

Be a Legislator! Make Your Own Laws! Sign the Referendum Petitions Now

Referendums in Danger!

It isn't often I feel like scolding people. I would much rather praise than blame.

I am much afraid, however, that I can't throw any bouquets at this particular writing. I am not satisfied with the showing Everett is making in the referendum campaign.

In the history of legislation in this state no more reactionary body ever sat in the legislature. The legislature deliberately tried to sew union labor up so that it couldn't move hand or foot.

Does organized labor propose to stand for this condition of affairs? Some of the boys are out working and working hard.

many is due to a deadly apathy to their own welfare. Old General Apathy has lost more battles than our active forces have ever won.

I am going to make one prediction. If the anti-picketing bill becomes law because of failure to procure enough signatures to the referendum petition, we'll get ours from the labor-hating employers of Washington, and get it good.

These petitions must be in the hands of the registration officers for checking within three weeks. What are you going to do about it?

For the love of Mike, wake up. Go down to the Labor Temple and get a petition. Take it out among your friends and neighbors and get it filled and return it to the Labor Temple.

Really, I don't think you are deliberately shirking, but you don't realize the game you are up against.

There are three weeks left to work. Go to the Labor Temple, or to any member of the Trades Council Referendum Committee, and enlist.

Shingleweavers to Adopt Retaliatory Measures

Will Lease, Buy and Build and Operate Shingle Mills--Seventy-Five Mills Now Running Under Co-operative Plan--About 2,500 Union Shingleweavers In the State of Washington

The union-smashing mill owners declare that they are determined to "run their mills to suit themselves"; i. e., with scab labor.

But their bravado and "independence" are mostly affected.

First of all, most of them are not competent to run a buzz saw through a pine log.

Secondly, nearly every mill owner in Everett takes his orders from the First National Bank. They must run their mills not "to suit" themselves, but as President Butler dictates.

All profs of arbitration, mediation, etc., having been insolently spurned by the timber barons, when presented by representatives of organized labor, the shingleweavers have now decided to "take the bit in their teeth" and run mills to suit themselves.

A plan to start all idle mills in this county under the co-operative plan was presented to the local Timberworkers' union at the meeting Tuesday night by International President J. G. Brown of Seattle.

"If the employers will make you no offer, either to compromise or make other settlement, you can enter into the shingle manufacturing business and compete with them, and

probably work a greater hardship upon them than if they conceded to the union's demand," declared Brown.

"When shingle prices are low you probably won't get much but when they are good you will be able to make money."

Four mills are already operating on the co-operative plan in Everett already. They are: The O. K., on Riverside; the Everett Shingle Co., and the Everett Mutual, at 14th St., and the Milwaukee Shingle Co., at Lowell.

Denial was made by Business Agent W. H. Mills, of the local union, to the statements being circulated by employees of the Clough-Hartley mill that Skagit county union weavers were taking positions in the local mills in retaliation for the action of Everett shingleweavers who went north during the Skagit and Whatcom county strike and worked for low wages, thereby defeating the unions in those counties.

In these mills there are no parasites to extract unearned dividends, as "capitalists." Every man who draws money from the sale of shingles helps to produce shingles. It is proposed to add as many mills to those now in operation as are necessary to absorb the labor of all the first-class weavers in the state, at present, about 2,500.

Denial was made by Business Agent W. H. Mills, of the local union, to the statements being circulated by employees of the Clough-Hartley mill that Skagit county union weavers were taking positions in the local mills in retaliation for the action of Everett shingleweavers who went north during the Skagit and Whatcom county strike and worked for low wages, thereby defeating the unions in those counties.

Jealous of Their Rights!

By C. O. YOUNG General Organizer American Federation of Labor.

Working men and women are beginning to recognize the rights of human beings to a full rounded-out life, and the possession of freedom from industrial tyranny and oppression. They realize that they who toil are a part of organized society, and as units of society are important in the constructive development of the future, and that there will be no real progress without the recognition of the rights and liberties of those who make industrial achievements possible.

Members of the Building Trades have offered to co-operate with the union mills, and the carpenters' organizations will demand from dealers and contractors union label shingles. Because of their superior quality and reasonable price the union product will be in general demand throughout the United States.

With mills everywhere organized on this co-operative basis, the scab herders will be at liberty to run their mills entirely to suit themselves--and the banks.

A False Report. Denial was made by Business Agent W. H. Mills, of the local union, to the statements being circulated by employees of the Clough-Hartley mill that Skagit county union weavers were taking positions in the local mills in retaliation for the action of Everett shingleweavers who went north during the Skagit and Whatcom county strike and worked for low wages, thereby defeating the unions in those counties.

