.

They are merely the paid thugs of the mining companies, with the legal authority of the county which attempts to give them a degree of responsibility.

"A rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

Let us go back and dig up a little local history. Some two or three years ago there was a dock workers' strike on in Duluth. Of course, the daily press laid the responsibility at the door of the I. W. W.

STEEL WORKERS STRIKE.

BALTIMORE, July 15.—About 125 of the 250 steel workers employed by the Carnegie Steel company suspended work when three of their fellows were discharged for circulating a petition. The men requested the company to establish an eight-hour day, instead of the present 10-hour system. A 10 per cent wage increase with time and one-half for overtime was also asked.

PROGRESS IN RACINE.

RACINE, July 13.—John S. Martin, traveling agent of the Carriage, Waggon and Automobile Workers' union, Chicago, who is in charge of a membership drive in Racine, was in Milwaukee Monday to secure speakers for a meeting in that city on Wednesday night. Frank J. Weber will go. The union is making good progress in Racine, Martin reports.

HEADS LABOR LAW BUREAU.

WASHINGTON, July 13.—W. B. Rubin, Milwaukee attorney, has been appointed head of the newly created legal department of the Illinois Federation of Labor. In the Seattle convention of three years ago a resolution was passed favoring the establishing of such bureaus, Illinois being the first to take action.

But the facts are that the strike started on the Allouez ore docks when five or six men lost their lives because the company declined to adhere to the ordinary rules of safety. The men repeatedly asked the company to overcome defects in the working conditions danger to the men employed on the docks. The company refused to listen to the appeals of the men.

One night on the docks, about nine o'clock, these half dozen unfortunate workers lost their lives. Their comrades, 600 of them, struck. The strike spread to the Duluth docks where the men walked out in sympathy.

Of course the I. W. W. did it! David Foley, one of the Oliver's guards on the range was brought to Duluth to help chase away the troublesome "agitators" who induced (?) the men to strike. Foley was deputized by the local authorities, of course. But we won't go into the details of the story.

However, we do want to call attention to one interesting phase of the situation. A hearing was held at police, C. H. Troyer and a number of men interested in the strikers' cause attended.

The representatives of the strikers asked the safety commissioner to recommend the discontinuance of the practice of deputizing private mine guards as officers of the law. They claimed then as the miners claim now that most of the trouble was started by the mine guards, or was due to the presence of these guards.

During the conference Chief Troyer was asked this question: "Do you think you could manage the situation down there at the docks without the assistance of the mine guards?"

His answer was in the affirmative and the chief made it plain that his force was sufficient to keep order, and that he thought further trouble could be avoided if the imported guards were removed.

Governor Burnquist can stop the deputizing of private guards if he cares to do it. Unprejudiced people on the range, who are in closer touch with the situation than are the editors of the local daily press, will tell him where the responsibility lies, namely, at the door of the authorities who invite trouble when they deputize the men who are paid by the mining companies and who know no other masters.

But the governor has not yet proven himself big enough for the job. He has the power to do this if he wants to exercise that power.

The Labor World hopes that Governor Burnquist will take the bull by the horns and prove to the people of Minnesota where his sympathies are in this controversy. We do not mean by this that we ask him to expose the miners' cause. We only ask him to take a clear, unprejudiced view of the situation and act as an informed and intelligent executive should act under the circumstances.

Meanwhile, the great Steel trust continues to play the baby act.

With the legal advantage it enjoys; a giant monopoly whose only object is to make profits at the expense of the workers' blood and starvation wages, it says, "If the I. W. W. agitators don't leave town, we will close down our mines."

Which is all pure bluff and baby talk.

In the same breath they loudly proclaim through their official mouthpiece that THEY ARE SHIPPING MORE ORE TODAY THAN BEFORE THE STRIKE BEGAN.

The streets of Eveleth, Chisholm, Virginia, Hibbing and other range cities are as quiet as they are at any time, strikes or no strikes.

You can't find any violence on the ranges. But you can find plenty of violence on the front page of a certain morning newspaper not far from the city of Duluth.

We don't like to suspect that Governor Burnquist obtains his "reliable" information from this newspaper. It is easy to ascertain the facts.

Governor Burnquist, it is up to you!

WORKERS PLEDGE EFFORTS FOR PEACE

Harmony and Laborers' Cause Are Aims of Mexican and American Unionists.

LACK OF INFORMATION HAS CAUSED TROUBLE

Pan-American Labor Movement Expected to Develop from Conferences Held.

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Last Monday representatives of the American and Mexican trade union movements met in this city and pledged their faith to international harmony and the workers' cause. It was the first meeting of its kind ever held.

