

## COURT DECISION BLOW TO LABOR

Employers Given the Right to Discharge Workers for Joining Union.

RULING BY JUSTICE SIDDONS

Effect of Opinion of District of Columbia Tribunal Is Far-Reaching and Will Be Looked Upon as Backward Step.

The right to unionize does not supersede an employer's right to dictate terms of employment, nor to discharge employees who join a labor union or continue membership therein against his wishes, according to a decision by Justice Siddons of the District of Columbia supreme court.

This ruling was made in denying an injunction to the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen against the Washington and Old Dominion railway.

"The right of labor is a personal right," the court said, "which inheres in the individual, and as a corollary to that the right not to work must equally be recognized."

The decision adds: "It is the duty of the state to give effect to the authoritative opinions and decisions of the supreme tribunal (United States Supreme Court), which give the company the right to dismiss its employees if they join a labor union."

### GENERAL LABOR NEWS

New Zealand mines on an average of 2,000,000 tons of coal annually.

The 184 locals affiliated with the International Bookbinders' union now have a membership of more than 21,000.

Increased wages paid to coal miners in New Zealand are responsible for only 38 per cent of the increased cost of production.

From August 5, 1918, to December 31, 1919, 74 cargo carriers and four army transports were launched at the Hog Island shipyard.

Albert Rose, who has just retired after 56 years of service in the Chatham (England) dockyard, was never late and never lost an hour.

By putting their workers on a piece-work basis a New Bedford (Mass.) textile mill has been able to increase production nearly 40 per cent.

A committee of 15 will revise the industrial accident code in the state of Washington and submit the same in the next legislature for action.

New Jersey is forty-sixth among the states of the Union in point of size, but is fifteenth in value of its mineral products and third in value per square mile.

Full agreement on differences on wages and working conditions in the Iowa coal fields was reached by sub-committees of miners and operators. It was announced by the operators.

Ten thousand men went back to work at New York after employers of two-thirds of the striking painters signed a new wage scale agreement under which they will receive \$10 a day instead of \$9, union officials announced.

Declaring that it was not their intention to fight union labor, but to "stop union domination" of their plants, seven of the largest ship building and repair plants of Mobile, Ala., announced an "open shop" policy. The company officials in a public notice announced that all union men in their employ desiring to remain would be kept at work.

Official figures given out by the South Wales Coal Owners' association show the weekly (48 hours) wages paid to 40,000 skilled miners, from which it appears that about 27,000 received less than \$14.00 per week in July, 1914, but that all except about 700 were earning more than this in November, 1918, and that nearly 26,000 were in receipt of a weekly wage exceeding \$21.90 at that time.

Resolutions favoring passage of a territorial law to permit importation into the Philippines of contract labor from China, Java, Indo-China and India were adopted by the agricultural congress held at Manila, addressed by representatives from many sections of the Philippines. The resolutions declare that the importation of contract laborers will result in the rapid economic development of the islands.

Indefinite postponement of a general strike of thousands of workers in the building trades of New York—carpenters, bricklayers, plasterers, electrical men, house wreckers, laborers and stationary engineers and firemen—was agreed upon at a special meeting of the several unions' representatives. D. D. Glenday, general secretary of the International Carpenters' union, said it would not be necessary for any more men to go out.

By a survey of conditions existing in 500 factories in New York where women were employed it was found that the average rate of wages for the females was \$16 in 98 per cent of the establishments, an amount less than persons could live on decently.

The cost of building is so high in New Zealand that private capital is not attracted to the erection of houses, so the government has assumed the responsibility. There are more buildings in course of construction in New Zealand at this time than ever before in the history of the country.

## NEWS OF NORTH DAKOTA

BRIEF ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

**Big Sunflower Crop**  
MANDAN, N. D.—Fred Mostoff, of Mandan, had five acres of sunflowers which yielded eight tons to the acre. His sunflower crop was put into the silo this week. Farmers in this section of the state are also making use of sow thistle for ensilage.

**County Agents Wanted**  
FARGO, N. D.—Three counties in North Dakota which have authorized extension work, Cavalier, Towner and McKenzie, are without county agents. H. B. Fuller, state leader in county agent work, reports that great difficulty is experienced at the present time in securing men qualified for county agent work.

**Employees Walking**  
BISMARCK, N. D.—Employees of the state house will get a lot of exercise in the next two weeks.

The state street car line, which runs from the downtown section to Capitol Hill is being torn up and new ties placed. Service has been suspended for approximately two weeks, while the line is repaired. Because of the bad condition of the track the car which carries the employees to their work, could not run last winter on several days.

**Get Citizenship Papers**  
LANGDON, N. D.—Cavalier county has ten new citizens as the applicants were given their final papers at the court term held in Langdon last week by Judge Kneeshaw.

