THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.

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hatters in the name of the D. E. Loewe Company, hat manufacturers of Danbury, Connecticut.

The court sustained the position that the Sherman Antitrust law applied to the personal attributes and normal activities of human beings. They held to the theory that there was no distinction between the labor power of human beings on the one hand and articles or commodities on the other—articles of commodities which men sought to control and manipulate through trusts. This decision threatened the very existence of voluntary associated effort—the effort of the organized workers to carry out the normal purposes for which they were organized; that is, to improve standards of life and work, wages, hours and conditions of employment. Such activities of the workers were, by the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, regarded as liable to all the civil and criminal penalties under the Antitrust laws of the United States. In other words, the Sherman Antitrust law, enacted to curb the stupidity and machinations of the combinations of wealthy owners, was to be applied to the voluntary organization of the workers instituted for beneficent purposes and the welfare of human beings.

The decision in this case, which is known as Loewe vs. Lawlor, declared that the damages were $80,000 which, under the provisions of the Sherman Antitrust Act were tripled, and together with the costs of the case and the interest, made a total sum of over $300,000, which the Danbury Hatters must pay D. E. Loewe and Company.

Mr. Charles Evans Hughes was a Justice of the United States Supreme Court at the time this decision was rendered, and he concurred in the decision.

The last decision in this case, although it is brief, reaffirms all that the Court declared in their 1908 opinion.

There is another opinion of the United States Supreme Court, written by Justice Hughes, which throws light upon his attitude upon this principle, which is of fundamental importance to the workers of the country. It is his opinion in the case of Truax vs. Raich, a case which involved the constitutionality of the Arizona anti-alien law. Under that law all employers of Arizona who employed more than five workers were forbidden to employ less than 80 per cent who were qualified electors or native born citizens of the United States. In that decision Justice Hughes took the position that the injunctive process applied to personal relations.

Justice Hughes on that occasion and in that decision made more definite his endorsement of the theory that injunctions apply to personal relations.

Mr. Hughes has taken an unequivocal position. He endorses the abuse of the writ of injunction against which wage-earners have vigorously protested, and which they have tried to correct by remedial legislation in order that they might enjoy the rights and opportunities of free citizens.

The above is accurately the information for which you asked and we take it that it will be of importance to you, as well as to the working people and liberty-loving citizens all over the country, in enabling them to understand the mental attitude and the action of both both President Woodrow Wilson and Honorable Charles Evans Hughes who are now candidates for the Presidency of the United States.

Fraternally yours,

SAM'L GOMPERS,
President.
JAS. O'CONNELL,
Vice-President.
FRANK MORRISON,
Secretary.

Labor Representation Committee
American Federation of Labor.

RIGHT TO QUIT WORK MUST NOT BE DENIED

Washington, D. C.—In a letter to the four railroad brotherhood executives, President Gompers calls attention to the action of the A. F. of L. Executive Council in extending fraternal greetings and support of the trade union movement to train service men in their attempt to reduce hours.

Hints of compulsory arbitration, made by opponents of the railroad employes, is replied to by President Gompers:

"While a strike involves temporary inconveniences which affect many, free workers can not be denied the right to quit work—the right to strike in furtherance of demands which concern their manhood and their interests.

"It is a fundamental principle of freedom that no one shall be forced into involuntary servitude, that is, into work against his will. This fundamental principle of freedom must be maintained at all hazards. It must not be minimized under any guise, whether compulsory arbitration or in the name of public welfare.

"The welfare of the whole nation, the maintenance of our republican form of government and our institutions of freedom depend upon this fundamental—the right of a free man to control himself and his labor power.

"It is the sincere desire of the American Federation of Labor that the railway brotherhoods shall secure the eight-hour work day, an accomplishment which will mean opportunities for better living and better citizenship."

TROMEY'S FLOWER SHOPS

Now Owned by Irwin F. Gebhardt, An Old Friend of Labor.

We take pleasure in announcing to the many friends of Irwin F. Gebhardt, identified with the various labor organizations in this vicinity, that he has taken over the business known as Tromey's Flower Shops, 921 Vine street and 1713 Vine street, at which locations he will be glad to serve your wants in his particular line. His personal reputation is of the highest standard and you can rest assured that you can secure an honest deal from him at all times. We wish him unlimited success in his new undertaking.

Jos. T. Humphreys,
Marshal Painters' District Council.

LABOR IS NOT SCARCE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver, B. C.—President Cunningham of the B. C. Manufacturers' Association is alarmed at what he terms a scarcity of labor, and predicts that business men will be compelled to use Orientals as a last resort.

The B. C. Federationist, official paper of the local trade union movement, refers to Mr. Cunningham's statement as "a squak of alarm," because workers are accepting employment in the harvest fields, rather than in low-wage shops.

The threat to use Oriental labor, as a last resort, is referred to as follows:

"It has been the habit with most of them to use such as a first resort, rather than a last, and the departure from such long-established custom may be considered by Mr. Cunningham as a most dangerous innovation.

"The reason for the alram of the manufacturers lies in the fact that if the removal of workers from the province continues, the point will eventually be reached when the employers here will be forced to advance the wages to the same 'fabulous' figures offered elsewhere. That several hundred offered themselves here in Vancouver for service in the grain fields of the middle provinces affords ample proof that there is still a surplus of labor upon the market of British Columbia. That there is a continual procession of workers returning to Vancouver after escaping from the various mining, lumbering, paper-making and other slave pens of the province, rather tends to dispose of all pretense that labor conditions are such as to present a pleasant and perfumed pathway to the dignified and honest sons of toil. Either that or pleasure and sweet perfume hath no attraction for these disciples of sweat."

