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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Another "Good Man" Gone Wrong

R. B. Adams is a "patriot."

He is that.

He is also a "good man."

But, like so many other "good" men who never fail to stand at "attention" when the band plays "the flag" music, Bob needed the ready money. Patriotism is all right in its place. But it musn't be permitted to stand in the way of worldly success.

So Bob had his little $500 "bill of extras" all ready for the signature of Architect Hastings, whom he met, by appointment, in Husted's office.

We don't know whether or not the architect of the Monroe school was ornamented with "the flag" the other day. Nor do we know whether Contractor Adams displayed one on his manly person. But we do know that Adams is "agin'" Socialism, 'cause "Socialists want to divide up" (?)

Anyhow, Patriot Adams, who believes in the "open shop," scab labor, etc., hied himself to Husted's office, and there admitted that he was willing to "divide up" $150 with Architect Hastings if the latter would close both eyes and O.K. the extra bill—pardon us,—bill of extras.

But Hastings didn't believe in "dividin' up."

In fact he was so far insulted as to begin to remove his gents' furnishing goods, preparatory to—well, we couldn't say exactly, as Adams interrupted the proceedings at this point in our story with a right to Hasting's auricular appendage.

It wasn't exactly a brave thing for Adams to do, at that, under the circumstances.

Hastings was mistaken about that disrobing act, too. He's not built that way. He should have depended upon the strong arm of the law to avenge the insult offered him. It's safer, and more gratifying, in the long run.

"Direct action" has long since been discredited by thoughtful people.

This is as far as the drama has developed, as we go to press.

REJECT ALLEGED "M .O."

DETROIT.—Trade unionists succeeded, at the last election, in defeating the proposed municipal ownership plan by an actual majority of 2399. It was necessary to secure 60 per cent. of the total vote cast. This means that the plan was rejected by about 10,000 votes.

Unionists opposed the plan because it made no provision for arbitrating grievances workers might present. It was proposed to make the commission that would run the street cars absolute dictators, beyond the control of the city council or other representatives of the people. The powerful street car men's union showed that if this plan was adopted it would be impossible to enforce contractural relations similar to those now existing between them and the present company, and that they were in danger of losing every advance it has taken years to secure. The unionists attempted to have the proposal amended so that the workers' rights would be protected. In this they failed, so they defeated the plan.

By the small majority of 167 an amendment was carried which empowers the city to adopt the plan. It is claimed that under this amendment the defeated proposal can be resubmitted to the people.

ORGANIZE PRISON LABOR BOARD

HARRISBURG, Pa—The state prison labor board, created by the last legislature to supervise the work of prisoners in state penal and reform institutions, organized last week. Under the law the board receives an appropriation of $75,000 to purchase machinery and supplies and establish the system.

The supplies will be sold only to state institutions and prisoners are paid from 10 cents to 50 cents a day. Three-fourths of earnings go to the dependents of prisoners. Where there are no dependents the money is credited to the prisoners, who will receive one-third when discharged, one-third three months later and one-third six months later. It is hoped that this plan will be extended, thereby solving the convict labor problem. The office of the state prison labor board will be at Philadelphia.

Patronize YOUR Advertisers!

EXPORTS MAKE RECORD

WASHINGTON.—September was a record-breaker for United States exports, the figures being the largest in the history of the bureau, according to a statement made by the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce. The exports for September, this year, totaled $300,676,822, compared with $156,052,333 for the same month of last year. The imports also showed an increase in September of this year, the first time an increase has been shown for many months. The figures indicate that $151,236,026 worth of materials were imported into the country in September, 1915, as compared with $139,710,611 for the same month of last year.

THIS YEAR'S WHEAT CROP BREAKS RECORD

World's Production 233,000,000 Bushels More Than Ever Before

WASHINGTON.—Wheat production in 20 countries, which ordinarily produce 80 per cent. of the world's crop, is placed at 3,793,000,000 bushels by the department of agriculture, from preliminary official estimates. This is an increase of 550,000,000 bushels as compared with the 1914 crop in those countries and 233,000,00 bushels more than in 1913, the previous high record.