Those receiving the papers were as follows:—Andrew Halvorson, Calvin; Hegbert Peterson, Milton; John Ellis, Edmore; Sture Neslon, Langdon; Elmer Olson, Aisen; Frank Leek, Callio; Hans Roekstad, Loma; Byron Thompson, Wahnalla; John G. Stewart, Nekoma; John McKenzie, Sarles.

**New School Houses**  
BISMARCK, N. D.—That North Dakota will do its share to relieve the nation-wide school room shortage, said by Commissioner Claxton to be "alarming," was evident from the fact that requests to issue \$500,000 worth of bonds for buildings and improvements were approved in one day.

Districts in dtowns, whose applications received approval, were:

Verca, Conway, Hankinson, Wilton, Oberon, Plaza, Washburn, Max, Edmore, Morton, Holla, Stanton, two districts in Cass county and one each in Wells, Ramsey, Divide and Benson counties.

A \$500,000 high school was completed and ready for use in Fargo with the opening of the fall term and a \$150,000 grade Catholic school will be ready by November 1.

**Father Mulloy Moving**  
GRAND FORKS, N. D.—Members of the Pro-Cathedral club gave a banquet here in honor of Father William Mulloy, assistant rector of St. Michael's pro-Cathedral. Father Mulloy will leave soon to take charge of a Catholic congregation at Wimbledon, N. D., his appointment to which position has been announced to take effect on October 1.

He has been assistant rector at the church here for the last four years, and during that time has also been connected with the educational work at the St. Michael Parochial school.

**MINOT EDITOR QUILTS**  
MINOT, N. D.—Statewide interest will be attracted by the announcement, made today that L. D. McGahan, publisher of the Dakota State Journal of Minot and one of the four oldest active newspaper publishers in North Dakota, is about to retire from the newspaper business in this state. He has sold his business to John A. Corbett of Williston, former publisher of The Williston Graphic, and the latter's brother, Victor Corbett of Minot, former publisher of The Kenmare News, who will take charge Oct. 1. Both the latter are experienced newspaper men. Victor Corbett was last Republican receiver of the land office in Minot.

**Bootlegger Is Shot**  
VALLEY CITY, N. D.—Following a gun battle with the sheriff in which the man was wounded in the leg, an unidentified man and woman who were passing thru here in a Buick roadster, were arrested after eight cases of liquor were found in the car. The man is in the hospital and the woman in jail. Officials say they smuggled the liquor from Canada. After the sheriff had ordered the car to stop and the man jumped out and dropped behind the sheriff's car drawing a shotgun. Although only a few feet away he missed the officer, who returned three shots, the first two going astray and the third hitting the man in the leg.

Under the provision of the Canadian law, they declared, agents have a right to fire on cars when they refuse to obey the order to stop. American automobiles found carrying liquor inside of the Canadian line, said the officials, may be confiscated by

the Canadian government, sold at auction, and 33 1-3 per cent of the proceeds from such sale delivered to the agent making the arrest. This, they said, which is a feature of the law just brought to light, will tend, it is claimed, to encourage the agents in the confiscation of cars being operated by whiskey runners.

**Get Citizenship Papers**  
FARGO, N. D.—Only three of the 50 petitioners for naturalization who attended the naturalization hearing conducted at the Cass county court last week by Judges A. T. Cole, Chas. M. Cooley of Grand Forks, and M. J. Englert of Valley City, were refused admission to citizenship in the United States. Thirty-nine petitioners were made citizens and the cases of eight were continued to the next naturalization hearing. Federal Agent Carlson from the office at St. Paul was present to take the declarations of the new citizens.

The three who were denied citizenship were aliens who had claimed exemption from the draft on grounds of their citizenship.

In addition to the regular petitioners who were admitted, nine soldiers appeared with their discharge papers and two witnesses to be sworn in as citizens.

**GOVERNOR COX IN A BAD WRECK**

Arizona Was Scene of Near Serious Accident

PHOENIX, Ariz.—Governor Cox's presidential campaign train was wrecked about 4:30 o'clock last Wednesday 14 miles north of here, while en route to Prescott, Ariz.

The Democratic presidential candidate and his party were badly shaken up when an engine and four cars of the special train were derailed, but all escaped injury. The most seriously

injured was Charles A. Nicholas, engineer, of Prescott, who had a leg broken in jumping from his cab when his engine tumbled over.

Spreading rails were assigned by railroad men as the cause of the wreck, which compelled the governor and his party to return here and cancel his evening address at Prescott.

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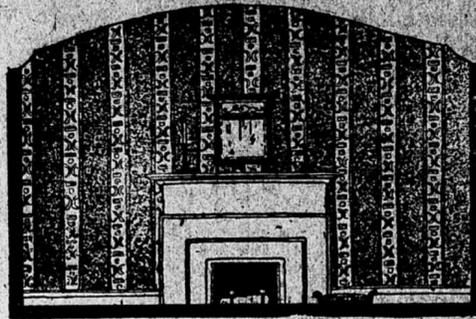
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