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OPEN SHOP SHIPYARD

Saturday afternoon Patrick J. Donohoe called together the prospective employes of the Washington Overseas Marine Construction Company and imparted to them information relating to the manner in which he would conduct the industry.

He said the yard would be run on the open shop plan and that men would be called to work according to the numbers allotted them. These numbers will be published in the daily press.

An employe will be selected according to his ability, the seekers of situations were told, "with the open shop principle advocated as a method of securing practical and efficient workmen."

Then why the numbers printed in the daily press?

Will the numbers be allotted to these workers harum-scarum, or will their efficiency first be tested? Then if a man secure a job and another man comes along with a larger "bunch of efficiency," will the man with a job become jobless and the man with a "big bunch of efficiency" become jobful?

That's about the way the open shop "principle" is worked. Every free-born American citizen who has a right to seek work wherever he can get it will like this.

For the benefit of the job seekers are here printed a few paragraphs from Paul Schassenberg's speech on the open shop:

"Even the beasts of the field in the hour of danger learn the value of sticking together."

"The open shop protects the workingman in his constitutional right to remain defenseless in the face of those who would exploit him."

"The open shop is an attempt to maintain a disorganized element in the midst of a society all the other elements of which are fully organized."

"The organized employer would bargain with the unorganized individual workingman. Even a child could tell who would get the better of such a bargain."

"Law and order would not be altogether in the safest place if left in those hands alone, and when they speak of the open shop they mean nothing but the closed shop—closed to unions and to collective bargaining between employer and employe."

The idea exploiters of labor have that a free American citizen has the right to seek work when and where he pleases sounds good. It sounds just as good to say that the free American citizen has the right to select what men he pleases to fill the public offices. He may have the right but he must enforce it collectively. He cannot do it alone. He has a right to say upon what conditions he works, but if he works for a corporation or firm he cannot exercise that right without the co-operation of his fellow workers. Unless the workers organize for collective bargaining they have no bargaining at all. The employers give them what they wish and no more. There is no bargain, for it takes two to make a bargain.

The will of the people in all democracies is expressed and enforced collectively or not at all. Trade unions are organized upon this principle.

"Trades Unions are the bulwarks of modern democracies."—William E. Gladstone. Would you aid in destroying these bulwarks?

A. J. Allen assumed charge of the yard as foreman.

Mr. Donohoe suspended work in the yard last Monday in honor of the memory of Abraham Lincoln. Give this a thought. Abraham Lincoln believed in and advocated the right of workingmen to organize for the betterment of their working conditions and wages, and thanked God that they had the right to strike to enforce them.

HANGING IS TOO EASY

A few members of the Legislature, excited and enraged at the assassination of Industrial Insurance Commissioner Olson, cry out for revenge and demand the restoration of capital punishment, abolished in this state in 1913. That would make the punishment easier on the murderer. Lifelong imprisonment is infinitely worse than death. It does not take a very vivid imagination to grasp that.

The widow and sister of Mr. Olson thus expressed themselves on this subject:

Mrs. Olson said:

"I hope the Legislature will not pass the bill restoring the death penalty!

"Death is too good for the man who killed my husband!

"He should be made to suffer as I have suffered."

Miss Olson, after expressing herself on the subject, said further:

"He was my brother—he was always opposed to the death penalty. Not long before his death, I remember hearing him tell a friend of his, an attorney, how glad he was that capital punishment had been abolished, and how he hoped that capital punishment would never come back in this state!"

"KING COAL"

Under this title Upton Sincuair has written a novel of absorbing interest, superior to "The Jungle," that story by the same author which stirred the nation as no other work of fiction had before it. "King Coal" like "The Jungle" is more truth than fiction and is intensely interesting and instructive. It is especially recommended to those who earn their bread by the sweat of their brows.

The first two chapters appear in the February number of "The Humanitarian," a magazine that will soften men's hearts and broaden their minds.

WHO PAYS TAXES?

It is in the interest of labor to oppose increased taxes and to favor reduced taxes.

When the question of taxation is under discussion you sometimes hear a workingman say, "What do I care how high the taxes are, I don't pay any."

There are men and women even in this enlightened age who cannot realize that they pay taxes because they are levied indirectly.

You pay taxes when you pay rent, buy clothing, food, or anything else.

Those workers who receive the smallest wages for their labor pay the highest taxes proportionately.

You can easily figure this out when you consider that the landlord adds his taxes, insurance, etc., when he fixes the rent on the house you occupy. The grocer adds the wholesale cost of his goods, his rent, taxes, insurance, etc., when he fixes the prices on his goods. The clothing man, the dry goods man, every dealer who sells you anything does the same.

Then don't say you don't pay taxes. You pay the taxes on the house you rent as long as you live in it.

Then, after all this, you sit supinely by, neglecting the plain duties of citizenship, and allow burdens to be placed upon your shoulders—allow yourselves to be disfranchised—and then kick about bad government.

