

TRADE UNIONS WILL MAKE WAR STAMP DRIVE LABOR DAY

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UNION LABOR NOMINATES W. L. CARSS FOR CONGRESS

SHIPPING BOARD FORCES LAKE CARRIERS TO YIELD

Old "Open Shop" Marine Crowd Busy Explaining, But Government Calls Turn and Pass Book and "Hellfare" Plans Must

A clean-cut victory has been scored by the Sailors and the Marine Firemen's Union of the Great Lakes, over the Carriers' association.

The Carriers' association and its members have been compelled to sign the agreement of co-operation between organized seamen, the government and the shipowners of the United States, embodied in the "Nation's Appeal For Men to Man the Merchant Ships."

Been Busy Explaining.

The Lake Carrier's association has been busy during the week explaining its attitude to the public by means of paid advertisements in the daily newspapers, but the government insists that the union must be dealt with and the welfare pass books and the anti-union welfare system established by the carriers must go.

Training of men on the Great Lakes for service on the government overseas merchant fleet is assured, thus ending the long opposition of the carriers to the plan agreed upon by the shipowners on the gulf and the Atlantic.

Wage and overtime questions are submitted to arbitration. The carriers discover that they are powerless to maintain their stand against having any negotiations or dealings with the unions.

Sailors Stood Ready.

The strike, set for July 29, at every port on the lakes, and involving from 10,000 to 15,000 men, was called off. A large number of sailors in ports not reached quickly enough by the telegram calling off the strike went out. These had to be notified by long-distance telephone from Washington that they should go back to work. The fight was won without losses.

This proposed strike of the Great Lakes sailors and firemen was called off once before—in October of last year—in order that the government might try to bring the Carriers' association into line with the rest of the country. The government failed. A few days ago, when Chairman Hurley of the shipping board, in the name of Commissioner Stevens of the shipping board, who has always and the labor side of the shipping board's work, issued a statement indicating a very serious ignorance of the facts, and declaring that there was no good cause for the strike, he was sharply answered in a public letter by Victor A. Olander, secretary of the Lake Sailors' union and member of the war labor board. Olander showed that the strike had been called for the purpose of compelling the carriers to obey the decision of the shipping board, the labor department, the Atlantic and gulf ship-owners and the organized seamen, to co-operate in training the men for the nation's merchant fleet, necessary to the winning of the war. He showed that the lake carriers were the one rebellious element in the situation.

CANADA MOVES TO END STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS

New War Labor Policy Adopted Is Admonitory Rather Than Mandatory.

What happened afterward is partly old in this telegram, sent out to all lake ports by Olander and the general strike committee:

"The United States shipping board took action this afternoon that makes possible for the seamen on the Great Lakes to obtain a complete adjustment of the controversy without resorting to a strike. The shipping board has sent the following order to the Lake Carriers' association and

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BOARD EXPOSES HUN FALSEHOOD

Statistics Report That More Men Are Killed Shipbuilding Than in Trenches.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—The United States shipping board denies today the effect that more men are being killed and injured in shipyards than are being killed and injured in the trenches. It is declared at this is "a new and insidious form of German propaganda."

The board shows that the Hog Island shipyard near Philadelphia, employing an average force of 20,497 during the month of May, had 107 accidents, which gives a frequency rate of 6, as compared to the rate of 21.8 for the period from 1912 to 1916. The latter figures are taken from the department of labor statistics, which show that the accident rate in shipyards from 1912 to 1916 were approximately 21.8 for every 1,000 men employed.

The board says that the Hog Island shipyard, which have been built and organized from nothing, seem to be a fair example of the attention which is being given accident prevention.

It is stated that the percentage of accidents is constantly decreasing and prediction is made that within the next few months, the yards will be showing a lower rate than the most modern private industrial institution.

