

Hustling Town of Negroes Only Built in Mississippi

Memphis, Tenn.—Mound Bayou, Bolivar county, Miss., is an exclusively negro town, carved from the virgin forests of hardwood and cane. Isaiah T. Montgomery founded the town 27 years ago. A party of his relatives and friends braved the panther, bear, wolf and other wild animals which infested Bolivar county at that time and labored with him in dragging a surveyor's chain through tanglewood for the town site. Foremost among these pioneers were Benjamin Titus Green, J. P. T. Montgomery, Simon Gaiter, W. T. Montgomery, William Simmons, William H. Granger, Perry Strong and B. J. Arrington.

In casting their lot at this point the colonists selected what proved the center of the largest cotton producing county in the world. The soil is black loam in the higher parts and sticky, dense black land in the lower parts. The loam pulverizes easily and is almost ideal for cotton raising. It also produces pasture crops. The black land is the famous buckshot, which becomes flinty in summer, cracks and forms itself into clods resembling shot. This is the land that makes cotton grow eight feet and produces more than a bale to an acre.

7,000 In Settlement.

The population of the town has grown from a small group to 1,000 in the corporate limits and to 7,000 in the settlement. The business has grown with it. There are 23 stores and shops, including two drug stores and a photograph gallery. The business of these stores is considerable and is growing. Each year the merchants are compelled to sell on closer margin, but much of the trade which sought nearby towns on account of greater variety of goods or lower prices made possible by larger stocks or better credit arrangements is pleased to stay at home. The American Express maintains an office there, with a negro agent, and its business is upward of \$500 a month.

MANY PROTESTS FILED AGAINST FIRING NEARING

Philadelphia.—Protests from all over the country against the dismissal of Prof. Nearing are reaching the University of Pennsylvania trustees, who are charged with opposing free speech. Gifford Pinchot refers to the trustees' action as "controlled action," and in a public statement says:

"No believer in freedom can escape strong indignation when he learns how the trustees of the University of Pennsylvania dismissed Scott Nearing. This action is so obviously a blow at freedom of thought that the world of liberal-minded men appears to be united against it.

"If that is so, little more need be said. Yet there is one point which does not seem to have been sufficiently emphasized. The dismissal of Scott Nearing is a perfect illustration of the control of education by accumulated wealth. This, to my mind, is the greatest danger that now threatens the universities of the United States. I do not know that there is any organized power among men more effective for evil than the power to control education against the public good. As a man thinketh, so is he. As he learns, so he thinks. To control the teachings of a nation is to control the nation itself."

OBJECT TO COURT'S POWER.

Adelaide, South Australia.—The tendency of courts to check the people's will prevails in this commonwealth as well as in other parts of the world. At the recent conference of the Australian labor party, held in this city, the following resolution was discussed for two days: "An amendment to the constitution to deprive the high court of its interpretative powers in regard to the federal constitution."

One delegate declared that this court stood above the constitution; that the courts had no right to nullify the laws; that it rested with the people to correct abuses in legislation, and that this was the power of democracy which Australians were denied by the high court. The motion was lost. The majority agreed with the sentiments, but insisted that the interpretative power of the court is necessary as long as the commonwealth of Australia is a federation of states.

Remarkable.

"A Mohammedan is permitted by law to marry four wives."
"Yes, and the funny part of it is, some of 'em haven't got any more sense than to do it."

Country Life.

"How do you like living in the country?"
"Great. Finest place you ever saw. Best train service in the world. Why, my wife and I come into town nearly every night and take in a roof garden or something."

The railroad station, which is operated by a negro, is about the ninth or tenth in importance between Vicksburg and Memphis. The commission to the ticket agent amounts to \$1,200 a year.

There are two licensed physicians, two lawyers and a real estate agent. There are six churches, and the value of their property is around \$17,000.

The weak point is the school. The enrollment is more than 300, while the equipment is inadequate for 50 pupils. The teachers are poorly paid and the term is not more than five months.

A Baptist College.

The Baptist College, which is maintained by a board of negro women known as the "Women's Auxiliary," holds forth in a two-story frame building and has some little provisions for boarding pupils; but its funds are very slim. The American Missionary Association maintains a normal and industrial institute. The value of its property is about \$4,000 and it costs about \$2,000 a year. Efforts have been made, but with little success, to erect a small modern dormitory for boys.

The fraternal insurance societies are well represented and the treasury department of the Masonic Order, which handles about \$100,000 a year, is there under the guidance of Charles Banks.

The timber industry has been plied since the beginning of the town and still yields a neat revenue in logs, furniture, staves and spokes. Other woods are cut into framing material by the town saw mills.

The three gins of the town wrap and tie most of the cotton raised in the community. The crop will yield this season more than 4,000 bales.

The Cumberland Telephone Company three years ago installed its system there with a negro as local manager and with a woman assistant. It has 71 phones in operation.