Kick against high taxes, for you have to pay them. Kick for your rights or you shall not get them.

MOONEY CONVICTED

Tom Mooney was convicted of murder in the first degree. There are three others who will probably be convicted for the alleged commission of the same crime. The wealth and power of the United Railroads and the Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco are backing the prosecution.

The majority of their witnesses were taken from the dregs of society. It is openly charged and generally believed in San Francisco that much of the State's testimony was purchased and that the prosecution hid or spirited away good witnesses for the defense?

Can these things be?

The first witness for the prosecution testified that the explosion of the bomb which killed ten persons occurred in midair. The next day after the attorneys for the prosecution "handled" him he "backed up;" he "revised" his testimony.

When the history of these trials is read the wonder of the reader will be that such things can take place in America.

LINCOLN

Abraham Lincoln's birthday was celebrated throughout the United States last Monday. The great liberator was born in Kentucky on Feb. 12, 1809, and died by the hand of an assassin on April 15, 1865. All Americans revere the name of Lincoln, but too few follow his precepts and example.

Try "BLUE RIBBON" Cigar, 5c.

LESSON FROM ROBERT BURNS

The birthday of Robert Burns occurred on January 25, and many admirers of the poet did honor to his memory on that occasion. This makes it fitting to reproduce a lesson from his life, which Helen Keim has presented in The Public, of New York City.

The story of the Ayreshire Plowman is gripping enough to be well known. His skimped existence as a peasant farmer's son, his unavailing struggle to rise above drudgery that yielded but an insufficient pittance, his constant labor to provide for his own family, and finally, spirit and body broken, his passing away in what should have been the prime of his manhood—this is the bleak outline of Burns' life. His genius, flashing meteor-like, would have glowed for many more years, if it had not been suppressed by the unnatural law of poverty. And after he was gone, each man blamed his richer neighbor because he had not lightened the burden so that the great poet might have lived and sung on.

Yet, Burns would have refused charity. Keener visioned than his compatriots, he sighted the canker in the social system, altho he did not, perhaps, perceive its remedy. Referring to a farmer, a mutual acquaintance of himself and Mrs. Dunlop, he wrote to her September 24, 1792:

"I cannot say that I give him joy of his life as a farmer. 'Tis, as a farmer paying a dear, unconscionable rent, a cursed life! As to a laird farming his own property, sowing his own corn in hope, and reaping it in spite of brittle weather, in gladness; knowing that none can say unto him, "What dost thou?" Fattening his herds, shearing his flocks; * * * 'tis a heavenly life! but Devil take the life of reaping the fruits that another must eat."

Today over a century later, we are still trying to gloss over poverty by charity, instead of removing its cause and dragging it out by the roots. Each man, laying the blame upon his richer brother, soothes his conscience, and poverty continues to thrive.

We have a repair shop in connection with store and have an expert repair man in charge of same. We make a specialty of repairing motorcycles, bicycles, typewriters, cash registers, guns and revolvers. We also do lock, safe and key work. Telephone and we will call for your work and return same when repaired at Arthur A. Baily's Sporting Goods and Hardware Store. Both Phones 75.

VALUABLE VOLUMES OF TESTIMONY

(By Dante Barton)

There has just been issued from the Government Printing Office in Washington the completed volumes of the Testimony submitted to Congress by the United Commission on Industrial Relations of which Frank P. Walsh was chairman.

One of the first of the important industrial acts of the Wilson administration was the appointment by President Wilson of this Industrial Relations Commission with the following membership selected by him. Frank P. Walsh of Missouri, Chairman; John R. Commons of Wisconsin and Mrs. J. Borden Harriman of New York, representing the general public; John B. Lennon of Illinois, James O'Connell of Washington, D. C. and Austin B. Garretson of Iowa, representing organized labor; and Frederrick A. Delano of Illinois; Harris Weinstock of California and S. Thruston Ballard of Kentucky, representing employers. Upon the resignation of Mr. Delano, to accept a place on the Federal Reserve Board, the President named Richard H. Aishton, of Illinois, who finished out the term.

When the European War was in its beginning and at its height of public interest the news of it was shared on the front pages of all the daily newspapers throughout the country by the news of the hearings conducted by the Walsh commission. Of such tremendous importance were the facts brought out by the commission, so thorough, so inclusive of all phases of the national life and so all embracing in the character and interests of its witnesses were the hearings that the proceedings of the commission were as vital and absorbing of the public interest as was the contemporary news of the greatest world conflict in history.

Here now, in the published volumes of the verbatim testimony, questions and exhibits, is an encyclopedia of the industrial, economic and political life of the American people in their present cycle of development.

The inspiration of public demand and of public knowledge, out of which grew the chief acts of the Wilson administration for greater industrial justice, was in these hearings of the Industrial Relations Commission. It is impossible to understand not only the economic policy of the national government of this period but the very spirit and temper and drift of the industrial United States without linking them up with the searching investigations of the Commission.