Decrease in German Berth Rate Spells Defeat For Kaiser

Proof that the foundations of the central powers are crumbling and that the morale of their civilian population cannot withstand the ravages of war more than two years longer, is disclosed by Dr. Raymond Pearl, statistician of the food administration. Through comparison of data gathered by agents of the allied governments and the United States, scientists have established the following conclusions:

The net decrease in birth rate in 1917 was 48 per cent in Germany and 54 per cent in Hungary.

The net decrease in England and France was 24 per cent.

Germany's loss in population was 40,000 per 1,000,000. Hungary's 70,000 per 1,000,000 and England's 10,000 per 1,000,000.

The marriage rate in England showed a marked increase, but the rate in the central powers declined sharply.

A great decrease in the mortality rate in England, coupled with the increase marriage rate, will result in a net increase in population in the British Isles as a result of the war.

War greatly increases the death rate among all persons of 70 years or over, owing to worry and nervous excitement.

The marriage rate of any country is the surest indication of the morale of the nation.

GEORGIA COURT FAVORS NICE LITTLE TRADE UNION

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 1.—Superior Court Judge Pendleton believes that trade unions should be nice little family affairs which no law-wage employer could object to.

In issuing an injunction against officers of the Textile Workers' union the honored court took occasion to express his views on the "ideal" labor union, which, he said, was an organization of mill employees, strictly among themselves, without affiliation with national bodies. Lest a bona fide trade union of textile workers be formed he ordered that all attempts to organize these mills without the owners' consent cease forthwith, and that no employee, present or future, be induced to leave his present employment on the promise of better conditions.

In establishments where union shops exist by agreement, it is advised that they continue so to do. In open shops the employment of non-union labor is not to be construed by union employees as a grievance.

(Special to The Labor World.)

OTTAWA, Can., Aug. 1.—The government, in view of the prevalence of labor disputes in the Dominion, has laid down a war labor policy, which it desires shall be followed by employers and employees so long as the war shall last. The recommendations are admonitory rather than mandatory.

The policy lays it down that there shall be no strikes or lockouts in war time. It concedes the right of labor to form unions, and of employers to form associations.

In establishments where union shops exist by agreement, it is advised that they continue so to do. In open shops the employment of non-union labor is not to be construed by union employees as a grievance.

Equal Pay For Women.

In the fixing of wages, minimum rates of pay should be arranged for. Where women are doing work ordinarily done by men they should, says the government, receive the same wages.

In the case of war industries, the maximum output should be sought and any method of labor which will militate against this should be discouraged.

When an agreement as to wages and so forth has been reached between employer and employee, both should agree to its continuance for the period of the war, subject only to such changes as may be necessary on account of the increased cost of living.

The memorandum lays it down that when employers and employees fail to agree recourse be had to conciliation through the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act.

May Appeal Findings.

In case of failure to agree upon the findings of the Board of Conciliation, it is stipulated that the finding be submitted to a board of appeal on which there shall be represented the trades and labor congress, the two parties in the dispute, and the Canadian Manufacturers' association, together with a chairman to be chosen by these. This board shall review the evidence and the findings of the Board of Conciliation, together with any further evidence which either of the parties desires to submit and the findings of the board of appeal shall be final.

The recommendations have been approved by the Governor-General and the council.

CONGRESS SLIPS MAXIMUM WAGE CLAUSE IN BILL

Employers Take Advantage of Joker in Law and Hold Up Negotiations.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—Into a section of the sundry civil appropriations bill granting \$5,500,000 for the United States employment service, the senate slipped this joker:

"Provided, That no money now or hereafter appropriated for the payment of wages not fixed by statute shall be available to pay wages in excess of the standard determined upon by the war labor policies board." The language has now become law.

The labor department is trying to find out how broad a maximum wage law has been enacted by this brief sentence. The words clearly do not apply to this one paragraph. They apply to all "money now or hereafter appropriated for the payment of wages not fixed by statute." That seems to cover the wages paid in every plant run by the government outside the wages especially fixed by act of congress, where congress votes funds for wages. It will require a good deal of legal study to determine how much of a mess the senate has created by thus fixing a maximum for wages in certain plants.

