

GRAND MARAIS ROAD FOREMAN WAS WRONGED BY GOV. PREUS

C. O. Johnson, the Highway Commission's 'Goat' Comes to Duluth to Seek Redress For Gross Injury Done to Him.

As was predicted in the last issue of The Labor World Governor Preus was grandstanding when he ordered the discharge of C. O. Johnson, road patrolman out of Grand Marais, for his alleged failure to hang out a red lantern to warn travelers along the Duluth and Port Arthur highway of a danger spot on that road into which the governor might have plunged with his machine while riding at a high rate of speed heading for Grand Marais.

ROADS ADOPTED CONTRACT PLAN TO BEAT LABOR

Tricky Subterfuge Resorted to by Rail Managers.

Chicago, Aug. 10.—"A miserable and tricky subterfuge created to evade doing justice to the employes," is the way the A. F. of L. railway employes' department refers to the contracting of repair work by railroads.

"The intended fraud in all these so-called contracts is so apparent that he would be a bold man indeed who would designate them as clever."

"The first point where this new disease manifested itself was at Hornell, N. Y., on the Erie railroad, where, on or about March, 1920, the chief clerk and a few other local officials of the company ostensibly organized a corporation which took over the operation of this vast plant, and our information indicates that the sum total of the assets of this dummy corporation would not make a decent contribution to a blind beggar."

"From that start the contracting-out system spread its evil and vicious poison over all sections of the country, and it is, indeed, remarkable, the varieties of contractors that were called into existence."

"Then there was the concern that took over a large part of the work at Jersey City on the Erie railroad, whose railroad experience was nil, and whose principle business prior to this time had been the sale and distribution of fertilizers. However, the object was always the same and no scheme was too contemptible or ridiculous for the railroads to adopt."

CANADIAN LABOR RAPS SALES TAX

Holds It Passes Buck From Wealthy to Poor Folks.

Edmonton, Alb., Can., Aug. 10.—Opposition to the Canadian sales tax is recorded by the co-operative association of Lethbridge and vicinity. The co-ops declare this tax is oppressive and unjust because:

"It has no regard to the adequacy of the income of the purchaser to bear the burden."

"It virtually involves discrimination against the citizen who is under the necessity of providing for the maintenance of a large family in favor of people with no families, small families or families which are self-supporting, thereby increasing the burdens of people who are not only least able to carry them out, but are contributing to the welfare of the state."

"A large number of the wage-earning consumers, owing to reduced earning opportunities, unemployment or partial unemployment, have at the present time their purchasing power considerably reduced, and have sufficient difficulty in securing the necessities of life without further taxation levied upon their purchases."

"This form of taxation involves a great burden on the consumer without adequate advantage to the state, owing to the expensive nature of the process of collection. Levied at the point of production or importation, and thus added to the cost of the commodity, the almost inevitable effect is that the sales tax has to carry the usual percentage of gross profit charges of manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers, the cumulative burden of which in some cases would likely be equal to the tax itself and in others very large proportion."

CANNOT INSIST ON RIGHTS AND IGNORE DUTIES

Religious Paper Exposes Unfairness of Opinion Molders.

Philadelphia, Aug. 10.—"The public cannot repudiate its duties and at the same time insist on its rights," declares the Catholic Standard and Times, in a leading editorial which exposes the unfairness of those who talk about "the rights of the public" in strike times, but never refer to the duties of the public when no strike is on.

"The public, of course, resents the inconvenience to which it is put by reason of the strikes. It demands consideration of its rights. But what does it do to secure the rights of the workingman?" asks the editor.

"Is it at all concerned that the laborer receive his just hire, as long as it enjoys peace and well being? The object of society is to protect the rights of all, and to see that no injustice is done to anyone. If it neglects its duty it need not be surprised that the injured party will try to secure his own rights regardless of the welfare of the society."

"If the community at large persistently tolerates abuses and wrongs against any section of its members, that section, in seeking relief from these abuses and wrongs, does not consider the inconvenience of the community."