Those present, and who signed the declaration embodying these views, were the executive council of the American Federation of Labor and the following representatives of the Mexican workers: C. Lovelira, Baltazar Pages, L. N. Morones, S. Gonzalo Garcia and Edmundo E. Martinez.

The meeting was the outgrowth of a suggestion made by President Gompers to the Mexican trade union movement, several weeks ago, that a conference be held at El Paso, Texas, between representatives of the workers of both countries for the purpose of discussing questions of mutual interest and strengthening fraternal ties.

Later it was decided to meet in Washington. The first conference, July 1, was devoted chiefly to explanations and discussion necessary to mutual understanding. The following Monday practical suggestions for immediate problems were considered and declarations approved and signed by the representatives.

"It is an unavoidable conclusion," declared these workers in their signed statement, "that present differences between the United States and Mexico are the result of misunderstanding growing out of inadequate or incorrect information, and that relations between the United States and Mexico have formulated a national attitude that questions the good faith of our governments; that existing agencies and methods of reaching an adjustment of these differences are unsuitable for dealing with fundamental human problems, and that the relations between our countries ought not to be directed in accord with abstract standards of justice but ought to be keenly sensitive and responsive to the human interest and moral forces."

The conference urged upon their respective governments "the appointment of a commission to be composed of high-minded citizens, fully representative of our nations, to consider differences that have brought our nations to the verge of war and to make such recommendations as adjustment shall fitly express the highest ideals of the great rank and file of the citizenship of our two countries."

It was agreed that copies of this declaration be presented to President Wilson and to General Carranza and that it be given widest publicity among the workers of both countries.

It was also agreed that another conference should be held, in which the workers would be more generally represented, for the purpose of agreeing upon plans for maintaining permanent relations and for the federation of the labor movements of the western hemisphere.

As present conditions preclude an immediate meeting of this character it was decided to forego holding same until later in the year, unless an emergency arises "which would make a general conference of advantage in averting an international crisis."

To carry this plan into effect a joint commission is to be chosen of

Continued on Page 2.

LABOR FAVORED BY COURT DECISIONS

Policemen and Firemen Are Held "Employees" Under Minnesota Compensation Law.

FAMILIES MAY RECOVER IF EMPLOYEE IS KILLED

Benefit Due Workman's Widow Will Be No Barrier In Obtaining Other Compensation.

Henceforth in the state of Minnesota a policeman and a fireman will be known as "employees," within the meaning prescribed by the Workmen's Compensation Act. In case such a man is killed in the discharge of his duties, he may recover under the provisions of the law. The fact that he may be entitled to a pension from a fund maintained by an association composed of fellow workers will not bar his family from recovering. These facts were established by a ruling by the state supreme court of Minnesota last Friday.

Nell Mooney, New Duluth patrolman, was shot and killed while attempting to make an arrest three years ago last January and his dependents brought an action in the district court to recover compensation from the city. The city contended that it was not liable, but Judge Fessler of the trial court held that the compensation act applied. He is upheld by the higher tribunal.

Police Are "Employees." The supreme court holds in the Mooney case that a policeman is a person in the service of the city and one not appointed for a regular term of office. The city's contention was that he was an "officer" and not an "employee" within the meaning of the statute.

"The question is not whether a policeman is an officer or an official," the court states, "but whether he is an 'official' elected or appointed for a regular term of office. Clearly he is not. Under the Duluth charter policemen receive their office by appointments under civil service rules. They hold office during good behavior. There is no term at all. Manifestly this is not an appointment for a regular term of office."

Fred E. Granzow, first assistant fire chief, was killed on Sept. 10, 1915, while making a run to a fire. His widow, Mrs. Dorothea E. P. Granzow, and 10-year-old daughter, both dependents, brought suit to recover compensation from the city under the workmen's compensation law. The trial court held that the city was liable and the case was appealed. The supreme court holds that the same rule applies to the Granzow case as in the Mooney case.

Benefits No Barrier.

Another question which was raised in the Granzow case which did not enter into the Mooney case was whether or not the fact Granzow was a member of the Duluth Firemen's Relief association and that his dependents draw benefits therefrom would bar recovery of compensation or reduce the amount they would be entitled to receive.

Judge Dancer held that the receipt of funds from the association did not bar the defendants from recovering full benefits under the workmen's compensation act and he is also upheld by the highest tribunal.

"We are of the opinion," the supreme court states, "that the fireman who joins and contributes to the funds of this association should be held to have purchased the protection which the association affords, for the benefit of himself and his family, and not for the benefit of his employer."

Other Cases Decided.

