In Organization There Is Strength!

The Labor Journal

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE EVERETT TRADES COUNCIL. DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF ORGANIZED LABOR.

Ask for the Label A Sign of Progress

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KIER HARDIE

Dead of pneumonia, they say; but if the truth be known it is heartbreak over the failure of the working class—his class—to prevent the great conflagration that has swept Europe into semi-barbarism.

Kier Hardie was a working class politician who held himself close to his class and stood forth on all occasions as a representative of his class and of his class alone. For years an advocate of international peace and international union of the workers, he was dumfounded by the rapidity with which the teachings of a lifetime were swept away on a wave of "patriotism."

Taking a stand against the participation of England in the war, and when that failed against the participation of the English workers in the hellish butchery, he was defeated on all sides, malinged and hated by the tory press and persecuted by the government.

Hardie was a miner by trade and wore the common clothes of his craft all his life, having no patience with his colleagues who attempted to ape the ruling class when they secured a place in parliament, where Hardie served for 15 years continuously. He was the founder and for many years editor of the Labor Leader, the leading organ of the Independent Labor Party, and was widely known as an author. In his death the English workers lose an able proponent and the cause of internationalism gets another setback.

May there be many more to take his place!—Union Record (Seattle.)

CHILD LABOR AT FT. WAYNE

FT. WAYNE, Ind.—A special committee appointed by the federation of labor has reported that 930 children under the age of 14 years are employed in the mills and factories of this city.

LOW WAGES BLAMED

LOS ANGELES.—Wearied at the tales of misery, Judge Charles Monroe, who has presided over the divorce court for several years, asked the other judges of the superior court to relieve him. He has sat in nearly 10,000 divorce cases while on the bench, and in his letter to his colleagues, said:

"One of the worst features is that it is so impossible to provide for women with large families of children out of the wages of the husband. And there is so much distress coming under my observation that I feel I would very much like to make a change."

STRIKE OF 2,000 ENDS

BRIDGEPORT, Conn.—A 48-hour week and substantial wage increases have been granted 2,000 employes of the American Graphophone company, who have been on strike about three weeks.

We see by the papers that they are rapidly getting the Eastland ready for another excursion—Boston Transcript.

LEAGUE NOTES

The Label League will entertain members and friends at a card party this evening in the Labor Temple. Refreshments will be served.

WOMEN FACE ROCKEFELLER

DENVER.—John D. Rockefeller, jr., experienced new sensations when Mrs. Lee Champion and Mrs. Sarah L. Scanlan, president and secretary, respectively, of the Colorado Justice League, told him the story of Ludlow.

Standing squarely before the world's richest young man, they charged his Colorado Fuel & Iron company with being responsible for this massacre of women and children. Plain words were used by the women, who told Rockefeller that if John R. Lawson is guilty of murder, then he (Rockefeller) is equally guilty of killing the women and children. Rockefeller showed much feeling in a denial of the charges. He said he knew nothing of the money used by the Colorado Fuel & Iron company. Mrs. Champion then offered to submit to him documentary evidence in proof of the charge that "murderers and thugs released from penitentiaries were given jobs by the Colorado Fuel & Iron company and that while drawing pay as employes of the Rockefeller company they were in the militia." Rockefeller refused to accept the documents.

AGAINST 30 DAYS' NOTICE

DENVER.—The Colorado state federation of labor is opposed to that section of the recently-enacted industrial act which requires employes to give thirty days notice of a demand for change in working conditions. The convention instructed its legislative committee to work for its repeal.

PRINTING PRESSMEN GAIN

LA CROSSE, Wis.—Newspaper publishers of this city have recognized the Printing Pressmen's union, increased wages $2 a week, and signed a three-year contract. Job shop proprietors reduced hours from nine to eight per day without a wage reduction. The union has been organized only a year.

CITIES ON 8-HOUR BASIS

COLUMBUS, O.—Thousands of municipal employes in Ohio will work only eight hours a day because of an official ruling by Attorney General Turner, which includes:

"Persons employed in cleaning streets, as well as those engaged in their construction or repair, and persons engaged in the construction or repair of municipal power, heat, light and water plants, wharves, docks, waterways and sewers, or engaged in the construction or operation of any public undertaking of a structural nature of substantial permanence, capable of being regarded as of public utility, service and interest."

Inscribed on the great seal of Georgia we find this sentiment: "Wisdom, Justice, Moderation." How appropriate!—Detroit Free Press.