Do you read in the history of the long-ago how this spirit took hold of men in the struggle for political liberty? How they fought to take part in government? How they were imprisoned because they fought in defiance of established rules of society, and wore the taint of the prison garb through life, all for the love of human liberty? Do you remember in the long-ago how, and at what price, religious liberty was attained, and the many things that were done in defense of that liberty that was against the rules expressed or implied by those who were entrenched in sanctified robes and possessing the power of government as well as spiritual power?

You no doubt have not forgotten the struggle for independence of the American colonies against the tyranny of a monarch and the things done, wise and otherwise, in giving expression to that spirit and desire for human liberty, defying constituted authorities. These liberties have been attained and maintained at a great cost; men have gone down to their graves in ignominy with the cry of

"Liberty" on their lips, death sealing for all time their voices--sacrificed in the interest of the cherished boon--Freedom.

There confronts us today a titanic struggle for "Industrial Liberty," that the toilers may be free. Is it justifiable to ask, is industrial freedom less sacred, less to be desired, less cherished, less fundamental and less the toiler's right than that of political or religious freedom? Was the struggles against oppression from political or religious tyranny more commendable than the struggles now of the toilers for a little more bread, a little more raiment, a little better home, a little more time with the family, a better opportunity to develop a higher manhood and citizenship?

Are these rights less laudable, and of less value to the nations, than the right to be free politically or religiously?

Though their methods are some times crude and at variance with polite society, are the American people so forgetful of past struggles that they will by restriction take from the strugglers their God-given right to stand on the picket line at the factory, mill or street and through the medium of "Free Speech" and "Free Press" tell the world their grievances?

Will the people of our states permit to be taken from them the right of popular government by the denial of direct legislation? Monuments have been erected in honor of men who sacrificed and died for human liberty. For men who were put to death by restrictive laws denying them their right of their power to protest. Shall we now, in this enlightened age be confronted by restrictions of our rightful liberty? Shall our organizations be destroyed by legislative enactments taking away from us the only means short of revolt that guarantee our organization the right to exist?

Do you wonder at men becoming reckless, and careless as to the means they use in righting wrongs, when through legislative enactments their rightful activities are taken from them, and entrenched wealth fortified by such enactments deny men the right to maintain their economic organizations? Oppressed men will continue to struggle against their wrongs let come what will. The methods used will be such as they have at hand, and such as have been used by the liberty defenders of the past, that which is in their reach. Men who love liberty are jealous of their rights.

FRANK W. COTTERILL MAKES STRONG PLEA FOR REFERENDUM

In a forceful address before the Trades Council, Wednesday evening, Mr. Frank W. Cotterill, secretary of the Central Labor Council of Seattle and state representative for the Referendum League, pointed out the necessity for more energetic efforts on the part of organized labor in behalf of the referendum petitions.

"To my mind it is an unwarranted, unlawful interference with the established rights of free locomotion, free association, free speech and free press. I cannot bring myself to believe that the intelligent electorate of the great State of Washington will tamely submit to the rights of the workers being purloined from them in this arbitrary way by the special interest legislators in your state.

Shall you complain who feed the world Who clothe the world Who house the world, Shall you complain who are the world? Of what the world may do? As from this hour You use your power, The world must follow you.

WHY YOU SHOULD ATTACH SIGNATURE TO REFERENDUM PETITIONS

(From Seattle Star.) Why should you sign the seven referendum petitions?

There is a reason for each petition. But there is a far greater reason that goes for the entire seven, namely:

The life and death of direct popular government is at stake.

You may have wondered how it was possible that the 1915 legislature should have so willingly trampled on the will of the people. They did so on the strength of their opinion that the people are too indifferent or too ignorant to run their own government.

Were these politicians and corporation tools right? Are the people too ignorant for a voice on their own laws? Are they too indifferent to protest?

If the referendum petitions fall now, direct popular government will pass into history. For one of the bills against which a referendum campaign is on aims a vital blow at the initiative and referendum rights of the people.

If the present referendum effort dies for lack of signatures, never again expect to overrule a rotten legislature.

When you sign a referendum petition you only ask for a chance to vote on the measures passed by the legislature. That is all. You do not approve or disapprove of the measure until you vote on them in November, 1916.

Sign the referendum petitions. By doing so you sign a request for a vote, for a voice in your government, for a chance to approve or annul measures passed by the legislature.

Senate Bill No. 367 and What It Means

By E. P. MARSH President State Federation of Labor.