The supreme court also handed down decisions in other cases affecting the workmen's compensation law. In a St. Louis county case the court held that the monthly contributions of a

Continued on Page 2.

A. F. OF L. OUTLINES PLAN FOR FORMATION OF PAN-AMERICAN FEDERATION

(By Julian Pierce.)

WASHINGTON, July 15.—An outline of the plan for the formation of a Pan-American Federation of Labor has just been made public through a statement issued from the national headquarters of the American Federation of Labor.

The statement, which is signed by Samuel Gompers, president of the A. F. of L., is an integral part of the credentials issued under the authority of the executive council to the representatives of the organized labor movement of Mexico who participated in the deliberations of the International Labor Conference held in Washington last week.

A "Parliament of Men."

Those representatives—Carlos Lovelira and Baltazar Pages, of Yucatan, and Luis N. Morones, of Mexico City, and S. Gonzalez Garcia, of Orizaba—are the accredited representatives of the International Labor Conference authorized to acquaint the workers of Mexico and Central and South America with the necessity of international alliance of the workers.

"A Pan-American Federation of Labor is not only possible, but it is necessary," declares the statement. "It will constitute a ready and fit agency for injecting into international deliberations at opportune and criti-

cal times consideration for human rights, interests and welfare.

"The realization of an international alliance between the labor movements of all Pan-American countries will constitute a genuine parliament of men, one of the highest purposes toward which mankind has aspired."

An appeal is made to the workers of all American countries to co-operate in the detail work of organizing the proposed international labor alliance.

Exploiters Getting Together.

The statement declares the revolution in Mexico represents the "cause of humanity and democracy," and asserts that the Constitutional government represents a genuine effort to "establish institutions of freedom and justice." Attention is called to the fact that the American Federation of Labor appealed to President Wilson to recognize the Constitutional government.

The statement refers directly to the influence exercised by the American Federation of Labor in preventing the war with Mexico, due to the friction occasioned by the presence of American troops in Mexican territory and the resulting encounter at Carrizal.

Attention is directed to the fact that the personnel of the government

high commission of United States capitalists which recently made a trip to South America to establish a closer bond of fellowship between the international exploiters of the working people included no one who "distinctly represented human interests and the rights and welfare of the masses."

This denial of labor representation on the high commission's personnel is declared to be an added reason for the necessity of a Pan-American Labor Federation to guard the distinct class interests of the workers.

Labor Not Represented.

"In the high commission which recently made a trip to Pan-American countries for the purpose of promoting better commercial and industrial relations, although there was no phase in any of the relations between these different countries that did not in some way affect human interests and human welfare, there was no one on that commission who distinctly represented human interests and the rights and welfare of the masses of the people.

"I have urged upon the United States government that this serious omission ought to be rectified, and I urge the labor movements of all Pan-American countries to bring the same matter to the attention of their respective governments. But such

representation, valuable as it would be, is not sufficient to protect and promote the rights and welfare of the workers of all countries. A Pan-American federation of labor is not only possible, but is necessary. It will constitute a ready and fit agency for injecting into international deliberations at opportune and critical times consideration for human rights, interests and welfare.

"In view of the importance of this purpose, it is most gratifying to find that the representatives from the state of Yucatan are to travel through the countries of Central and South America for the purpose of promoting a Pan-American federation of labor. The purpose of their mission has our most sympathetic and hearty co-operation. The realization of an international alliance between the labor movements of all Pan-American countries will constitute a genuine parliament of men, one of the highest purposes to which mankind has aspired.

"It is earnestly hoped that the representatives of all organized workers in Pan-America will come into and continue correspondence with the undersigned.

Good Will of the Masses.

"Just as the situation between the United States and Mexico was most

critical there came to our country two representatives of the government of Yucatan, Mr. Carlos Lovelira, chief of the Department of Labor, and Mr. Baltazar Pages, editor of the Voice of the Revolution, bringing an appeal to the workmen of our country to use their influence in the interest of peace and justice between our countries. At the same time, in response to an invitation from the American Federation of Labor, the organized labor movement of Mexico sent as representatives to Washington for the purpose of holding a conference Mr. Luis N. Morones, Mr. S. Gonzalez Garcia and Mr. Edmundo E. Martinez.

"During the recent past, through personal representatives of the Mexican government and information gained from others in close contact with conditions in Mexico, it became plain to us that the revolution in Mexico represented the cause of humanity and democracy and that the Constitutional government represented a genuine effort on the part of the Mexicans to establish institutions of freedom and justice. The American Federation of Labor made an appeal to the President of the United States to recognize the Constitutional government of Mexico.

"It has since on several occasions, when important decisions of national