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THE LABOR WORLD.

FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, ECONOMIC REFORM AND POLITICAL PROGRESS.

The Labor World is enterworing to render invaluable services to the workers by keeping them informed as to the vital problems affecting their welfare. The labor press must be supported by the workers-therefore YOU ought to subscribe-\$1 a year.

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DULUTH AND SUPERIOR, AUGUST 16, 1919.

FIVE CENTS

DULUTH HIT HARDEST BY HIGH PRICES

SHOPMEN STAND PAT; REFUSE TO' State Historical Component of Lakes Men Act Independent of Lakes Men Act Independent of the Independent

Send Delegates to Chicago Conference Where Strike Status Is Being Discussed--Decision Is Awaited.

Striking railroad shopmen at the Head of the Lakes left their jobs on the railroads following a call from the district office at Chicago and they will not return to work until that office authorizes it. This seems to be the sentiment of all the shopmen in he middle west district.

A conference is now in session at Chicago consisting of representatives from all shop employes' unions in the district. Duluth, Superior, Proctor and Two Harbors are well represented at this meeting. The delegates were given no instructions. They are John P. Jensen, Duluth; William Granger, Proctor; C. E. Woolsey, Two Harbors, and Frank Gaunders, Superior.

The delegation left for Chicago Tuesday afternoon and it is not expected to return until late this week and possibly not until early next week. In the meantime the shopmen will sit tight and await develop-

Few Are Returning to Work.

Press reports early in the week stated that many shopmen were returning to work, but the union representatives claim to have information that this is not true. They declare the men generally are standing pat and are paying no attention to President Wilson's appeal to them to return to work and have their case adjudicated after.

The government is to blame," the union officers say. It has had seven months to treat with us and it paid no attention to our appeals. The railroad administration made no attempt to increase our wages and the government made no effort to reduce the cost of living.'

Chairman Jensen, of the local committee, in a letter to the Herald In answer to an editorial appearing in that paper advising the men to return to work, roundly scores the international officers. He wrote in part as follows:

"For your information as to our revolt against our national officers. they first revolted against us. They have ignored our constitution and practically lied to us for seven **ASSEMBLY VOTES**

day Evening Rescinds Acton

of Regular Meeting.

ated Trades assembly held at Owls'

hall Wednesday evening the invita-

tion of the Home Coming committee

to participate in the parade was ac-

action of the regular meeting was

rescinded and every union in town is

The call for the special meeting

contemplated the holding of a sep-

arate parade by organized labor to

honor the soldiers, but the majority

declared that labor should forget at

this time its prejudice against the

Home Guard and join with other pa-

triotic organizations in doing honor to

No delegate who favored parading

defended the Home Guard as an in-

stitution, but great praise was give

the Duluth companies of the guard

and motor corps for the great work

they did during the forest fire here

was generally condemned few dele-

gates blamed the individual members

who joined it during the war. They

rather blamed Governor Burnquist for

railway strike in the Twin Cities.

using the guard to crush the street

The executive committee of the

assembly reported on the strike of

directed its executive committee to

act for the assembly in attempting to

Resolutions were adopted calling

upon the charter commission to sub-

mit an amendment to the city charter

to the voters providing for an increase

of three mills in the tax levy. An-

other resolution called upon the leg-

islature at its special session to enact

a law giving municipalities the right

nd power to operate public groceries.

Henry Dworshak jr., secretary of

the Consumers' league, explained the

purpose of that organization and re-

quested the delegates to report to

their unions that a mass meeting

would be held at the Shrine audi-

torium next Wednesday evening for

the purpose of discussing the high

cost of living and organizing to take

OPERATORS IN TACOMA

TACOMA, Wish., Aug 14.- After

winning their strike for higher

wages and retroactive pay, telephone

girls in this city and Seattle are being

The strike involved several thous-

and electrical workers and telephone

operators, affiliated with the Brother-

hood of Electrical Workers, and ex-

there would be no discrimination.

VICTIMIZE TELEPHONE

cepted by a vote of 34 to 16.

urged to join in the parade.

the returned soldiers.

affect a settlement.

steps to reduce it

Shopmen Never Will.