"The public must realize that if labor has duties towards society, society also has obligations towards labor. The public cannot repudiate its duties and, nevertheless, insist on its rights. Unless, therefore, we one and all unite in supporting the claims of the worker to a fair share of the goods of life, both material and spiritual, we ourselves are to blame for the effects of his resentment for we are siding with those who refuse him justice and fair dealing."

"This side of the problem has been conveniently overlooked by the public. It is time it should awaken to its grave responsibility."

"SOCIAL SHOP" NEW NAME FOR OUTLAW SWEAT SHOP

The sweat shop, even under the alluring title, "social shop," is being resisted by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union, which has carried a general strike of New York garment workers employed in these places.

"The garment industry in this city is scattered in 2,000 shops of varying size, employing more than 50,000 workers. In the 'social shops' long hours, low wages and piece work is the rule. These shops, officials of the union state, are sustained by greedy manufacturers and 'brainless and often jobless workers.'"

Legitimate manufacturers are awake to the degrading influence of the "social shop" on the garment industry, and many of them openly declare their sympathy with the workers' strike movement.

CARPENTERS WIN. The Utica, N. Y., building trades have won a 13 months' strike and signed up the contractors for 90 cents an hour with differential for overtime and holidays. Non-unionists are given a stipulated time to join the union.

Gas produced from sewage is being used to run engines at the sewage disposal works of Birmingham, England.

UNIONS PETITION GOMPERS TO CALL GENERAL STRIKE

A news story to The Labor World from the International Labor News Service at Washington states that Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, has made public without comment the extracts from resolutions adopted by various labor organizations throughout the country, stating merely that such were examples of numerous resolutions of a similar character received by him.

It is known in labor circles that business interests in most every city are lined up with the railroads and mine owners against the mine workers and shopmen. "Let them fight it out," is the common expression of high up business men, and this is parroted by their subordinates to the little fellows.

The workers are beginning to recognize that the opposition extends to every channel of business. Some business men have been so bold as to declare that "the employes will be wiped off the earth." Such utterances are striking home. Gradually union labor is earning of the significance of the rail and mine strikes. Hence, the more wide-awake of the unions are petitioning the A. F. of L. to call out its full reserves in a general strike. Here are some of the appeals:

CROWN OF GREATNESS PUT ON AGED HEAD OF MOTHER JONES

Noble Woman "Folded Arms of Love Around Suffering Ones and Gave Them a Glimpse of Heaven," Says Powderly.

(Here is an article by a remarkable man about a remarkable woman, which was written for "Labor." Forty years ago T. V. Powderly was the outstanding leader of American labor. He was the head of the Knights of Labor. His name was international. He retired from active leadership years ago but retains all of his mental and much of his physical vigor. At the moment he is performing important duties in the Labor department.

Mr. Powderly writes of Mother Jones. She, too, was in the labor movement forty years ago, and she is still in it, loved and trusted by every man who carries a union card and by thousands who do not.)

By T. V. POWDERLY. A short time ago the names and pictures of the six greatest women were laid before us by the pictorial press. Who selected them or by what standard they were adjudged great I do not know. They were estimable women, good women, respectable women, and I do not question their title to greatness.

Greatness to my mind, is a relative term. It may apply to many kinds of activity. Many who through ambition, conquest or greed achieved a greatness, according to certain standards, were international, whole-saler murderers. In their private lives they were dissolute, licentious, cruel monsters. History sets them down as great, but it does not tell of one tear wiped from the face of pain or sorrow by one of them.

"Others who gather millions are set down as great, but when we lift the lid from the crucible in which their wealth was formed, we see the quivering, agony-distorted nerves, sinews, and torn hearts of men and women ground to pulp as they struggled to create wealth for those who got it. Then we replace that lid in horror.

So, then, what is greatness? To my mind it consists of doing for fellow man instead of doing for himself, of giving, rather than getting, and by giving I do not mean giving the money, houses, or lands, I mean service to others instead of self.

Judging by that standard I ask permission to name one woman who symbolizes greatness, and in doing so let me say that I do not wish to take one least from the wealth of greatness won by others. I merely wish to place the laurel crown of greatness upon the head of Mother Jones.

The Measure of Real Greatness. My reason for calling her great is that she gives of herself in service. She has given bread to those who hunger.

