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FORTY-TWO STATES ADOPT COMPENSATION LAW

UNION LABOR TAKES STEPS TO OPPOSE SIX-CENT ORDINANCE

Federated Trades Assembly at Special Meeting Hears Street Railway Issue Discussed and Appoints Committee to Contest Action of City Council; Believes Charter Is Violated.

The Federated Trades assembly has by unanimous vote declared against the six-cent ordinance.

The delegates are convinced that provisions of the city charter dealing with franchises and the referendum have been ignored and violated by the city council.

A committee of 10, consisting of John E. Jensen, Henry Perreault, Elling Munkeby, Henry L. Morin, George B. Cooke, John A. Barron, Ernest R. Rickard, A. G. Catlin, P. F. Demore and W. E. McEwen will consult attorneys on a proposition to carry the case into the courts and test the legality of the call for the election.

It was decided upon at a special meeting of the assembly held at Owl hall Wednesday evening. It was one of the largest meetings of the assembly held in recent years, more than 100 delegates and visitors being in attendance. President John E. Jensen presided.

H. W. Cheadle speaks in favor of ordinance.

H. W. Cheadle of the Duluth Realtors' association was present and addressed the delegates and visitors in behalf of the ordinance. He was given respectful attention. It was due him, Mr. Cheadle as a state senator was a mighty good friend of labor. At the conclusion of the meeting he was given a rising vote of thanks for the fair and frank manner in which he presented the side of the street railway company.

"The Real Estate exchange," said Mr. Cheadle, "is interested in the passage of the six-cent ordinance because we believe the city's growth and prosperity depend upon good street car service and the building of extensions.

"The Real Estate exchange is bound to no special interest. We inaugurated the fight against the steel interests for the abolition of the 'Pittsburg Plus' system of basing steel prices. We began the deep waterway movement. We believe that good street railway service is necessary to the city.

"I have looked into this question very thoroughly and I am convinced the street railway company cannot function on a five-cent fare. I sat in on the draft of this ordinance and I believe it to be a fair and equitable to the company and the city. It does not remain in force longer than two years. It provides for the regulation of service and for making necessary public improvements.

Can It Be Done?
"The whole question is, can the company do these things on a five-cent fare? Every city but two in the north in Duluth's class has granted higher fares to traction companies, running from 6 to 10 cents. I believe it is the duty of the people to come to the relief of the company which is not making any money on a five-cent fare."

When Mr. Cheadle concluded Commissioner P. G. Phillips was invited to address the assembly. "The proposed six-cent ordinance," declared Mr. Phillips, "is a tax on wage earners and their wives and children. I don't believe the company needs the money. They have never come clean to the city. They are always holding something back.

Where's That Report?
"What became of the report of the experts they employed some months ago to go over their books?" asked Mr. Phillips. "The city has never heard from them. We haven't any authentic information on the finances or condition of the company. Its officers say that they need more than five cents. Its president declares six cents is not enough. All we have is their word for it. If they were on the level they would lay all their cards on the table, and we would be fair enough to give them a square deal.

"They are and have been holding out on the city. Over in Wisconsin this company is doing business. Its rates may be changed by the state railroad commission. Why is it, if the company has such a good case, that the Wisconsin commission has not authorized the six-cent fare in Superior?"

Took All the Fat.
"I'll tell you why. This company in 10 years has paid more than the amount of its capital stock in dividends. It took all of the fat when business was good and now when earnings are lean they want us to pay them more money.

"During those fat years the city asked the company to issue six tickets for a quarter. It wanted school children carried for half fare. It was paying good dividends in those days, but it refused the request of the city, holding that the franchise would not permit them to carry people for less than five cents. It was then held that the franchise could not be amended.

"Now it is different. Oh yes, the franchise can be amended now in the interest of the company, but it could not have been in the interest of the city. If there is any attempt to investigate the financial condition of the street railway company I am in favor of going over its books from the beginning.

Is Bad With People.
"And finally, the company is bad with the people. It has had everything its own way for so long that it does not know how to please them now. Mr. Warren, the manager, is out of touch with the people. If he were out of the way and a more sympathetic man was put in his place 90 per cent of the grievances against the company would fade away."