By Senator Palmer (E. B.)--An act defining picketing, prohibiting the same, and providing a penalty for the violation thereof, and declaring that this act shall take effect immediately.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the State of Washington: Whoever shall, for the purpose of carrying on, calling attention to, or advertising, directly or indirectly, any controversy, disagreement or dispute between any labor union or organization, or member or members thereof, and any person engaged in any lawful business, or his employe, or for the purpose of hindering or preventing such person from conducting his business in any lawful way, or employing or retaining in his employ any person who may lawfully engage in such business.

Stand or continuously move back and forth, on the sidewalk, street, public place or private property, or within five hundred feet of, any place in which any lawful business is conducted by such other person, or home or place of abode of such other persons or his employe, or

Openly maintain, carry or transport on any sidewalk, street, public place or private property, any banner, sign, transparency, writing or printing, or cause any person to do any of the foregoing acts for any of the foregoing purposes

Should be guilty of picketing. Any person who shall engage in picketing shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. The singular number when used in this act shall include the plural, and the word "person" shall include individuals, firms, partnerships, associations and corporations. An adjudication of invalidity of any part of this act shall not affect the validity of the act as a whole or any part thereof. One of the oldest weapons known to trade unionism is the practice of picketing plants or business firms where industrial trouble exists. Peaceful picketing, acquainting their fellow workmen or the general public with the fact that a strike or lock-out is in progress is recognized everywhere as a lawful method of union activity. The federal congress has written into the national law, through the terms of the Clayton anti-trust bill, a legalization of picketing. Congress has declared that members of a labor union shall not be prohibited from doing in time of industrial dispute that which they may lawfully do should no dispute exist. The federal statute recognizes the right of the state to protect life and property against violence or to punish for actual contempt, but does not propose to take away from an individual or set of individuals the opportunity of placing his side of the controversy and if the company does not care to accept that, very well, let it keep it; the city can go ahead and put in its own distributing system; having their contracts signed up, there will be no difficulty about two systems that we hear so much talk about. One thing is certain, Everett must get another water system if we are to have a city here. With the power that can be generated from the Sultan river, there will be enough to run every manufactory in this county, and furnish every city, town and hamlet in power with light, heat and power. Snohomish county some day will have many factories and will need much power. Nothing will tend more to bring manufacturing here than cheap power. Cheap power, cheap light and cheap pure water are as essential, almost to the building of a community, as pure air and sunlight. Now that we may have all these, shall we let the chance go by? I trust not. Water rates are about twice as high in Everett as they are in Seattle or Bellingham. Light in Everett is at least 50 per cent. higher than in Seattle, although the light used in Everett and Seattle is all made in the same place up in the mountains and brought down here on the wires. In Seattle there is competition; here there

before the public in any peaceable manner.

It remained for the state legislature, sealed, bound and delivered to the organized employers of the state, to pass the law appearing above. And it remained for Gov. Lister, though publicly stating that the law was too drastic, to sign it. The governor has done some splendid work in pulling the teeth from other vicious legislation in the interests of the State Employers' Association. It is a matter of profound regret to us that the governor did not turn thumbs down on this piece of legislation.

Now it is squarely up to us. We can take our medicine, say we like it, see one of the strongest weapons we have to turn from our grasp. We can do that--and if we did, we should deserve any fate the Employers' Association should try to deal out to us.

We can do the other thing. We can referendum this bill. We can go out with referendum petitions and get enough signatures to prevent it from becoming law unless the voters should so decide in 1916.

We can't sit down and fold our arms and expect to get by with this measure.

If there is anything this legislature did which should arouse to action the trade unionists of this state it is the passage of S. B. No. 367 and its approval by the governor.

How many names will you secure to a referendum petition against it?

WASHINGTON, May 1.--At the report issued by the International Cigar Makers' union, the reports for last year refute the charge that trade unions are merely "strike machines." Sick benefits, \$207,579.62; death and total disability benefits, \$279,746.15; out of work benefits, \$68,198; strike benefits, \$50,898.50. The total benefits paid during 1914 were \$606,422.27. The grand total benefits paid in thirty-five years and two months were \$11,955,071.57. The yearly cost per member for these benefits necessarily vary. Last year the charge was \$13.08 1/2, or \$1.09 a month.

IN LINE WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Should Everett Purchase the Present Water System?

In considering this question, it might be well to ask what a corporation would ask were it contemplating putting a system here, and the city or some other organization owned the present system. I doubt if any sane person will venture to say that if some corporation had the opportunity to get water and power that Everett now has that any such corporation would consult the owner of any such system as this city now has. Neither is it necessary. If the city will at once set to work and have every property owner and water consumer who will sign up a contract to take the city water when it shall be ready for delivery at a price not to exceed a rate to now be determined, then go ahead, bring its water down here, and then determine what part of the present system it can use and what it is worth, and offer the company whatever it may be determined;

BENEFITS OF UNIONISM

WASHINGTON, May 1.--At the report issued by the International Cigar Makers' union, the reports for last year refute the charge that trade unions are merely "strike machines." Sick benefits, \$207,579.62; death and total disability benefits, \$279,746.15; out of work benefits, \$68,198; strike benefits, \$50,898.50. The total benefits paid during 1914 were \$606,422.27. The grand total benefits paid in thirty-five years and two months were \$11,955,071.57. The yearly cost per member for these benefits necessarily vary. Last year the charge was \$13.08 1/2, or \$1.09 a month.