She has given rest to the wearied. She has clothed the naked and has worn rags in the doing.

She has worked that the homeless may have homes.

She has labored that the laborer may be happy and prosperous.

She has begged for others, asking nothing for herself.

She has mothered the motherless.

She has given hope to the hopeless.

When men who got of the substance of others sanctioned the maiming and killing of helpless, defenseless women and children, she

PRIEST PERMITS STRIKERS TO PITCH TENTS ON LAWN

Following a clash between the Rev. John J. Hughes, Canonburg, Pa., and officers of the Pittsburgh coal company over the eviction of miners from company houses, the priest notified the strikers that they could erect tents on the church lawn.

Officials of the company purchased a tract of land there, the miners intended to use and have placed signs forbidding trespassing.

Plasterers in Louisville have won a wage advance to \$10 a day.

CARRY FIGHT ON CHILD LABOR TO SEVERAL STATES

All Groups United For Amendment to U. S. Constitution.

Washington, Aug. 10.—At the request of the Permanent Conference for the Abolition of Child Labor, Senator McCormick of Illinois introduced a joint resolution in the senate proposing an amendment to the constitution which will empower congress "to limit or prohibit the labor of persons under 18 years of age."

The resolution is as follows: "Resolved by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled (two-thirds of each house concurring therein), that the following article is proposed as an amendment to the constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, shall be valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the constitution:

"Article.—The congress shall have power to limit or prohibit the labor of persons under 18 years of age, and power is also reserved to the several states to limit or prohibit such labor in any way which does not lessen any limitation of such labor or the extent of any prohibition thereof by congress. The power vested in the congress by this article shall be additional to and not a limitation on the powers elsewhere vested in the congress by the constitution, with respect to such labor."

The proposed amendment is the result of the United States supreme court's decision against child labor legislation. The first attempt to control child labor under the commerce clause of the constitution, was annulled, as was the second attempt to use the taxing power of government to stop this evil.

The amendment was prepared by the Permanent Conference for the Abolition of Child Labor, Samuel Gompers chairman. The conference is composed of the American Federation of Labor, national child labor committee, national women's trade union league, national consumers' league, national league of women voters, general federation of women's clubs and other organizations.

Governor Allen of Kansas will not be a candidate for re-election but still sings the praises of his handcut law while being slowly pushed into oblivion. In a speech in Emporia he resorted to his usual trick of questioning the loyalty of every one who opposes his slave law.

GOVERNOR ALLEN SINGS SWAN SONG IN POLITICS

"What we need in this country now more than anything else is a feeling of obligation to our government, to our laws and obedience to authority," he said.

Trade unions oppose this amendment to Allen's statement:

"What we need in this country now more than anything else is a feeling of obligation to the constitution by executives and law makers. Many of these officials are too prone to ignore fundamental rights in their quest for power and pelf."

IDLE GARMENT WORKERS. But 25 per cent of cloak and suit makers of Montreal are regularly employed according to the information of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' association; 60 per cent are partially employed and 15 per cent without work.

RENEW AGREEMENT. Cigarmakers' union No. 4 of Cincinnati and cigar manufacturers have renewed an agreement which expired June 30.

SIoux CITY MAYOR CALLS BOLD RAILROAD OFFICIAL

"You seem to assume that while others obey the law you can disregard the ordinances of the city and the laws of the state, and that it is an impertinence on our part to expect you to obey them," said Mayor Short of Sioux City, Iowa, in an open letter to J. L. Riley, superintendent of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad, who charged the mayor with ignoring appeals to protect the railroad's property.

"I challenge you to name a single case to substantiate your statement," said the mayor.

From the Waycross (Ga.) Trades gates of the Waycross Trades and Labor assembly, here assembled, go on record indorsing a referendum vote for a strike of all organized workers to all affiliated organizations of the American Federation of Labor.

From the Knoxville (Tenn.) Central Labor Union: We, the Central Labor Union of Knoxville, Tenn., hereby call upon all central bodies to ask Mr. Gompers to call for a referendum strike ballot at once of all international unions.

Resolved, that central bodies of this and other states are requested to take immediate action, in order to make the strike nation-wide, urging President Gompers to take action.