The statistics include the American 1,002,029,000-bushel crop.

ADOPT MINIMUM WAGE LAW

CLEVELAND.—A minimum wage amendment to the city charter was adopted at the recent election by a majority approximating 50,000. The act applies to all work done by the municipality and provides that where a craft is organized, the rates of that union must prevail. In trades and callings where no unions exist a minimum of $2.50 per day shall be the rule.

MEAT CUTTERS ORGANIZE

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.—Meat cutters and butcher workmen have organized a union and affiliated to the international of that craft.

Women never can learn to act like men. Here's Mrs. Ella Flagg Young giving up a $10,000 job.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Roaring Comedy!

Saturday Night

at People's Theatre

Best Seats 25c

Benefit performance under auspices Stage Employees' Union. Endorsed by Everett Trades Council.

Thirty-fifth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor Opens Under Happy Auspices at Exposition

Struggles, Purposes and Achievements of Organized Labor Set Forth in Eloquent Addresses

The regular meeting of the Thirty-fifth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor was called to order at 10 o'clock a.m., Monday, Nov. 8, by Mr. Daniel C. Murphy, President of the San Francisco Labor Council.

Following the customary prayer, Chairman Murphy introduced Mr. C. C. Moore, President of the Board of Directors of the Exposition, who gave an address of welcome, saying, in part:

Ladies and Gentlemen—There have been, or will have been within a few weeks, 950 or more congresses and conventions held in this Exposition. Many of them have been significantly and appropriately held here. I might say all have been welcome, but sitting here as delegates of this American Federation of Labor Convention, can any of you doubt that all that have preceded, this convention has by rights, by the proprieties and by all of the reasons justifying conventions in this Exposition, a special place and a special reason to be here.

Of course you are welcome. There has been a great deal said about the success of the Exposition, its accomplishments, its influence to advance education, an appreciation of art, of science, of mankind in his relations one with the other. I hope and believe we have done something along such generous, splendid lines. But everywhere these grounds over is the evidence of a co-operation of labor, enthusiastically, helpfully, purposely, and we now extend to you all an acknowledgment and recognition. And with our welcome goes a special fervor that you, its representatives from the country over, have come here to see what labor has done in the Exposition.

PRES. GOMPERS' ADDRESS

President Samuel Gompers was next introduced and spoke with his usual fervor in behalf of organized labor. In reply to Mr. Moore's tribute to the workers who made the Exposition possible, Mr. Gompers said:

You started right. You had to understand, and did understand, that if this Exposition was to be a triumph far exceeding that of any other in the history of America, it was necessary to take into consideration this new element, this great group of our people knocking upon the doors to be heard, not necessarily only to make demands upon society, but to be accorded the privilege of being of service. The men of labor responded to your call. You placed them upon your directorate, you placed them in positions where they gave service. They cooperated with you in every honorable effort to make this Exposition, not only mechanically and artistically a success, not only to make it a financial success, but to place upon the history of this Exposition the magnificent tribute of fraternity and ideality.

There is coming to be understood more widely than ever that our country, the Republic of the United States, is founded upon the sovereignty of her people; that in this great Republic of ours the demand of the wealth producers, whether upon the farm, in the factory, the shop, the mine, the mill or elsewhere, is not based upon any poverty or misery of the masses of our people, but upon their inherent natural right to the rewards of their toil and the reward which society owes to the toilers of our country, the producers of wealth, without which labor and service modern society and civilization must come to an end.