"The business policy of the Herald as far as the editorials are concerned might tolerate such conditions but the railroad shopmen never will. "You say the men have the president's word for it, at the very moment when the rank and file was convinced

of the bad faith of their own officers, projected a strike when those officers were working in their behalf. We say let the administration outline a complete program. We will give it a hearing and due consideration. local phase of this stril

be settled between the rank and file their grand officers. We underand this thoroughly; the Herald

"We say that this strike is the verdict of 75 per cent of the men. This verdict was dully conveyed to our representatives and to the administration at Washington. We say that the constitutional mandates of our membership must be obeyed by officers. "The Herald and the administration may make an effort to shield them. This to us will be positive our suspicions were wel

"In considering this question you say we will remember that unionism is at stake and that we must guard its principles religiously. We agree on that, and that is exactly what we are doing-we fear not the jury's (public's) verdict.

Charge Passing Buck.

"As to the merits of the demands for higher wages, you say it's unnecessary now to pass judgment as It is in the hands of the government. The president's disposition is to act promptly if the men return to work, according to your statement.

"You are passing the buck the same as the rest, for we think that it is necessary to pass on the merits of our demands promptly and effectively and then the men will return to work, and only then, as we see it

"You say that the president cannot act without an organization to deal with and a decision can be reached just as well with work proceeding as it can with work stopped. Indeed it can be reached far better because it will not be prejudiced by the irritaion growing out of a strike.

"Our reply is that the effect of this strike is in itself a positive proof that we have an organization open for the administration to deal with at any ime. As regards settlement when working, we again say after trying or seven months without prejudice and in the absence of strike irritaion there was nothing doing.

"In the meantime the men now on strike will act on this matter accordng to the dictates of their own judgnent, based on full knowledge of the ase to the end that all labor and the public in general may be benefited hrough our courage and organizaion to bring to their senses, if need e to their knees, the profiteering mperors, now gnawing at the funlamental principals of trade unionsm, in fact all our social, political .nd industrial welfare of the Amercan people."

DEMAND FOOD SALE.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14. - The ouse has adopted a resolution reuesting Secretary of War Baker to lace on sale without delay surplus pod products held by the war deartment and valued at \$120,000,000. states.

PARTY MACHINE FAILS TO MOVE **CARSS OR BAER**

Trick of Reactionaries Submarined by Forty Insurgent Members of Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 14 .-One of the most significant events of house when a group of 40 independents and progressive Republicans, including the chairmen of two important committees, Porter of foreign affairs and Esch of interstate commerce, submarined a trick partisan resolution conceived by the majority steering committee to discredit the administration and combined with the Democrats to put through an amendment making it of practical value to the people of the United States.

The occasion was the vote on a special house resolution demanding that the secretary of war make immediately available to the public the iuge stocks of surplus army food held by the war department. The resolution had been drawn after an investigation showing terrible incompetency on the part of the war department with regard to the disposal of its surplus food supplies, and very plainly Indicating that influence brought to bear by the packers and the canners is primarily responsible for letting this food rot in storage rather than place it on the domestic market.

Nevertheless the resolution coneived by the the Republican steering ommittee, a body with ideals worthy of the worst days of Cannonism, was a partisan measure and nothing more. It demanded that the secretary of war TO JOIN PARADE place the surplus food products on "without delay" carefully omitting to give Mr. Baker any assistance or authority to handle this gigantic task. It was clearly designed to focus Special Meeting Held Wednespublic wrath on the administration by ordering Mr. Baker to immediately settle a problem which he had neither money or men to solve.

In spite of furious opposition from the majority leadership an amendof Braddock. Pa., giving the resolution constructive value by instructing the war department to utilize the parcels post system in selling the food, was put through by a combination of 40 Republicans, lined up with the Democrats. Prominent among those who refused to be bludgeoned by their reactionary leaders were Representatives Baer and Sinclair of North Dakota, and Representative Carrs of

FORM ASSEMBLY AT TWO HARBORS

Central Labor Body Organized With Eleven Unions--Three last October. While the guard itself More to Join.

Two Harbors has a trades and labor assembly. It was organized last Sunday and starts out with a charter membership of 11 unions, all reprewaitresses at the Spalding hotel. A senting men and women employed on union has been organized and the the Duluth and Iron Range railroad. assembly gave its indorsement and There are three other unions in town and these will be invited to join.

J. F. Robins of the Machinists union was elected president and Miss Susan Woodfill of the Railway Clerks union was unanimously chosen secre tary. A committee consisting of one representative from each union was named to draft a constitution and bylaws. N. A. Gray of the B. of L. E., was made chairman of the committee and Chas. MacMains of the Brother hood of Railway Carmen is secretary.