It is an incidental tribute to the living character of the work performed that members of the British Government's "Committee on Commerce and Industry" to reconstruct British trade and industrial organization during and after the war (The Reconstruction Committee it is called) have sent urgent requests to the Committee on Industrial Relations for sets of the Testimony to aid in the study and solution of Great Britain's problems.

The quality of the Commission's inquiries which distinguished it particularly was its assurance to workers and to the economically least fortunate that the full power of the Federal government would be used to uncover injustice and iniquity rather than to cover them or apologize for them. The "judicial poise" which would balance one interest and view-viewpoint, and thus produce a vacuum of non-understanding and inaction, was expressed discarded by Chairman Walsh. While a chief support was given to Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Garretson, there was a general prevailing and notable harmony among all the Commission as to the course the inquiries should take and as to the conduct of the hearings. For the fundamental and searching thoroughness of the Commission's hearings great credit has been given by all the members of the Commission to Basil M. Manly, who worked to the front as director of research and investigation for the Commission and who prepared and directed the most important of the hearings.

In these eleven volumes of testimony and exhibits are presented the direct testimony of the chief or the representative actors in all the industrial disputes and in all the industrial life of the United States. The opinions and viewpoints, consciously or unconsciously exposed, of those same actors in the industrial drama are presented and preserved as are the arguments and points of view of representative commentators upon, and critics of, industrial relations. The whole range of industrial problems and facts, from the Colorado Coal Strike to the tenant land situation in Texas, from the influence of enormous "Foundations" to the effect of collective barganing among workers, from the comfortable ignorance of industrial problems enveloping John Pierpont Morgan, Jr. to the uncomfortable knowledge of them penetrating the young sweatshop mother, Mary Minora,—all is coved in these volumes recording the inquiries and work of the Commission. No brief or reasonably lengthy review of this vital document could enumerate its disclosures even in dictionary fashion.

The hearings there recorded, and made a living presentation of American industrial life, were held in the following cities: Washington, New York, Paterson, Philadepphia, Boston, Chicago, Lead (S. Dak) Butte, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Denver and Dallas. Of witnesses affiliated with employers there were 230, of those affiliated with labor there were 245; and "the general public" was representated by 265 witnesses.

In response to a tremendous demand of libraries, publicists, writers, workers and labor organizations, agricultural groups and citizens generally and from the press in all parts of the country, Congress, without a recorded dissenting vote, authorized the printing and distribution of these eleven volumes of testimony and exhibits and also of the final report of the Commission. But the resolution for printing provided for only 10,000 sets of the testimony, all allotted among members of the House and Senate, each Senator getting only 25 sets and each Representative only 16. This supply does not at all meet the demand. A great pressure is already bearing upon Congress to get out a new and larger edition both of the testimony and of the final report. These later editions, which would be printed from the plates already set up, would cost a comparatively insignificant sum.

COMPULSORY SERVICE BILL IS INTRODUCED

The preparedness proposition of universal military training last Saturday took shape in the U. S. Senate in the introduction of a bill by the Senate military committee, the provisions of which are epitomized as follows:

The bill, as submitted to the Senate, is said to be not unlike the measure being prepared by a group of general staff officers under direction of Major Gen. Scott, which will be presented to the president and afterwards probably used by the house military committee.

The Chamberlain bill provides that no person shall be compelled to undergo the six months training after reaching the age of 26.

Those exempt from military service are members of permanent military and naval forces of the U. S., those physically unfit for naval or military service, persons on whose earnings a father, mother, brother, sister, wife or child is wholly dependent for support.

Re-examine Physically Weak

Those exempt because of physical disability and the dependency clause are subject to re-examination at periods to be fixed by regulation.

The bill provides that members of religious sects whose orders forbid members to bear arms in war shall be trained in non-combatant branches of the military or naval service; persons convicted of felonies are to be trained in special units. Credit of one month is to be given any person who has completed a course in military or naval instruction, approved by the secretary of war or the secretary of the navy, these credits to be applied to the training period only.

Train or Lose Jobs

Certificates are to be issued to those exempted and to those completing the training course.

Employment of persons up to the age of 26 without these certificates is prohibited.

At the time of registering for training, applicants are permitted to state in which branch of the naval or military service they wish to be trained. In emergencies, the president can again assign a proportion of recruits as he sees fit to either the naval or military branch.

The reserves are to be called out by the president only in case of a defensive war or "imminent danger of a defensive war."

No Strike Duty

The reserves are not to be used in case of strikes or other industrial disputes. Regular army and navy officers are to act as instructors in training camps.

Employers are prohibited from discharging or reducing the wages of employes required to enter the training camps.

The bill also provides that no intoxicating spiritous liquors shall be sold to any member of the military or the navy forces of the U. S. while in uniform.

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