The American Federation of Labor, as its name implies, is a federated body of organizations. It has only that power conceded to it by the organizations constituting and making up the American Federation of Labor. Primarily, and of greater importance than the American Federation of Labor itself, are the great national and international trade unions, the sovereign industrial organizations of men and women of labor. And it is good that the American Federation of Labor has but the power which the organizations concede to it and that all other powers are reserved by them. It makes us understand that there is no power which can be imposed upon our unions or upon their membership; that this federated movement must exist and progress and succeed upon the voluntary obedience of the great rank and file, their concensus of judgment and opinion. The very fact of the voluntary character of our federation makes it necessary to be careful that we do not exceed the powers conceded to us, for after all, we can only live and prosper upon the good will, the respect and the confidence which the rank and file of the toilers have in our movement and in our men.

We work and struggle, and out of the great mass of the peoples that have come to our shores, speaking as many languages as are reputed to have been spoken in the attempt to build that great historic Tower of Babel, with peoples coming from all climes and countries, with all their prejudices, with all their hatreds, with all their justified feeling of protest—perhaps unexpressed in their own homes—with all their shortcomings, with all their ignorance, with all their intelligence, to have brought about a comprehensive movement of these elements, assimilating them with those among us of American birth and those who have been here for some period of time and have acquired citizenship, to have brought about a movement as broad and comprehensive and humanitarian and practical out of all these elements, says something for the American trade union movement. Thousands and millions of these workers have been brought here, without regard for their short-comings, superinduced by the greed for profit. If they have been brought here for the mere sake of profit they are good enough for us to open the doors of our organizations and invite them in to join, for weal or woe, in this great uplifting cause and struggle.

We are a part of this country; we are not apart from it. We are Americans, either by birth or adoption, and loyal to the principles upon which our Republic is based. We believe there is no country on the face of the globe comparable to the United States of America, and believing that, we believe as firmly that there is much room for improvement and it is the duty, as it is the mission, as it is the purpose of the American labor movement, to do its share in the struggle to secure that improvement.

PRICE OF DEMOCRACY

We may make mistakes, we are an institution of humans and as humans individually we are liable to err and we may err sometimes collectively; but that is one of the faults of democracy, one of the faults for which democracy must pay. It is better that we should make mistakes and learn and profit by them than to have a government, politically or industrially, in which no opportunity is given to struggle for the right, and, incidentally, to make mistakes.

President Gompers was followed by Gov. Johnson, who expressed his sympathy with the aims of the Federation.

"I see this path that we are steering in California must be steered by you and those who are with you with steady hands," said the Governor, "avoiding on the one hand Scylla of anardhy, or organized poverty, for which there is real excuse, and avoiding on the other hand the anarchy of Charybdis, of organized wealth for which there is no excuse, and avoiding both, remembering that all this nation of ours is for all its people, and that this western empire, above all states of the Union, represents its men and its women and its children, we may go forth in this state by peaceful evolution of a fundamental society, seeing and knowing and understanding, rather than by revolution, and accomplish all of that which ought to be accomplished within our particular boundaries."

MAYOR ROLPH SPEAKS OF LABOR'S TRIUMPHS

Mayor James Rolph, Jr., was next introduced, and welcomed the representatives of labor. Said he, in part:

"We have paid homage, and justly so, to our friends from afar, to the governors and representatives of other cities and countries, to the men at home who planned this enterprise, and to those who have brought it to perfection. We have not forgotten the gifts of the cities, states and nations, nor the men and women whose personal support was given through these commonwealths; to directors, commissioners, governors and presidents too much credit cannot be given, but we who have watched this Exposition grow know that Aladdin's lamp did not produce it. Like Rome, it was not built in a day. When we look at these marvelous buildings we wonder how it was ever done, how mere man could accomplish this miracle.