The following unions were represented at the first meeting:-Machinists, locomotive engineers, railway clerks, sheet metal workers, maintenane of way, trainmen, conductors, firemen, boilermakers, railway carmen and blacksmiths. The unions to come in at the next meting are the ore dock workers, electrical workers and retail clerks. Representation was fixed at three delegates for each

The new assembly will make application for affiliation with the American Federation of Labor.

WANT UNION SHOP. WIMINGTON, Del., Aug. 14.-The building trades council has declared for the union shop. These workers victimized. The company agreed that insist that they make the conditions and that every building employe must aid in the fight for better conditions. The bosses favor the "open shop"—so open, as Dooley says, that a trade unionist coming in turned a deaf ear when the workers shrough the rear door.

DISEASE AND DEATH UNDER BOLSHEVISM

THE Bolshevist "Ekonomiches-

kaia Zhizn" states that in the Moscow hospitals and homes the average death-rate among women in the maternity wards is 80 per cent, owing to underfeeding. The death-rate among the new-born infants is 90 per cent. All kinds of epidemics are rag-

ing, and spotted typhus carried away most victims. On April 1 the Moscow hospitals contained 8,486 spotted typhus patients, and cases are on the increase. In January there were 6,820 cases, in February 9,829, and in March 12,985; From Oct. 1 to April 1 51/2 per cent of the medical staff attending typhus cases died.

Besides spotted typhus there is a great deal of smallpox all over Russia. Owing to the use of horseflesh there have been cases of glanders among people, which are generally fatal. There are already signs of cholera. The percentage of nervous cases is far greater than during the war. Hospitals for nervous diseases have long been overcrowded, and at present the soviet authorities are trying to find new premises where lunatics can be isolated.

TRAINMENS' HEAD **WARNS CONGRESS**

W. G. Lee Tells Railroad Administration Government Is Sitting on Powder Keg.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.-Memers of congress were warned by W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, to call a halt on the execessive prices charged for the necessaries of life. He was addressing the members of the wage board of the railroad administration. Director General Hines was present and listened attentively.

"I am not a red card man," said ment to this resolution, offered by Lee, "but I am coming close to it if Clyde Kelly, independent Republican this profiteering keeps up. I am sorry to say I am forced with the tide, I am forced with the current, and the man who does not recognize it had better get new glasses.

"I will admit to you, gentlemen, that we are going the wrong way. I admit to you that it is time to call a we get together, until we commence together to stop this, there will be hell in this country-and it is nearer today than I ever knew it in my years of experience.

"You can talk about stopping this. and satisfying the working people, all you please; you can talk about high rates all you care to: but just let somebody drop a match today in this country of ours, and it will be a sorry day for all of us. I am not blaming the administration a particle for declining, as far as they can, to give additional increases. I think I know what it means. But unless my vision is most terribly obscured, then there is something coming to us pretty soon in this country that we had better prepare for.

"Our lawmakers are to blame, in my opinion, for this, because the masses of the people would be behind them if they would attempt to cor-

LABOR GOT THIS FOR MANY YEARS

Memphis Editor Sent to Jail for Contempt of Court, Escorted By Brass Band.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Aug. 14.-Edward T. Leech, editor of the Memphis Press, was escorted to jail - where he will serve 10 days for contempt of court-by a brass band, an automobile and a delegation of prominent citizens, who lustily demanded free press. The editor was charged with criticizing public officials when he discussed politics in a general way. The editor's friends point to the process by which the editor was jailed-without jury trial and by the court that combines itself into judge, law maker and executioner.

This evil has been combatted for years by organized workers who have been jailed by the same methods used in Editor Leech's case.

Trade unionists are hopeful that the latest exhibition of injunction power will be remembered by promnent citizens who have heretofore tended through the Pacific coast the front door will be kicked clear urged that American rights be maintained.

RETAIL PRICES ON SHOES VARY IN MANY TOWNS

Sales in Europe and Findings of **Federal Trade Commission** Are Revelations.