W. E. McEwen was the next speaker. He attacked the validity of the special election. The substance (Continued on Page Two)

EX-SERVICE MEN WARN THUGS TO KEEP HANDS OFF

Union Cigarmakers at Tampa, Veterans of Late War, Refuse to Stand for Lawlessness.

TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 29.—The 1,500 union cigar makers who took part in the world war and are now resisting the attempt of cigar manufacturers to demonize this industry, have given notice to these employers and other business men that their bluff and coercion will not be tolerated.

The ex-service men are members of the Cigar Makers' union. In an attempt to drive back to work the 12,000 cigar makers a committee of strike headquarters attempted to intimidate officials in charge.

In an open letter to these thugs the ex-service men call attention to the principles they fought for in France.

"We are just as loyal to these principles now as we were then, and certainly we do not propose to desert our leaders in a fight for a just cause as a result of threats and bullying intimidation of a handful of men acting for the manufacturers under the guise of the citizens' committee."

"We also want to inform you that when you attempt to carry into execution your threat against certain members of the unions and their international representative you will find these 1,500 ex-service men as persistent in their opposition as they were in their defense of just principles in France.

"We do not seek trouble, industrially or otherwise, but upon the contrary, will endeavor to promote peace, harmony and progress upon all occasions and it is upon this basis that we now pledge our best efforts against such illegal and disturbing elements as the citizens' committee."

VERY FREE WITH PEOPLE'S MONEY

Congress Grants Railroads Extension of Time to Have Work Done By Controlled Firms.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—That pellagra varies inversely with the family income in the cotton mill villages of South Carolina is the conclusion drawn after a three-year study by the United States public health service.

This is the first reported study in which the long-suspected relation of poverty and pellagra is definitely measured.

As the income fell the disease was found to increase and to affect more and more other members of the same family. As the income rose, the disease decreased and was rarely found in families that enjoyed the highest incomes, even though this highest was still quite low.

Differences among families with the same incomes are attributed by the report to differences in the expenditures for food, intelligence of the housewife, and ownership of cows, gardens, etc. Differences among villages which were economically similar are attributed to differences in the availability and condition of food in local markets.

A recent statement by one of the largest life insurance companies in the United States indicates that the food standards of southern wage earners must have improved remarkably late, for the death rate from pellagra has fallen from 6.7 per 100,000 in 1915 to 2.3 in 1919.

YEAR 1921 OPENS WITH UNION LABOR FACING MOST SERIOUS CRISIS

The foundations of American organized labor are being subjected today to the severest strains they have undergone in many years. Here, in a word, are some of the developments of recent weeks that are putting amalgamated workers to the supreme test:

1. Curtailment of industry, with the laying off of thousands of employees and rehiring of men at reduced wages.

2. Flat wage scale reduction orders in many industries.

3. Nation-wide propaganda designed to restore the open shop.

4. Direct and effective efforts by big steel interests represented in the National Erectors' association to force open shop policies in construction work involving fabricated steel. This has ramifications in many different trades, that are strongly unionized.

5. Sudden and unexpected passage by the United States senate of the Polindexter anti-strike bill.

6. The United States supreme court is preparing a decision on a Hartford Valley, Ark., case which involves the question of

FARMERS OPPOSE NO-STRIKE PLAN IN CUMMINS ACT

Organizations Condemn Polindexter Act to Handcuff Railroad and Other Workers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Polindexter anti-strike bill, that was railroaded through the senate, is opposed by representative farmers' organizations. The national board of farm organizations, at a meeting in St. Louis, condemned the attempt to handcuff labor and the farmers' national council has taken the same position. In a public statement, Director George P. Hampton of the latter body said:

"Farmers, I believe, as a body, do not like strikes, recognizing that they interrupt production, but farmers do not blind themselves to the self-evident fact that under our present-day industrial organization strikes, even on railroads after due notice has been given and negotiations have been held, may be necessary to protect labor, and to enable labor to secure its just rights.

"Strikes should be a last resort, but last resorts sometimes have to be resorted to, and it is un-American and contrary to sound public policy to make striking a felony under any and all conditions.