Play Waiting Game.

The war labor policies board has not fixed any standards, because it waits to approve of the standards now being determined by the one body which speaks for workers and employers—the national war labor board. The government cannot fairly set standards below those upon which the employers and workers' representatives shall agree. Nevertheless, employers have been notified of this peculiar enactment, by their lookouts here, with the result that negotiations for the settlement of labor disputes have in some instances been broken off by the employers "until we hear from Washington about what we can pay."

It is only fair to the head of the war labor policies board, Felix Frankfurter, to say that he did not ask Senator Underwood to slip this joker into the bill and get it passed by congress. Frankfurter has no desire to attempt maximum wage legislation when the cost of living is steadily going higher.

U. S. War Labor Board Denies Wild Reports About Wage Changes

The national war labor board has contradicted reports circulated among workers in war industries, particularly in the east, that the war labor policies board had made it impossible to change wage rates or working conditions pending standardization of pay and conditions by that body.

The war labor policies board has notified representatives of Bridgeport, Conn., workers that it is in accord with the general principles and policies adopted by the national war labor board which have been approved by President Wilson.

In a statement issued by the national war labor board it is stated that this announcement commits the war labor policies to the following principles now well understood throughout industry: The right of workers to organize and bargain collectively. Equal pay for equal work. Recognition of the basic eight-hour day.

Maintenance of the maximum of production.

Due regard for the labor standards, wage scales and other conditions in particular localities in fixing wages, hours and conditions of labor.

The right of all workers to a living wage and insuring the subsistence of each worker and his family in health and reasonable comfort.

SHIP OWNERS STRANGLE BEST IN SEAMEN'S ACT

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 1.—The Seamen's Journal says that if our courts continue strangling the beneficent features of the seamen's act, the American ship owner will find himself up against the old disadvantageous conditions which confronted him before the war and American seamen will again desert a calling which seeks to drive them to the level of a Chinese coolie.

"Let the seamen's act be understood and enforced and there will be no difference in the wages of seamen and there will be no desertions except of a few individuals, who for some reason can not get along in that particular vessel, while they can get along in any other vessel. The American man and the American dollar will both come to the sea and the great merchant fleet now being launched, will remain under the Stars and Stripes."

ABLE, PATRIOTIC MAN IS NAMED TO OPPOSE MILLER

Nearly 100 Delegates Representing Organizations From Every Section of District Meet At Duluth and Unanimously Agree on Candidate.

Organized labor of the Eighth congressional district will in this campaign be represented in the political activities of this part of the country as a result of action taken last Sunday afternoon at the congressional convention held at Owls' hall under the auspices of the Duluth Federated Trades assembly. At that time W. L. Carss, a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers of Proctor was formally nominated to make the race for congress against the present incumbent, C. B. Miller.

Large Delegation Present.

The convention was called to order at 2:30 p. m. by Joel Lichten, temporary chairman, with 76 accredited delegates in attendance from all parts of the district.

After reading the call, the convention perfected its organization by electing John E. Jensen of the Duluth Painters' union as permanent chairman, and Julius J. Anderson of the Duluth Typographical union, as secretary.

Reading of credentials disclosed the fact that 100 delegates were entitled to seats in the convention, of whom 76 answered the roll call.

Favor Political Action.

A question as to the advisability of taking part in politics at this time was raised by one delegate, whereupon the following resolution was introduced by Samuel Thomas of Proctor, and adopted by the unanimous vote of the convention:

"Resolved, That this convention of organized labor is of the opinion that the time has arrived when labor should be represented on all governing bodies, including the United States senate and house of representatives, state legislature and all local governments."

"Resolved further, That candidates approved by labor must be and remain, bonafide members of their trade union organizations."

Three Committees Named.