Many reports have appeared in the press, and many complaints have been made by citizens that retail shoe prices vary widely in different stores for the same grade of shoes. Recently a prominent Washington resident informed a representative of this paper that he had found in Baltimore, Md., at \$9, shoes of exactly the same type that a Washington dealer priced at \$15. The Boston News Bureau has published several stories of the same

The finding of the federal trade commission that underlying economic conditions do not justify the present high shoe prices, and the discovery by the congressional committee investigating the conduct of the war that 350,000 pairs of army shoes had been sold in Belgium at very low prices, when reports were being sent abroad here that there would be shoe shortage in the fall, have excited much comment. Another item of evidence as to conditions in the shoe industry, at present, is the following New York World editorial, entitled "Cheap Shoes—for Export," based upon an advertisement in a current shoe trade publication:

"A day or two after the published threat of still another jump in the prices of shoes, an advertisement appeared in the Journal of Commerce of 300,000 pairs of men's shoes, "Ready to ship at once direct from our own factories, for export, at prices that excite curiosity.

"There were, for instance, 59,000 pairs of men's work shoes at \$3, 'made two full soles, solid leather, insoles, and counter, solid lift heels.' Other work shoes are offered at \$2.25, \$2.35, \$1.80 and \$2.50. The highest price High Prices, Forced by Food quoted is \$5.75 a pair for 'men's gun metal calf high-grade shoes.' fair sex is not forgotten; two of the 12 items provide it with kid welt shoes at \$3.25 and 'welt oxford and high shoes' at \$1.75 a pair.

INSIST ON SIX-DAY WEEK.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Aug. 14. The minimum wage and maximum hour commission has refused to 54-hour law for women and permit seven days' labor. The request was halt; and I admit to you that unt.l made by hotel men, who claim they are facing ruin and starvation if these women are not permitted to "enjoy" a seven-day week.

LABOR PARTY TO **MAKE BIG DRIVE**

Minnesota Non-Partisan Working People's League Out After 150,000 Members.

ST. PAUL, Aug. 14 .- One hundred and fifty thousand members are to be sought by the newly formed Working People's Nonpartisan Political league in a big state campaign, according to plans under consideration by the organization's executive committee, which held its first meeting last week in Minneapolis.

"Headquarters will be opened in Minneapolis in a few days," said William Mahoney, president of the labor eague. "This will be followed by an intensive campaign through the labor newspapers and by organizers. It is our intention to establish a news bureau from which literature about the organization will be distributed.

"The membership movement will not be confined to labor organizations. solely, but they will be the first to be brought into the league and will form a nucleus for a state-wide organiza-"It is the intention of the executive

worker in the state whether he belongs to organized labor or not and seek him for a member. We have received pledges of sufficient financial support to guarantee success in our organization plans and we will undoubtedly have a membership of at least 150,000 before the campaign ends."

CO-OPS. FOR FREE TRADE. PARIS, Aug. 14. - The inter-allied conference of co-operative societies has declared for the abolition of all mport and export duties on the necessaries of life and on products required for the reconstruction of The conference favored a industry. pool of the food supplies of the world, same to be distributed according to the needs of the various peoples.

WAGES DWINDLE IN VALUE AS LIVING COST SHOOTS UPWARD

Strikes and Threats of Strikes Rampant--Are Protests Against Profiteering--President Duluth Trades Assembly Proposes Inquiry to be Conducted by City Commissioners.

Mr. High Cost of Living, seated on his elevated perch, is still master of all he surveys. Mr. Sordid Profiteer, hiding in ambush, continues to gather in the shekels with a rapacity that knows no limit. One stubbornly refuses to come down and the other will not release the strangle hold he has on the American people.

They are a savage pair, those two, and they are bringing down upon them the wrath of all men and women. What is to be done with such rascals? President Wilson has called the attention of congress to theri crimes and he has pointed out a way for relief. The Washington solons, playing politics as usual, will spar with the two pirates through the life of the special session, and in all probability will adjourn congress withouting doing anything.

Protests Against High Living Cost. In the meantime there are strikes and threats of strikes, not so much

for higher wages as protests against the high cost of living. The wage earner has reached the point where he does not consider the amount of his wage in dollars and cents. He is more interested in the quantity of goods his wages will buy. What does it gain him to get a 10 per cent increase in wages if the things he must buy to live advance 20

Take the shoe industry as an example: Charles L. Jones of the Commonwealth Shoe & Leather company of Massachusetts said in Boston the other day:

"While the advances in labor in the shoe and leather industry have been very large they have not kept pace with the increase in prices," Mr. Jones admits, disposing of the claims by certain persons that labor costs have forced prices up. "Shoes that the manufacturer now sells for \$5 more than he received for the same grade five years ago, cost only \$1 more for labor.' That is a four to one shot. The laborer gets one dollar more in

COST OF LIVING AFFECTS BABIES

Profiteers Saps Life Blood From Infants, Women.

