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NO ROOM HERE FOR SECTIONAL HEATING FRANCHISE

OUSTED FROM OFFICE FOR ONE REASON; IN JAIL FOR ANOTHER

Officers of United Mine Workers Tell Why Howat and Associates Were Removed; Not Square With Cause.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 1.—Alexander Howat, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, District 14, is in jail at Columbus, Kan., for one reason and he was removed from office as president by John L. Lewis, international president, for an entirely different reason, according to an article appearing in the current issue of the United Mine Workers Journal, official publication of the international union. The Journal says:

Only Kick Up Dust. "Some of those men who are in open rebellion against the laws of the union are spreading the word that the autonomy of District 14 was suspended by the international organization and the officers of that district removed from office because those district officials were making a fight against the Kansas industrial court law.

"Nothing could be farther from the truth and, of course, those who make such statements know they are untrue. It is only an attempt on their part to kick up a lot of dust to hide their illegal and indefensible conduct in violating the fundamental laws of the union and the basic provisions of their agreement with the coal operators of that district. There is nothing else to it.

Union Law Breakers. "These district officers were not removed from office because of their fight against the Kansas industrial court law. They were removed because they refused to obey the laws of their own union and the decision of their own international union. They called strikes that were violations of the joint agreement.

"The international union directed them to put the striking miners back at work and then take up the grievances in the regular way, as provided by the joint agreement. They refused to do this, but defied the international officers and international union. Then the international convention, the highest authority in the organization, decided by an overwhelming vote that they should put the striking miners back at work. Still they refused and defied the convention.

"For that reason, and that reason alone, they were removed from office and the autonomy of District 14 was suspended. The Kansas industrial court was not involved in the case in any manner whatever, although some of these men have attempted to hide behind their own shadows and make the people believe that they were being persecuted because they were fighting the Kansas industrial court law.

Never Fought Kansas Law. "The bald fact is that the officers of District 14 never have fought the Kansas industrial court law. They have fought the court, but they have not even up to this hour, made any attack upon the law creating the court nor have they made any effort whatever to have the Kansas industrial court law set aside or repealed.

"Throughout all of their dramatics and heroics they have merely denounced and defied the Kansas industrial court and then paraded before the public, with the spotlight turned on, beating their breasts and shouting, 'I am a hero.' It was a clear case of playing to the grandstand, all of which was done at the expense of the Kansas miners and the good name of the union.

Validity Not Tested. "Sometimes the thought arises that perhaps the officers of District 14 were not as anxious to have the Kansas industrial court law knocked out as they appeared to be from their declarations. As above stated, they never made any effort to have the law wiped out.

"They violated the industrial court law numerous times and had themselves arrested, but in no case did they start any proceedings that could test the constitutionality of the law itself. And when the international union offered to co-operate with and assist Alexander Howat to make a full test of the law Howat did not accept the offer of assistance.

"Sincerely of purpose would have prompted him to accept the help of the international union, instead of completely ignoring the offer. Just why he ignored the offer no one except Howat himself knows.

"Recent developments, however, would seem to indicate that he had a burning desire to go to jail instead, and thus attain the self-imposed distinction of being a martyr with the limelight shining brightly upon him. Indulge in Deception. "Howat and those who support him are indulging in bare-faced deception of the membership when they make the statement that the officers of District 14 were removed from office because of their activities against the Kansas industrial court. The Kansas industrial court law had nothing to do with it.

MINERS' CHIEFS GIVE FACTS IN HOWAT CASE

"Neither Howat nor his associates ever attempted to test validity of Kansas anti-strike law in the courts. They have fought the industrial court, but they have not, even up to this hour, made any attack upon the law creating the court.

"The International union has offered to assist Howat to make a full legal test of the law, but he did not accept the offer of assistance.

"The convention of the United Mine Workers ordered Howat and his associates to live up to their agreement with the mine owners. They refused to abide by the decision of the convention and the law of the international union. For that reason, said that alone, they were removed from office.

"This new assault of ordered liberty and American institutions is the close and closed corporations of those men who have made themselves masters of labor unions," he said.

In his most flowery style, Beveridge reeled off his citizens alliance speech to the delight of business men who like to hear organized labor and its struggles for improved working conditions listed with organized capitalists, whose goal is profits.

John J. Cornwell, former governor of West Virginia, followed. He pictured the dangers if the government takes over the coal mines of West Virginia. No one in that state is seriously advocating this plan, but Cornwell's speech "went big." Just the same, his reference to "Americanization" is the same tepid stuff he dealt in while governor of West Virginia, when he gave grunion and anti-union coal owners a free hand.