"Farmers realize also that if striking by labor is made a felony the next step logically would be to have the curtailing of acreage or the commodity marketing of farm staples, which is necessary to secure fair prices for farmers, made a felony as well. This would result in enforced labor on the part of farmers and render them helpless under the exploitation of monopoly interests."

"The public press, law makers and publicists treat this general strike of cotton growers in a manner that contrasts with a strike of wage earners who are forced to suspend work that their living or working standards may not be reduced.

In the case of the cotton farmers there is no hue and cry for legislation to compel them to work against their will, even though the farmers announce that their strike is for the purpose of increasing the price they will receive for their product.

OPEN SHOP GANG IS ORDERED OUT

Professional Anti-Unionists Held in Contempt By New York Investigating Committee.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Walter Drew, attorney for the National Erectors' association and other anti-union organizations, was thrown out of the committee room at which the hearings against the building trust were being held. Drew insisted on interrupting proceedings that showed the workings of these anti-union employers. Later W. W. Corlett, attorney for the anti-union American Bridge company, and A. L. Davis, an official of the steel trust, were evicted for attempting to prompt witnesses.

Captain Robert J. Foster, head of a strike-breaking bureau, was adjudged in contempt for his refusal to produce reports of his secret agents in the steel industry and union organizations.

Charles E. Cheney, secretary of the National Erectors' association, admitted that Attorney Drew instructed him to omit from the minutes any reference to a meeting of the association which discussed relations with the steel trust.

MODEL LANDLORD, TRULY.
HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 29.—P. H. Vaughn, "model landlord," who refused to raise rents during the war, in his will set aside ten of his houses where families of worthy blind may live rent free.

CALL FOR PRODUCTION.
CINCINNATI, Dec. 29.—"We now demand," says Editor Atherton of the Metal Polishers' Journal, "that the manufacturers remove the limit and cease restricting the output in order to maintain their exorbitant prices."

WESTFIELD, Mass., Dec. 29.—Metal polishers and buffers employed by the Westfield Manufacturing company have raised wages to 90 cents an hour. The old rate was 72½ cents.

STREET RAILWAY HAS PAID
100 PER CENT IN 10 YEARS
According to Commissioner P. G. Phillips the Duluth Street Railway company has paid dividends to its stockholders in 10 years, \$1,271,000, which is more than 100 per cent on the capital stock of the company allotted to the Duluth system.

The Duluth Street Railway company is capitalized for \$1,800,000 of which \$600,000 is chargeable to the railroad for their work, and if the railroad has a deficit, the government comes to the rescue, and pays 6 per cent to stockholders.

WASHINGTON MINIMUM
WAGE OF \$18 UPHELD
BY HIGH STATE COURT
ODYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 29.—The \$18 minimum wage rate for women employed in the hotel and restaurant industry, ordered by the state industrial welfare commission, has been upheld by the state supreme court. The court reaffirmed a former decision sustaining the legality of the act itself. Hotel men were also defeated in their attempt to annul the six-day order of the commission.

"The statute," said the court, "provides the commission shall specify a minimum wage and standard conditions of labor for women and this provision is clearly broad enough to justify the commission."

BUSINESS VOTES
TO HAVE STRIKE
Bankers, Merchants, Growers to Launch Huge Cotton Strike Next Year.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 29.—Business men who continually denounce strikes by workers, and demand the passage of "can't-strike" legislation, have agreed with cotton growers to launch a huge cotton strike next year.

At a conference of southern bankers, merchants and farmers in this city, a cut in 1921 cotton production was agreed to.

The conference declared that no farmer shall plant to cotton the coming year more than 1-3 per cent of his lands under actual cultivation in order that a 50 per cent reduction in yield may be made effective. Compliance with the strike decision will be made effective mainly by bankers and merchants, who will refuse credit to any farmers who refuse to strike. State executive committees will organize the various cotton states with voting or school districts as the unit. Land owners are asked to share in whatever profits may be raised on their lands on a percentage basis and not require any fixed sum or pounds of cotton for rent.

LABOR MADE ADVANCES IN 1920 IN SPITE OF WAVE OF REACTION

Output of Productive Legislation During Year Shows Gains Despite Small Number of States Holding Legislative Sessions; Social Insurance Leads; Liberal Compensation Granted.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The output of protective labor legislation in 1920, particularly in the field of social insurance, shows continued advances despite the small number of states holding regular legislative sessions during the year and scattering setbacks due to "a wave of reaction," according to a summary of the year's labor laws by congress and eleven states issued last night by the American Association for Labor Legislation.