"And this is the point I wish to make: These palaces of the people are the work of men, and by work I mean hard work. Into this Exposition every morning trudged thousands of men and out of it every evening they thronged homeward. They were not in holiday dress, there were no glittering badges on their coats, and they waved no flags or banners, and they made no speeches. Their badges were the badges of toil, a smear of plaster, a smear of cement across the shoe or a smear of paint across the sleeve; these were their marks of distinction. Their robes of state consisted of overalls and blue jumpers. It was their labors that transformed a waste of mud flats and sand dunes into the fairyland about us. They sank the piles upon which these colossal structures stand; they built them up timber by timber, stick by stick and bolt by bolt. Let us give them their dues. Let us give full praise to the men of muscle and skill, to the men of strong brains and clever hands. It is the biggest and best job on earth, it is a monument to the man who works, and in San Francisco's name I thank him for it.

"Today, to you who represent the great throngs of organized labor throughout this great country of ours, I again make acknowledgment of the work, the skill and the effort put forth by the men, the real men, who built this wonderful Exposition here that you have come to enjoy, and in their name and in San Francisco's name I bid you the most cordial welcome from the finest people in the world in the greatest city in the world, I bid you welcome to a people and a city that are happy that you are here."

A YEAR OF STRESS

San Francisco, Nov. 8, 1915.

To the Officers and Delegates of the Thirty-fifth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor, Greeting:

The past year has been one of particular stress for the labor movement, testing its power and its practical efficiency. Like every other organization the labor movement has found itself confronted in its various relationships by war conditions and war difficulties. At the outbreak of the war there came a great catastrophic upheaval, when the activities and policies of peace were suddenly sundered and Europe was plunged into an atmosphere of fighting and destruction.

Men's thought and efforts had been centered upon progress, upon the development of civilization and upon the conservation of human life and the enlargement of opportunities for human development. With the declarations of war, almost in an instant everything was changed, the course and purpose of organized society were changed to further the purpose of destruction and to serve war needs. Skill of men's minds and muscles, knowledge and scientific invention, progress of all the ages were put at the service of the armies and navies engaged in the terrific conflict, destroying human life with unparalleled effectiveness. It seemed as though Europe had suddenly gone mad; all of the agencies to which had been entrusted the welfare and the progress

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News of Labor's Activities

LABOR ON RECORD FOR OWNERSHIP OF TELEGRAPHS

FAVORS PERMANENT TARIFF COMMISSION AND AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE

SAN FRANCISCO.—The American Federation of Labor went on record favoring government ownership of telegraph lines, the creation by congress of a permanent non-partisan tariff commission, an American merchant marine manned by American seamen under conditions maknig them an effective naval reserve and a petition to congress asking a law prohibiting contractors from employing alien labor on all works in preference to American citizens.

In favoring the creation by the federal government of a merchant marine, the federation recommends that congress promptly pass legislation for the establishment of a shipping board for the building or purchasing of vessels by the government.

Another resolution protests against permitting army and navy bands to play at the Panama-Pacific exposition at San Diego as detrimental to the union musicians.

FAVORS DICK MILITARY LAW

Opposed to Large Standing Army But Approves Citizen Soldiers

SAN FRANCISCO.—The American Federation of Labor unanimously endorsed the Dick military law. It adopted the executive council's report saying: "Our American traditions are wholesomely positive against the maintenance of a large standing army.

"We believe in a small standing army, supplemented by citizen soldiery."

EVILS OF CHILD LABOR SHOWN

BERKELEY, Cal.—There are just 1,990,225 children less than 15 years old working for wages in the United States, said Miss Josephine J. Eschenbrenner, of the national child labor committee. This is a ratio of one child in six, she said, who are kept out of school to make American dollars under fearful industrial conditions. In New York there are 10,000 houses in which sweatshop labor is carried on. This means 120,000 families engaged in this kind of labor in the shadow of the statute of liberty. Other eastern cities are also hotbeds of this sort of industry, while in southern cotton mills conditions are appalling. The morale of whole states full of pure Americans has been lowered through child labor, she declared.

WOULD MAKE BOARD SOLE JUDGE

CHICAGO.—In the teachers' federation injunction proceedings, heard in Judge Sullivan's court, Attorney Shannon for the school board insisted that the board had a right to prohibit teachers joining the union, regardless of whether or not the union was inimical. When Judge O'Connor granted the temporary injunction against the board enforcing its anti-union resolution, the court ruled that the board had not shown that the teachers' federation is inimical to the school system.