STONECUTTER AT \$2.50 PER DAY HAS COLLEGE DEGREES.

McLaren Speaks Seven Languages—Has Wide Acquaintance With Noted Men.

Cambridge, Mass.—With two college degrees and an acquaintanceship with men of letters abroad, John McLaren, A.B., A.M., is working as a stone cutter here for \$2.50 a day. Both his degrees are from the University of Glasgow and he speaks seven languages.

He was a prominent labor organizer in England. He is a friend of George Bernard Shaw and adviser of Kier-Hardie, the labor leader and member of parliament, and a great admirer of Mrs. Pankhurst.

His present employment is due to his philosophy of life. He is known as No. 287 and has been on the job here for six months.

CHICAGO STRIKE SETTLED.

Mayor Brings Carpenters and Constructors to An Agreement.

Chicago.—Building operations were resumed in Chicago with a bang Monday morning, following a settlement of the carpenters' strike and the lifting by the Allied Building Construction Material interests of the ban on the delivery of materials.

The carpenters' strike involving 16,000 men was settled at an all night "shirt-sleeve" conference directed by Mayor William Hale Thompson.

The agreement was reached after a 13-hour session in which the differences were ironed out completely as the sun began to rise over the lake. The new agreement will run three years and the carpenters gain five cents an hour but lose other points.

Not Guilty.

"Hey, you big busher!" yelled an excited fan as the pitcher of the home team issued his fourth successive base on balls, forcing a runner across the plate. "Where did you learn to pitch? In a correspondence school?"

If the pitcher heard, he made no sign, but another spectator sitting near the excited one administered a stinging rebuke.

"You talk like a fish," he said scornfully. "What makes you think that duffer learned to pitch anywhere?"

His Only Chance.

"Robinson is an awful pest at the club. He talks and talks all the time."
"Oh, well, you can't blame him, poor chap! He has a wife and three daughters at home."

Generous.

"I want to buy a phonograph. What are your terms?"
"A dollar down and a dollar a month until you get tired."
"And then?"
"Then we take the machine away at our own expense."

COURT CITES LAWSON JUDGE

Must Prove He Is Qualified to Sit On Strike Cases.

COLORADO SUPREME COURT ACTS

Miners Charge That Judge Hillyer Is Prejudiced—His Connections With Operators Referred To.

Denver, Colo.—The state supreme court has ordered Judge Hillyer, who presided at the Lawson trial, to show cause why he should not be debarred from the consideration of pending strike cases. This order of Colorado's highest tribunal is the first interference with the coal operators' program and may upset their plan of creating a special judicial district, presided over by one of their attorneys, to try unionists, charged with crime. Workers are hopeful that Judge Hillyer will fail to convince the court he is "absolutely fair." They point to former proceedings of this character, where the supreme court has sustained, in practically every case, the plea of plaintiffs that other judges should be appointed.

Last week Attorney Hawkins requested Judge Hillyer to refer the strike cases to another judicial jurisdiction on the ground that he was formerly connected with the coal companies. This was refused, and if the supreme court does not come to their rescue workers charged with crime will face a judge who, they declare under oath, they believe unfair.

PENNSYLVANIA RULING HITS THE LOAN SHARKS

Philadelphia.—City Solicitor Ryan has ruled that the city shall not recognize assignments of wages by city employees. A Portland, Me., concern asked that it be allowed \$11.56 on an alleged assignment by a city fireman.

The city solicitor ruled: "It has been for many years the settled policy of this state, declared by numerous statutes and various decisions of its courts, not to permit the assignment of future wages or salary for a present consideration, but to regard such assignments or transfers of future earnings as contrary to public policy because they virtually amount to a species of peonage or chattel slavery.

"There is another line of thought which leads to the same result and which invokes the well recognized policy in this state, forbidding interference with the prosecution of municipal or other public work. It is an established doctrine that cities, counties, and the like may not be attached or otherwise harassed at the suit of those holding claims against persons to whom such municipalities, etc., may be in debt.

URGES MONTANA MINERS TO UNIONIZE

Butte, Mont.—The Free Lance, of this city, endorsed by the state federation of labor, asks Butte miners: "Don't you believe that a union of the miners is needed in this community?"

These workers have been divided for some time, and in referring to the different opinions advocated the Free Lance gives this wholesome advice:

"Organized and solidified, you will be able to accomplish a great deal. You undoubtedly have learned an everlasting lesson from that which has transpired in the past. You cannot travel any faster than the age we live in. Organized labor is keeping abreast of the times; it speaks the sentiment of its members; its acts are the acts of the membership as a whole. Some there are who imagine that organized labor is slow and retrogressive, and is not progressing in accordance with the progressive tendency of this present age. Some sections of the country are more progressive than others, and in those sections considerable criticism has at times been indulged in by the unthinking against those who are classed as nonprogressive. They remind you of an army wherein a company or battalion become impatient at the delay in attacking the enemy and consequently they attack (on their own hook) a superior force. As a result they are annihilated. Thus it is with a few isolated instances of aggressive unionism."