TO MEET AT COLORADO SPRINGS

Baltimore.—Colorado Springs was chosen as the next convention city by the International Typographical Union.

Proposals to increase the death and pension benefits were defeated, as was a resolution providing that one vice-president should be elected from Canada.

A proposal to increase the salaries of the president and secretary-treasurer was approved and will be submitted to the referendum. A resolution to draw the color line was defeated by a large vote. The executive council was instructed to lend its aid to the movement for the erection of a suitable memorial to Ottmar Mergenthaler, inventor of the linotype machine, and whose home was in this city. Attempts to change the priority law and the six-day law failed. The executive council was instructed to inquire into the feasibility of erecting an office building for the union to be named in honor of the late William B. Prescott. The apprentice question was given much consideration and a report on this subject will be submitted to affiliates.

Musk Deer.

Musk is obtained from a sort of gland or pouch of the male musk deer, and it is secreted only during certain seasons of the year. The musk deer is a small animal, seldom more than three feet long and twenty-two inches in height. It is becoming more and more scarce every year and at the present rate will eventually become extinct.

THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE IS ROTTEN.

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slayer of Bauerle, unionist, was bound over to the grand jury under $5,000 bond. *No indictment.*

Carr, Baldwin, Martin, Fenton, Albers, all non-union riggers, and numerous others, who brazenly admitted that they carried guns and that they had fired them at union riggers, were bound over to the grand jury by Judge Bell, all under bond. *To date no indictments; Carr's case ignored.*

Now let's look at the other side: John Holmes, union rigger, who fired at Carr, Baldwin, Fenton and others, in defense of his mother, the target for the shooting non-union riggers, was bound over to the grand jury on two charges—assault and battery and shooting with intent to kill. INDICTMENTS IN BOTH CASES! How easy!

Louis D. Hurtig is the attorney that all these strike-breakers call for the minute they are arrested.

Louis Fernberg, assistant prosecutor also, with the right to present cases to the Grand Jury, is Attorney Hurtig's partner. Hurtig represents all the non-union riggers, his father signs all the bonds for them, and no doubt Fernberg feels embarrassed whenever he has to prosecute his partner, Hurtig's clients. Fernberg is no doubt very glad that none of them have been indicted so far, because he would have felt very bad to have prosecuted a man who had paid his partner a fee. Tough luck!

Wonder what will hapepn to the non-union rigger, who Fenton admits shooting, Oscian Drake?

These non-union riggers have been going through the streets of Cincinnati armed to the teeth, shooting at strikers and at innocent bystanders alike, and the police claim they can do nothing! Is it any wonder that strikes are accompanied by violence? Who controls the police department of the city of Cincinnati to the extent that they dare not make arrests for carrying concealed weapons?

These are questions which will be asked at every political meeting in this city. And they will have to be answered.

In the meantime union labor should make up its mind to vote against Jno. V. Campbell, and not be swayed in its purpose by any party ties.

8-HOUR DAY FAVORED BY PRESIDENT WILSON

Washington, D. C.—In the controversy between railroad managers and their train service employes, who ask for eight hours at present pay and extra pay for overtime, President Wilson, after hearing both sides, said that "the eight-hour day now undoubtedly has the sanction of the judgment of society in its favor and should be adopted as a basis for wages even where the actual work to be done can not be completed within eight hours."

This statement means, in effect, that the principle of the eight-hour day is so thoroughly accepted that it should no longer be considered a question for arbitration.

The ruling has enraged the railroad managers and penny-a-liners, who charge the President with rejecting the principle of arbitration, entirely overlooking the fact that he heard both sides and that he favors arbitration on the question of overtime and related questions.

Opponents of the President's position also ignore this statement by him:

"The railroads which have already adopted the eight-hour day do not seem to be at any serious disadvantage in respect of their cost of operation, as compared with the railroads that have retained a ten-hour day, and calculations as to the cost of the change must, if made now, be made without regard to any possible adminstration economics or readjustments."

It is further recommended that investigators be appointed to observe and report to Congress on the workings of this plan, but no recommendations should be made to the end that "it should be entirely open to either or both parties to the present controversy to give notice of a termination of the present agreements with a view to instituting inquiries into suggested readjustment of pay or practice."

SENATE PASSES SHIP BILL.

Washington, D. C.—The Senate has passed the bill authorizing the Government to purchase or build merchant ships "for the purpose of encouraging, developing and creating a naval auxiliary and naval reserve and merchant marine to meet the requirements of the United States." The bill was approved by the House last spring and will now go to conference because of several Senate amendments. Under the bill a shipping board is created and $50,000,000 appropriated, to be raised by the sale of Panama Canal bonds.

FARMERS AND UNIONISTS UNITE

Birmingham, Ala.—Trade unionists and members of the railroad brotherhoods attended a banquet given in honor of the convention of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of Alabama, held in this city. Speakers representing the three movements urged closer unity and exchanged fraternal greetings.

NEW COMPENSATION AWARD.

Easton, Pa.—The Workmen's Compensation Board has rendered a far-reaching opinion in the case of a plasterer who fell from a ladder and was injured while employed on a building being erected by Mrs. Ida Groner, who had failed to insure against accident to the workman. A decision by the referee was in favor of the defendant, but this was overruled by the Compensation Board, who ordered that Mrs. Groner pay the plasterers' medical and hospital bills and $8.80 per week to him until a total of $1,540 is paid.