"With the adoption of workmen's compensation this year by Georgia," says Secretary John B. Andrews, "there is now a total of forty-two states having compensation laws, in addition to Porto Rico, Alaska and Hawaii, as well as the federal government with a model act for its half million civilian employees. The six states still remaining without this form of social insurance are largely in the non-industrial south.

One more chapter was added to the shame of Missouri when that state in a referendum at the recent election overturned the compensation law. This adverse action is credited to the activities of ambulance-chasing lawyers who succeeded in holding down the vote in industrial centers despite the joint efforts of the organized employers of the state and the federation of labor in support of the law.

More Liberal Compensation Is Provided For.
"The trend among the states," he continues, "is steadily toward more liberal cash payments and adequate medical care for injured workers. Rapid progress has been made by the states in providing for the vocational rehabilitation of industrial cripples through federal-state co-operation under the law recently enacted by congress. The movement for old age assistance laws in the states was given an impetus through the enactment this year by congress of a law for compulsory, contributory old age and disability insurance for the government's 300,000 employees in the classified civil service—a significant extension of social insurance legislation. New York came into line with a pension system covering old employees of both city and state.

In the field of trade disputes, Kansas, with an industrial court, and Texas, with an extraordinary emergency law to prohibit interference with transportation, attempted to control strikes by mandatory legislation. Further recognition was given by congress to the need of protection for the increasing army of women wage earners by the creation of a women's bureau in the department of labor. In one state, Massachusetts, advanced action was taken looking to the early adoption of a law for maternity protection."

WAGE CUTS ARE NOT JUSTIFIED

Investigation By Bureau of Labor Shows Prices Are Not Coming Down on Necessities.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The wage reductions in unorganized plants that are based on reduced food costs are not justified according to figures made public by the United States bureau of labor statistics.

Newspapers are creating a public thought that prices have been substantially reduced, but the bureau shows that during the year period, November, 1919, to November, 1920, prices in some cities have actually increased. The greatest decrease was 7 per cent in Memphis and Seattle, with a 3 per cent decrease in Birmingham, Dallas, Denver, Little Rock, Louisville, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Mobile, Omaha and Portland, Ore.

There was a 2 per cent decrease in Atlanta, Charleston, Indianapolis and St. Louis, and 1 per cent decrease in Kansas City and St. Paul.

In Chicago, Columbus, Detroit and Jacksonville the boasted reduced prices for food was less than five-tenths of 1 per cent.

During the year food prices increased 6 per cent in Boston, 5 per cent in Scranton, 4 per cent in Buffalo, Fall River, Los Angeles, and Manchester, 3 per cent in Bridgeport, Newark, New Haven, Portland (Me.), Providence, San Francisco and Springfield; 2 per cent in Butte, Cincinnati and Rochester, 1 per cent in Baltimore, Cleveland, New Orleans, New York, Norfolk, Peoria and Pittsburgh, and less than five-tenths of 1 per cent increase in Philadelphia and Washington.

Further advanced action was taken by congress in the final passage of a bill providing for the retirement of supernumerary employees in the federal civil service. New York established pension systems for employees of New York city, New York state and state charitable institutions. Massachusetts and New Jersey liberalized existing pension laws.

A step forward in the field of maternity insurance legislation was taken by Massachusetts in authorizing a legislative commission to investigate the problem of prenatal and postnatal care for mothers and their children.

Safety and Health.
Child labor restrictions were extended in Massachusetts by a law forbidding children under sixteen to clean or repair freight elevators, while Virginia granted children permission to work in canneries when the schools are not in session. Oregon enacted a safety code, Maryland created a board of boiler rules and Kentucky required mines, steel mills, foundries and machine shops to provide washrooms. Maryland, Kentucky and New York authorized the appointment of commissions—in the former to revise the industrial laws and in the two latter to revise child welfare legislation.

Hours and Wages.
Hours of children in factories, workshops and mercantile establishments were reduced from ten to eight (Continued on Page Five)