Resolved, that a certified copy shall also be furnished Hon. Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, with a request that he take immediate steps to "put the call in motion," as an answer to the attempt of capital to make serfs out of skilled men who have created their accumulated, despotic millions.

HENNING DENIES STRIKE IS NOT AGAINST U.S. GOVERNMENT

Shopmen's Sturdy Chairmen Tells Duluth Audience Story of Rail Case at Meeting Which Packed Shrine Auditorium.

"This is not a strike against the government. The shop crafts enjoy the reputation of having lived up to every ruling and decision previously made against them by the United States Railroad Labor board. The railroads have failed to abide by 114 decisions rendered against them by the board. We observed the letter of the Esch-Cummins act and went out on strike only after we found there was no other chance to get justice."

ROADS HAVE NO CHANCE TO WIN SAYS UNIONIST

Railroads Face Break Down of Equipment Over Country.

New York, Aug. 10.—The Wall street clique that is backing railroad managers like Atterbury of the Pennsylvania and Lorce of the Delaware and Hudson would be defeated in five weeks if they allowed the strike to continue, declared John J. Dowd, chairman of the shop men's strike committee in this city.

The unionist said his statement is not a guess, but is based on statistics prepared by the labor bureau, Inc., economic advisers to the committee. It is stated that 2,000 locomotives a week are being laid up and that in nine weeks half of the 54,000 locomotives in good condition when the strike was declared, will be on side tracks.

"At the beginning of the strike there were 70,000 locomotives in the country, 24 per cent of which were in bad order. That left 54,000 fit for service. There are 50 federal locomotive inspectors in the country, and they have been ordering locomotives out of service on an average of five a day each since the beginning of the strike. That makes 250 a day or 1,500 a week, officially declared unfit for service."

"The situation is almost as serious. Among the recommendations of the congressional joint commission of agricultural inquiry, recently published, may be found the following: That the supply of box cars, coal cars, stock cars and refrigerator cars is inadequate to meet the demand during normal periods of activity and should be rapidly augmented. That the number of cars in bad order exceeds all previous records, and unless bad order cars are promptly repaired, the supply of serviceable cars will be materially impaired."

The trade unionist's statement concludes with this significant paragraph: "And it takes four years to train a skilled railroad mechanic. This shows the chance the railroads have of beating the strike before it is too late."

TO MAKE IT HOT FOR BOYCOTTERS

Frisco Unions Cause Arrest of 77 Open Shoppers.

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 10.—As the result of an attempt to impose the so-called American plan of operations on contractors and builders around San Francisco bay, warrants today were asked in police court for 47 individual building supply contractors, 20 others under the name of John Doe, and 201 corporations, all organizations of employers, charging conspiracy to refuse to sell building supplies to contractors employing union labor.

The American plan movement insists on the open shop with no recognition of the unions and the 77 warrants which are sworn to by the building trades council through individual members, declare that all employers of labor who have hired union men have been refused supplies by the association of employers which entitles and is backing the American plan.

William H. George, Thomas Campbell, J. D. McGilvray and R. W. Kinney are among the prominent supply men accused in the warrant, and the builder's exchange stands at the head of the accused corporation.

It is further charged that this alleged conspiracy is responsible for the high cost of home building around San Francisco bay.

When the public discusses the high cost of living, the workers wages and not the greed of employers is given publicity, said Rev. Evans Chatten, pastor of Hale Memorial church, Peoria, Ill. The clergyman scored exploiters who make from 50 to 250 per cent on the backs of their employes and are yet unwilling to go 50-50 with

"Officials of the railway employes department, presidents of the six federated shop crafts and the division committeemen from all parts of the United States then declared that the strike would now be carried on under a greater head of steam. No weakness was reported from any direction. Telegrams were sent to all locals to carry on with vigor."

"More than 600,000 coal miners have been out for four months and they are all alive," was the way one official put it. The United Mine Workers' membership is 117,000 greater than on April 1. The shopmen can and will take a similar record if necessary to win this strike."

By Debor Segalinski. "It becomes more and more evident that this strike will have to be decided by direct negotiations between employes and employers, unimpeded by the economic power of the organized workers. The Labor World