The Manly Report on Causes of Industrial Unrest

Personal Rights Must Be Recognized as Supreme Over Property Rights Says Report

5th Installment---Remedies Proposed

The report says regarding remedies:

"In considering the action which needs to be taken it has been urged by some that the end to be achieved is to place personal rights on a parity with property rights. It is necessary to render a firm protest and warning against the acceptance of such an ideal. The establishment of property rights and personal rights on the same level can leave only a constant and ever growing menace to our popular institutions. With the acceptance of such an ideal our democracy is doomed to ultimate destruction. **Personal rights must be recognized as supreme and of unalterable ascendency over property rights.**

"Relief from these grave evils cannot be secured by petty reforms. The action must be drastic and directed at the roots from which these evils spring.

"With full recognition of the gravity of the suggestions it seems necessary to urge the commission to make the following recommendations:

"1. That congress should forthwith initiate an amendment to the constitution providing in specific terms for the protection of the personal rights of every person in the United States from encroachment by the federal and state governments and by private individuals, associations and corporations. The principal rights which should be thus specifically protected by the power of the federal government are the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus, the right to jury trial, free speech, peaceful assemblage, to keep and bears arms, to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures, to speedy public trial, to freedom from excessive bail, and from cruel and unusual punishments.

"2. That congress immediately enact by statute or, if deemed necessary, initiate a constitutional amendment specifically prohibiting the courts from declaring legislative acts unconstitutional.

"3. That congress enact that in all federal cases where the trial is by jury all qualified voters in the district shall be included in the list from which jurors are selected and that they shall be drawn by the use of a wheel or other device designed to promote absolute impartiality.

"4. That congress should drastically regulate or prohibit private detective agencies doing business in more than one state, employed by a company doing an interstate business, or using the mails in connection with their business. Such regulation, if it is feasible, should include particularly the limitation of their activities to the bona fide functions of detecting crime, and adequate provision should be made for the rigid supervision of their organization and personnel.

"5. That, the militia of the several states being subject to regulation by congress, carefully drawn rules for their personnel, organization and conduct in the field should be drawn up to insure their impartiality during industrial disputes."

RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

Evidence and testimony are cited showing that many employers refuse to deal with organizations of their employees or to employ men who belong to labor organizations, this denial of the right of organization being discussed as the fourth principal cause of industrial unrest. The report says:

"The previous discussion of the causes of industrial unrest has dealt with the denial of certain fundamental objects to which the workers believe they have natural and inalienable rights, namely, a fair distribution of the products of industry, the opportunity to earn a living, free access to unused land and natural resources, and just treatment by legislators, courts and executive officials.

"A more serious and fundamental charge is, however, contained in the allegation by the workers that, in spite of the nominal legal right which has been established by a century-long struggle, almost insurmountable obstacles are placed in the way of their using the only means by which economic and political justice can be secured, by combined action through voluntary organization.

"The workers insist that this right of organization is fundamental and necessary for their freedom, and that it is inherent in the general rights guaranteed every citizen of a democracy. They insist that 'people can free themselves from oppression only by organized force. No people could gain or maintain their rights or liberties acting singly, and any class of citizens in the state subject to unjust burdens or oppression can gain relief only by combined action'.

"The demand for organization and collective action has been misunderstood, it is claimed, because of the belief among a large number of citizens that its purpose was simply to secure better wages and better physical conditions. It has been urged, however, by a large number of witnesses before the commission that this is a complete misconception of the purpose for which workers desire to form organizations.

NOT A MATERIAL STRUGGLE

"It has been pointed out with great force and logic that the struggle of labor for organization is not merely an attempt to secure an increased measure of the material comforts of life, but is a part of the age-long struggle for liberty; that this struggle is sharpened by the pinch of hunger and the exhaustion of body and mind by long hours and improper working conditions; but that even if men were well fed they would still struggle to be free.

"It is not denied that the exceptional individual can secure an economic sufficiency either by the sale of his unusual ability or talent, or by sycophantic subservience to some person in authority, but it is insisted that no individual can achieve freedom by his own efforts. Similarly, while it is admitted that in some cases exceptional employers treat their employes with the greatest justice and liberality, it is held to be a social axiom that no group of workers can become free except by combined action, **nor can the mass hope to achieve any material advance in their condition except by collective effort.**

"Furthermore, it is urged by the representatives of labor that the efforts of individuals who are bent upon bettering their own condition without reference to their health or to the interests of others, directly injure each of their fellow workers and indirectly weaken the whole fabric of society. (To be continued)

FAVOR EIGHT-HOUR DAY

NEW BEDFORD, Mass.—The convention of the state federation of labor endorsed a state-wide campaign for the establishment of an eight-hour day throughout Massachusetts.