NEW YORK, Aug. 14 .- In an investigation conducted by the municipal health department it is found abolish the six-day provision of the that high prices rob babies, children and adults of needed foods and retard recovery from illness.

The investigation was conducted by the nurses of the bureau of preventable diseases and 2,084 families were

Special attention was given to the influence of the high cost of living on the children's metary. In 293 families the use of bottled milk was given up. In 206 other families milk was entirely eliminated from the children's dietary, and in 71 the amount used for children was considerably reduced.

In 370 families the use of butter was eliminated for children; in 191 families the amount used was reduced.

Sugar was omitted from the children's diet in 71 families and reduced in 139 families. The use of meat in the diet of children was given up in 544 families and reduced in 238. Eggs were entirely eliminated from the diet of children in 532 families

and reduced in 107. In 807 families meat was entirely eliminated. In 388 families the amount of meat purchased was appreciably reduced. In 882 families eggs were eliminated and in 615 fam-

lies butted was eliminated. .In studying the convalescence from illness teh nurses found that 287 cases out of 2,183 were definitely retarded, due to inability to obtain essentials of life. Among the adults the total amount of wages lost, in this protracted period, was \$41,395.

"It may be amazing to many," it is stated, "that of these families, representing a fairly cross section of conditions in New York city, 21 per cent should have a total income of \$600 a year or less for the support of an average family of five persons during the beginning of 1918. An additional 30.5 had a total income of from \$600 to \$900 a year, and about 21 per cent committee to reach every industrial an income of from \$900 to \$1,200 a

450,000 LIVES LOST BY FLU IN UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, Aug. 14.—Statistics compiled by a life insurance company in this city show that the recent influenza epidemic resulted in the death of 450,000 persons and cost insurance companies \$200,000,000. Previous flu epidemics attacked chila dren and persons in late life. The last epidemic took its greatest toll from infants and persons in adult working life. The highest mortality occurred among wage earners and the lowest death rate among those best situated economically,

wages and the manufacturer gets four dollars a pair more in profit. It is the same with everything we use, only in some instances the ratio is a great deal more.

Must Work Longer, A plumber visiting in this office yes-

terday said on the subject of shoes: "Ten years ago I earned \$3.50 a day and paid \$3.50 for a pair of good shoes. I therefore earned a pair of shoes in eight hours. Now I receive \$7 a day and pay \$12 a pair for shoes It takes 13 hours and 36 minutes to earn a pair of shoes now as against eight hours 10 years ago. I don't see how I am getting the best of it from the big wage scale I am supposed to be getting."

The high price of food stuffs hits labor the hardest, as it does most of the people living on limited incomes. The packers have corralled most of the necessities of life, and there is a general suspicion that they have a hand in the present sugar shortage and the scarcity of glass preserving jars. It is believed they aim to compel the folks to purchase during the coming year all the canned goods they have monopolized.

In Duluth we are more unfortunate than in other cities, as the cost of food seems to be higher here than elsewhere. The difference in prices between the Twin Cities and Duluth is most marked. It is out of all proportion and the time has come when the city should take a hand in the

Want City to Act.

John E. Jensen, president of the Federated Trades assembly, introduced a resolution in that body last Friday evening calling upon the city commissioners to enact an emergency ordinance providing for the appointment of a commission to make an investigation of the cause of the high cost of living in Duluth. Mr. Jensen proposes that this commission shall have power to subpoena witnesses and put them under oath. He urges that a full and complete inquiry be made so that the responsibility may be fixed for the apparent unreasonable prices, exacted in Duluth.

There is danger in delay. The unrest among the workers is reaching an alarming state. We are looking to the nation to bring relief in a general way, but it is up to the city to find out where wrong exists at home. Governor Burnquist in his call for a special session of the legislature advised that body to give consideration to the question of high prices, and we should see to it that the members of the legislature tackle the subject sincerely and earnestly.

If the working people cannot obtain relief through the agencies of government, and if governments fall to function, the workers cannot be blamed if they use their economic power to force governments to act and profiteers to release their hold on the people.

GOES UP SIX MILES. NEW YORK, Aug. 14. - Roland

Rohlfs, an airship pilot, broke the altitude record by sailing upwards nearly six miles, or 31,100 feet. He said the temperature at the highest point in his flight was 25 degrees below zero. In making the flight he traveled more than 200 miles. The plane was equipped with a 400-horse power motor. Rohlfs broke the former record by 2,200