YOUTH IS NEEDFUL.

Without the high resolve of youth, without constant accession of youth, without recuperative power, no sustained forward movement is possible in the world.--H. G. Wells.

ALLIMAN BACK ON JOB

Light recovered from the injury to his right hand sustained several weeks ago, Brother M. T. Alliman is again at his accustomed chair in the Realty building. Anderson's barber shop.

LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR BEING UNION OFFICIAL

Rockefeller Millions Against John R. Lawson of Mine Workers.

TRINIDAD, Colo., May 4.--John R. Lawson, noted labor leader, today was condemned to life imprisonment at hard labor in the Colorado penitentiary. He was convicted of first degree murder in connection with the death of John Nimmo, a deputy sheriff killed in a strike battle October 27, 1913. The jury fixed the penalty at life imprisonment.

Lawson sat immovable as the jury filed into the courtroom. When the verdict was read Lawson did not move. A slight smile played over his features. Thirty days were given to file a motion for a new trial. Lawson was released temporarily in custody of his counsel.

"They may get me," Lawson said, "but they can't defeat the cause of labor. I'm not worrying about myself; it is the fight I have been making for the workmen that I am interested in and that will go ahead just as before. Even for me it's a long way to the penitentiary. My attorneys will not give up until everything possible has been done to save me."

Lawson and his counsel had confidently expected an acquittal or at the worst a disagreement. The jury was out since 9 o'clock Saturday night.

Tonight Attorney Hawkins, chief counsel for Lawson, issued a statement saying: "Rockefeller's gold is claiming Lawson as a victim. Rockefeller's lawyers worked up evidence and Rockefeller detectives testified in the case to secure a conviction. The verdict is an unpeakable outrage. In any other community an acquittal would have been returned in five minutes. This conviction is stirring a nation."

SOME NOTED TRAITORS.

Esau sold his birthright for a mess of pottage. Judas Iscariot sold his Savior for thirty pieces of silver. Benedict Arnold sold his country for the promise of an officer's commission in the English army. The modern strikebreaker sells his birthright, his country, his wife, his children and his fellow workman for an unfulfilled promise from a trust or corporation.

ALLIMAN BACK ON JOB

Light recovered from the injury to his right hand sustained several weeks ago, Brother M. T. Alliman is again at his accustomed chair in the Realty building. Anderson's barber shop.

SPiRIT ROUSERS

By CHARLES PERRY TAYLOR Sec. State Federation of Labor

Aye bane a Svede, A regular gotohale faller. Sometimes Aye bane disgosted Mit working class.

Sometimes Aye get so enthusiastic Aye shout on dial in dees Referadooms.

Ve thank ve gate ceench On dees anti-picket fence bill. But ve bane off our noot. Ve must hustle to beet da Hale. Harley Hoos in Spokaine Bane das same.

Rate Last in Takehoma Gate tree hoonderd sets papers Peddling roundt. Valla Valla Lees Clarke Bane offen catch das Standpat farmers dees time. All Vice-Pressers bane busy. Vat da hale you bane doing? Got da here petishuns vorking goot? Haf you takled eferpody you know? Nearly efermy mans I see Tank Legislature bane proper bum; And nearly eferpody sign whole cheese.

Come on inn; Das vater bane fine. Ve show das doggone Stop-look-blisters Vere da hed in da dees time. Rous mit been? You bet my life!

SOME NOTED TRAITORS.

Esau sold his birthright for a mess of pottage. Judas Iscariot sold his Savior for thirty pieces of silver. Benedict Arnold sold his country for the promise of an officer's commission in the English army. The modern strikebreaker sells his birthright, his country, his wife, his children and his fellow workman for an unfulfilled promise from a trust or corporation.

ALLIMAN BACK ON JOB

Light recovered from the injury to his right hand sustained several weeks ago, Brother M. T. Alliman is again at his accustomed chair in the Realty building. Anderson's barber shop.

Esau was a traitor to himself; Judas Iscariot was a traitor to his God; Benedict Arnold was a traitor to his country. A strikebreaker is a traitor to his God, to his country, to his family and to his class. A real man is never a strikebreaker! Be a Man!