Now Attorney Shannon answers, in effect, that this is not necessary, as the board is absolute.

MACHINISTS MAKE GAINS

WASHINGTON.—Officers of the International Association of Machinists publish a report that includes gains made since their last list was issued. It is shown that approximately 16,000 of these workers have secured either the eight-hour day or other substantial reductions in hours, while wage increases play a prominent part in the gains made. About 12,000 other employes have benefited, the machinists say, by their agitation.

Herr Edward Meyer, of Berlin, who in his recent books says America is a nation of degenerates, a nervous sickly race, is hereby turned over for attention to Colonel Roosevelt.—New York Evening Telegram.

We thought those interned German officers were lieutenants, not skippers.—Columbia State.

MILITARISM HIT BY A. F. L.

SOCIALISTS MAKE IT AN ISSUE IN CONVENTION—GERMER LEADS MOVE

SAN FRANCISCO.—Militarism and the administration's preparedness program is an issue in the American Federation of Labor convention.

Socialist delegates promised to introduce a resolution opposing a large standing army and other "unnecessary" increases in the country's military establishment.

"We believe that a large standing army in a republic like ours can easily become a menace to the workers," said Adolph Germer, leader of the radical wing in the convention today. "We will submit a resolution opposing militarism."

One of the administration's pet projects—the McAdoo shipping bill, pavin gthe way for a government merchant marine—wah urged for the convention's approval by President Furuseth, of the International Seamen's union. All resolutions were referred to committee.

Baltimore, St. Louis and Providence are seeking the next convention. Telegrams from these reciting their advantages, were read to the delegates. Baltimore is making the hardest fight.

The routine of the federation promiseo to be interrupted by a heated debate over the expulsion of L. P. Straube, leader of the stereotypers' sympathetic walkout in Chicago at the time a number of union pressmen went on strike there.

The Chicago labor federation defended Straube as an ardent laborite deserving commendation rather than censure and is prepared to carry the fight to the floor of the convention.

TEAMSTERS MAKE GAINS

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—Members of Teamsters' union No. 44, and the city garbage men, are now working eight hours a day with time and one-half for overtime.

STEUBENVILLE, O.—Teamsters have secured the passage of an ordinance which provides for the union rates for drivers employed by the city.

WALKER HEADS LABOR INQUIRY

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The commission recently appointed by Governor Dunne to investigate the causes of unemployment has elected as its chairman President Walker of the state federation of labor.

DOES UNIONISM PAY?

INDIANAPOLIS.—"Does unionism pay?" is answered by Secretary-Treasurer Driscoll, of the Boston Milk Drivers' union, writing in the official magazine of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The Boston drivers organized in October, 1910. At that time wages averaged $13.50 per week for drivers and $18 for route foremen. Today, through organization, drivers receive $19.50 per week and will receive $20 after September 1, 1916. Route foremen receive $20 per week now and will be paid $23 after September 1, next year. A two weeks' vacation with pay during the summer months and a day off every three weeks during the winter months, or 24 days off each year, with pay, are additional proofs of the value of trade unionism.

FACTORY WORKERS IN PERIL

NEW YORK.—Thousands of men and women, working in the upper floors of hundreds of ramshackle buildings in this city, hourly face the peril of death, according to members of the state industrial commission, who are investigating the fatal Diamond candy fire at Brooklyn.

It is impossible, they said, to see that each order for the safeguarding of employes' lives is obeyed. They must depend upon the conscience of the employer to prevent a repetition of such scenes as that when at least twelve girls and men perished at the Diamond fire, and of the Triangle shirt waist factory, when the dead numbered 147.

The New Haven trial is revealing how much worry New England people were saved through what they did not know.—Boston Herald.