With the scope of the convention's work and its attitude clearly defined, the meeting selected the following committee to consider suitable candidates to be placed in nomination for the office of congressman in the Eighth district:

N. A. Gray, Two Harbors; Joel Lichten, Duluth; Samuel Thomas, Proctor; A. G. Catlin, Duluth; E. W. Griffin, Duluth; F. E. Howell, Proctor; Theo. Harris, Duluth; Elling Munkby, Duluth; Peter Marandaw, Duluth; W. R. Herron, International Falls; Robert Sermon, Duluth; O. L. Langan, Duluth; C. T. Cleveland, Cloquet.

The committee on drafting a platform was constituted as follows:

J. Bogan, Duluth; W. T. Hiller, Two Harbors; John A. Johnson, Duluth; Wm. J. Farmer, Duluth; Chas. Vedeen, Eveleth; Thos. Kinshella, International Falls; Wm. Murnan, Duluth; A. J. Cloutier, Duluth; C. H. Christensen, Hibbing; J. J. Anderson, Duluth; E. R. Backstrom, Duluth; E. F. Langan, Duluth; Samuel Thomas, Proctor.

To determine on ways and means for financing the campaign, the convention selected the following committee:

E. W. Griffin, Duluth; W. F. Marcenau, Duluth; Geo. Glen, Duluth; M. J. Phillips, Duluth; Ed Adams, Duluth; C. A. Peterson, Duluth; Richard

Words Are Welcome.

"The principal journals, both of London and of the provincial press, have stated that they welcome the emphatic words in which the Prime Minister declared that the Kaiser might have peace tomorrow if he would but accept President Wilson's formula for the future government of the world."

"It is generally felt that if the Allied statesmen could make as clear to the German people as President Wilson has made it throughout the war, and as Mr. Churchill did in such striking language on Independence Day, that Germany's existence as an organized state would be as safe in the hands of a league of nations as the existence of Great Britain and the United States, the war might be shortened by months if not by years."

"Even the most extreme pacifist press has nothing worse to say of the announcement of the Prime Minister than that it was belated, and that had it been made last year, the opportunity of making peace—an opportunity which exists wholly in the minds of the peace at any price press—might not have been lost."

Labor Approves Of It.

"But it may be said without exaggeration that the general mass of the working classes of this country, while there has been no definite statement to that effect, have tacitly approved the statements of the Prime Minister since the announcement of the war aims by the Prime Minister in January last, closely followed by the announcement of President Wilson."

"The subject has been to a large extent regarded as one upon which all reasonable men were agreed. If the Central Powers will only state that they are prepared to meet this triple announcement of war aims which are held by the entente countries, then at least the end of the war might be said to be clearly in sight."

The Labor World is endeavoring to render invaluable service to the workers by keeping them informed as to the vital problems affecting their welfare. The labor press must be supported by the workers—therefore YOU ought to subscribe—\$1 a year.

REGISTERED
SOCIALIST

MEN'S SUITS \$50; WILSON SAYS NO!

Middlemen Speculating in Cloth Spring Up to Join in War Profiteering Game.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—The price of men's winter suits is on the gallop toward a minimum of \$50. However, the woollen section of the war industries board has its feet braced against the dashboard and is yelling "whoa" at the top of its lungs.

"Profiteering is the only cause for the flurry," said H. E. Peabody, chairman of the section. "Outsiders have jumped into the market and are speculating in cloth. If we can eliminate them and keep business in its normal course, there should be little increase in price to the consumer."

Since there is no provision for criminal prosecution of the profiteers, the only force that can be used is moral suasion and public opinion. Where there would be cloth enough under its normal movement from the manufacturer, piece goods brokers have insinuated themselves as middlemen. They went to the garment manufacturer who had a carload coming from the mills and offered him a fancy price to turn the shipment over to them. And now they're sitting back with the goods in storage, waiting for the pinch in the supply that's sure to come if their purchases are held out of the market long enough.