Resolutions were adopted favoring the abolition of the state poll tax system and plans were favored to secure petitions for a noncontributory system of old age pensions. The federation's legislative committee was instructed to urge the passage of the steam fitters' license law.

Joseph J. Hunt of Boston was elected president and Springfield was chosen as the next convention city.

BUSINESS VS. SENTIMENT

The Chicago Board of Education began preparations to enforce its rule against the Teachers' Federation, after it had let it be understood that it would refrain, pending a court decision on injunction proceedings. It was necessary for the teachers' attorney to call the court's attention to the matter to put a stop to the sending out of pledge cards. The breach of faith was not surprising. The universal experience of all who have entered a fight against some privileged interest is that these interests never allow mere sentiment to endanger results. Privileged business and sentiment have nothing in common.

—S. D.

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UNION OPPONENTS CHECKED

CHICAGO.—"Hands off the Teachers' Federation" is the command of Judge O'Connor to the Chicago board of education.

The board recently passed an order calling on all teachers to withdraw from the federation and now the court restrains the board from enforcing its rule. As matters stand at present the teachers' organization is in the same position it was before the board called on teachers to sign a pledge that they do not belong to the federation.

In his decision Judge O'Connor quoted the state supreme court in its rule that it was illegal for a public corporation to decide that only union workmen could be employed on school building construction. On the same theory, declared Judge O'Connor, the school board has no right to rule that only non-union teachers can be employed. Such a policy, said the court, is an arbitrary classification that has no connection with the public welfare. The court also held that the board's rule would break a contract with the teachers which was entered into last June when the teachers were hired.

FAVORITISM CAUSES STRIKE

PRINCETON, Ind.—Because two blacksmiths were discharged to make room for favorites of the company, 700 miners employed by the Deep Vein Coal company are on strike. An arbitration board failed to adjust the matter.

BLAME CITY FOR DISASTER

NEW YORK.—The death of seven persons and the injury of nearly 100 others, because of a cave-in on subway work, is due entirely "to the greed, avariciousness and criminal carelessness of contractors and city officials alike," declares the Central Federated Union in a resolution presented by Secretary Bohm and endorsed by the trade unionists.

The workers declare "that the city officials and the contractors are responsible for this slaughter of human lives and the maiming of the many people, and the officials' retrenchment and false policy of economy to be primarily the root of this evil; the public service commission decided against our contention and in favor of cheap labor at various hearings where we proposed to protect the interests of the public."

The following opinion is expressed on the proposed investigation: "We expect long-drawn-out investigations, the juggling of responsibility from one to another, with the result nil, as in former like cases, too numerous to mention."

Governor Johnson says: "There is no testimony that Ford was armed or fired any shots," but because an I. W. W. circular says sticking copper nails in fruit trees injures them he will not free or commute the sentence of an innocent man. Hurrah for justice in these U. S. A. under a Progressive governor.—Ex.

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

State Labor Commissioner E. W. Olson has directed the institution of test suit in the King county superior court to determine whether "station men" given 100 feet of road work to do, are sub-contractors or employes. Horrocks Construction Co., defendants in the test suit, a prosecution for violation of the eight-hour law on public works, claims it is not responsible for the station men working ten hours. Recognition of such a contention, Commissioner Olson claims, not only would largely destroy the effect of the eight hour law, but might afford employers of women on piece work opportunity to adopt the same argument to defeat the effect of the minimum wage law.

The Standard Oil Co. has instituted suit in King county superior court to prevent the state department of agriculture from collecting fees for oil inspection, from which source an annual revenue of $75,000 now is derived.

Labor Commissioner E. W. Olson has served notice upon hotels that the reported practice of charging chambermaids for rooms which they do not occupy, with the effect of lowering their legal minimum wage, will not be tolerated by the labor department.

One of the most important terms of the supreme court opens October 11. The M. K. Gottstein suit, involving the validity of the prohibition law, has been set for hearing en banc October 22. Other cases to be heard include suits attacking the new fish code, the jitney bonding bill, and the exemption from taxation of Y.M.C.A. property.

October 1 marked the end of four years of operation of the Washington industrial insurance act, the first workmen's compensation law to become effective in this country.

During the four years there have been 56,483 accidents reported to the commission, and $5,521,381 has been collected to meet claims, or approximately $100 an accident.

The expense of administration has been kept to a little more than 6 per cent. of the collections, a much lower percentage than has been reached by any other commission, state or national.

Although the second year under the law showed an increase in accidents as compared with the first year, accidents have been decreasing steadily during the last two years. For the first nine months of 1915 there have been 10,002 accidents reported, as compared with 11,196 during the first months of 1914 and 12,683 during the same nine months of 1913.