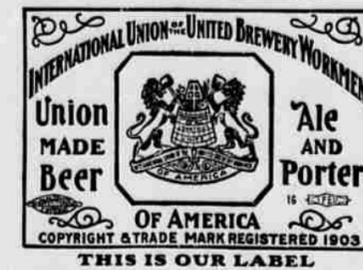
And That's All.

"Van Lushie says he can take a drink or let it alone."
"Well, I've often seen him prove the first half of that statement."

Easy.

"I'm thinking of taking up literature as a profession. Do you think anything in it?"
"I don't know much about it, but the stories they publish in the magazines are as easy to write as they are to read it ought to be a cinch."

VOTE AGAINST PROHIBITION!



DEMAND
PERSONAL LIBERTY
IN CHOOSING WHAT YOU WILL DRINK
Ask for this Label when purchasing Beer, Ale or Porter,
As a guarantee that it is Union Made

—THE— HERANCOURT Brewing Co.

STRICTLY UNION LAGER STRICTLY UNION

COAL
BUY IT FROM YOUR FRIENDS
THE QUEEN CITY COAL CO.
PRIVATE EXCHANGE WEST 2820

FLEISCHMANN'S YEAST MAKES THE BEST BREAD

FREE SPEECH IN COLLEGES.

San Francisco.—The Evening Bulletin makes this comment on the Rockefeller foundation, in connection with the dismissal of Prof. Scott Nearing by the University of Pennsylvania:

"It begins to appear that endowed universities and endowed charitable foundations are the gravest enemies to free thought in America. Endowments nowadays are almost always in the form of funds invested in corporation securities. The list of securities of the Rockefeller foundation, for example, is almost a roster of the strongest and most highly centralized corporations in the United States. The sympathies of this foundation will probably always be with the corporations who thus contribute to its support. In no different way the sympathies of the directors of an endowed university are almost sure to be with money interests, and with all phases of the present order, whether good or bad, which help to keep money power in the hands of a small class."

AN ILLINOIS INJUNCTION.

Waukegan, Ill.—Striking amalgamated lace operatives employed at the Marshall Field lace factory, Zion City, have been enjoined by the Lake county circuit court. The workers are ordered not to call upon lace factory employees "for the purpose of inducing them to leave their employment."

The State federation of labor urged the recent legislature to check these injunction judges by passing a law similar to the Clayton act. The Lake county writ sustains their position that injunctions of this kind are only issued against striking workmen and women, and is a denial of fundamental rights every citizen should enjoy.

IRON WORKERS' STRIKE ENDS.

Chicago.—Conferences between employers and structural iron workers of this city have resulted in an agreement and the strike started on May 1 last is at an end. About 1,000 men are affected by the settlement. The iron workers gain a substantial wage increase for the last two years of a three year agreement. For the first year they will receive the old scale of pay, 65 cents an hour. For the second year the scale will be 69 cents, and for the third 70 cents an hour. Arbitration provisions are agreed to.

WOMEN ORGANIZE.

Chicago.—The Women's Industrial Union of North America has organized a branch in Chicago.

"MORNIN' ON THE DESERT."

From the Western Miner.
(Lines found written on the door of an old cabin in southern Nevada.)

"Mornin' on the desert, and the wind is blowin' free,
And it's ours, jest for the breathin', so let's fill up, you and me,
No more stuffy cities, where you have to pay to breathe,
Where the helpless human creatures move and throng and strive and seethe.

"Mornin' on the desert, and the air is like a wine,
And it seems like all creation has been made for me and mine,
No house to stop my vision, save a neighbor's, miles away,
And the little 'dobe shanty that belongs to me and May.

"Lonesome? Not a minute! Why, I've got these mountains here
That was put there just to please me, with their bluish an' frown an' cheer,
They're waitin' when the summer sun gets too sizzlin' hot,
An' we just go campin' in 'em with a pan an' coffee pot.

"Mornin' on the desert, I can smell the sagebrush smoke,
I hate to see it burnin', but the land must sure be broke,
Ain't it just a pity that wherever man may live
He tears up much that's beautiful that the good God has to give?

"Sagebrush ain't so pretty? Well, all eyes don't see the same,
Have you ever seen the moonlight turn it to a silvery flame?
An' that greasewood thick yonder, well, it smells just awful sweet
When the night wind has been shaking it, for its smell is hard to beat.

"Lonesome? Well, I guess not! I've been lonesome in a town,
But I sure do love the desert with its stretches wide and brown,
All day through the sagebrush here the wind is blowin' free,
And it's ours, jest for the breathin', so let's fill up, you and me."

But Soon.

"Is your daughter's education finished?"
"Not yet. She's going to be married next week."

Vice Versa.

"Jones made his money in the stock market, didn't he?"
"Some of it, but most of his money was the result of common sense."