Fully 60 per cent. of the $2,000,000 road building program outlined by the recent legislature for the biennium will have been completed by the state highway department by the end of the present calendar year, is indicated by estimates of the progress of contract and force account work. The largest expenditure on any highway was $318,000 on the Pacific highway. The most important pieces of work on this road, the Waterfront and Nisqually sections, will be completed by November 1. Other of the most notable activities of the present year have been the opening of the Snoqualmie pass section of Sunset highway, the opening of the Olympic highway, giving the peninsula its first direct connection with the mainland, and completion and opening of a new route to Mount Rainier.

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WOMEN AND WAR

By Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Rather than breed strong sons, at War's behest,
Or bring fair daughters into life, to bear
The pains of travail for no end but war,
Aye: let the race die out for lack of babes;
Better race suicide than endless wars;
Better a silent world than noise of guns
And clash of armies.
Give us, O men, your word that war shall end,
Disarm the world and we will give you sons,
Sons to construct, and daughters to adorn
A beautiful new earth where there shall be
Fewer and finer people, opulence and
Opportunity and peace for all.
Until you promise peace no shrill birth cry
Shall sound again upon the aging earth.
We wait your answer.

FIGHT FOR NEARING

PHILADELPHIA.—At a meeting of University of Pennsylvania students a committee was appointed to attend the next meeting of the university's board of trustees and discuss the dismissal of Prof. Nearing, assistant professor of economics at the Wharton school. The meeting was secret, but the students later announced that they intended to ask the school officials for the reason for Prof. Nearing's discharge.

Stock Arguments

Some Reasons Why Labor Papers Have Their Own Troubles

"No, I won't subscribe for the labor paper; there's too much Socialism in it for me."

"I don't take it because it's nothing but a union paper."

"Why don't you make it a daily? Then I would subscribe."

"I can get lots of papers for 50c per year. Your price of $1 is too nigh."

"I've no use for suffragettes and don't want a paper that advocates votes for women."

"My husband is the only one that reads the labor paper. Nothing in it interests me."

"The labor paper shouldn't say anything about the churches. Keep your hands off."

"Say, are you going to stand for the lies and misrepresentations of Rev. So-and-So?"

"It is no business of the labor paper to take a position on the war. Stop my subscription."

"A blind man can see that unless the ——— side wins the labor movement will be smashed. I think it is your duty to take sides."

"I get all the news and reading I want out of the daily papers. I don't care to subscribe for a weekly labor paper."

"These rotten daily papers give us a dirty deal every time a strike comes off."

"You ought to go to the front for us in this jurisdiction fight; the other side hasn't a leg to stand on."

"What business have you to mix in a jurisdiction dispute anyway? Stick to your own knitting."—Ex.

LABOR INVINCIBLE

By JAMES DEWITT CARPENTER

I, Labor Invincible.

I have smothered the forges fire to build titanic cauldrons fit for Jove, whose smoke ascends and hides the stars.

Whose leaping, roaring, thundering flames paint midnight's sky with uncouth gnomes and elfin forms.

My hammers have ceased to be playthings of pounds: they clang upon the anvil with the weight of tons.

I have forgotten the distaff and the spinners' wheel. I leave the hand-loom to its cover of dust.

Within the factory walls my myriad hands perform their wonted tasks. From masters' looms pour cataracts of woven wares, whose prismatic colors shame the morning sky.

I have ceased to be a globule to become a giant.

I, who play with Nature's elemental forces. I, who invade the air, or sail the sea. I, whose plastic hand tears hidden metals from earth's dark caverns.

I, who build palaces, inhabit hovels to feed my weary frame with a slave's reward, a beggar's pence.

I come forth a giant, with a pigmy's head; my Lilliputian masters lash me with hunger's cruel knout. In coal camps I crouch as a beast behind frail tents' walls. My blood stains the copper country's snows.

The factory's brazen voice calls me from my petty individual cares, unifies and makes social my labor power.

I am led by filmy strands of ignorance, prejudice, falsehood, where my master wills; strands my political power will break.

Each day they call me to my task I learn anew that solidarity is my power; anew each day I apply my cyclopean strength and grasp the social meaning of my productive force.

I can stand forth freed only when I become cemented by solidarity to direct myself when masters shall be no more.

I am destined to do the world's work as a free being.

Through my class consciousness, I will solve the riddle of the universe.

I, Labor Invincible.

Everybody's Going to the Big

SOCIAL DANCE

FRATERNAL HALL

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

GIVEN UNDER AUSPICES OF THE MOLDERS' UNION.

Splendid "Olympic" Heater Will Be Given Away

TICKETS 50 CENTS - LADIES ADMITTED FREE