WOOL TRADE ADVANCES WHILE STEEL DECLINES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—In comparing employment figures of October, 1921, with those in October, 1920, the bureau of labor statistics reports that in eight of the industries employment increased and in the remaining six less employment was recorded. The largest increase, 52.5 per cent, is in the woolen industry. Men's ready-made clothing increased 30.5 per cent. The iron and steel industry shows the largest decrease in employment, 37.8 per cent.

The Board of Arbitration appointed to hear the dispute between the Canadian National Railways and certain of its employees respecting a reduction of wages has rendered an award that is interesting in that it takes the position that cost of living shall have first consideration in the adjustment of wages, and that when reductions are made they shall bear due relation to the amount that will remain for each class of workers.

This is completely at odds with the position of American railroad owners, who insist that the poorest paid workers shall sustain the biggest cuts, and who were recently sustained by the United States Railroad Labor Board, which established wages for certain railroad workers averaging not more than \$9.60 a week.

The Canadian board made its award

UNION SMASHERS BRING GRIEF TO GARMENT TRADES

Manufacturers Who Broke Trade Agreements Now Busy Explaining to Public.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—Organized cloak manufacturers have been out-generaled in an effort to smash the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union. The bosses broke their contract and would establish piece work, wage reductions and the long work week. As a result, 60,000 employees suspended work following a referendum vote of 38,572 to 152.

The broken agreement cannot be answered by the employers, who are making strenuous efforts to stem the tide against them. They first attempted to conceal their purpose by claims that their success would mean lower prices for women's cloaks, but the unionists destroyed this alibi by showing the small labor cost in these garments. The bosses then insisted that the union interferes with greater productivity, but again the union put the employers on the defensive by showing that the joint production commission, created under the agreement, was considering this question, and that before its report was made the employers precipitated the present situation.

The employers talk about "an honest day's work," which is referred to by President Schlesinger of the garment workers as a "commonplace truism that can be applied in every industrial dispute."

"The union will not allow the issue to be sidetracked in such unceremonious manner," said the workers' representative. "The union insists upon the full performance of the existing agreement, not for the enforcement of a mere technical right, but as a matter of vital practical concern. In the 11 years of contractual dealings between the employers' association and our union, the employers have four times openly repudiated their agreement with the workers."

To prove the union-smashing purpose of the employers, attention is called to this public statement by them, on October 31: "There will be no conference, no negotiation. The manufacturers have decided it. We are turning the tables. That's all. Now we are the doctors."

The broken agreement cannot be answered by the employers, and the union is driving this point home.

COMMUNISTS AID PRINTER BOSSES

Boston "Reds" Give Aid, Comfort and Support to Enemies of Printing Trades.

BOSTON, Dec. 1.—The Typographical union is circulating an answer to the local typothetae, which has printed an attack on officers of the Boston Typographical union and the International Typographical union. The article circulated by the typothetae is reprinted from the Workers' Challenge, organ of the communist party, and attacks the union executives because they insisted on contract observance in this city.

In its reply the local union says: "Such propaganda on the part of the typothetae is significant. Have their leaders joined hands with 'Big Bill' Haywood and the Moscow international?"

ROCKEFELLER'S "UNION" MEETS PREDICTED FATE

DENVER, Dec. 1.—The 1914 miners' strike in southern Colorado was followed by a company "union," approved by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and hailed by President Wilson of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company as industrial democracy. The company is a Rockefeller unit.

Tons of valuable white paper was used to explain the new system that would end strikes. Hard headed trade unionists were called cynics and joy killers when they predicted failure of the new "union," but their prophecy has been fulfilled.

The company has reduced wages 30 per cent, in violation of an award by the government's bituminous coal commission, and in violation of the state industrial law which provides that 30 days' notice must be given before wages are reduced or workers strike.

The commission took no action against the company and the coal miners suspended work. The company "union" has been forgotten and martial law proclaimed, as in the days of Ludlow.

The commission will appreciate information whereby it can jail these workers without being censured for not taking action against the company when it violated the law.

COMMON PEOPLE MUST SHOULDER BURDEN OF WAR

Big Business Has Won Long-Waged Fight for Repeal of Excess Profits Tax.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Big business has won its fight for repeal of the excess profits tax, and after this year the merry game of gouging will be clear velvet without contributions to the treasury department.

For months the people have been told that this tax is a check on business initiative, and men who pose as leaders of the nation have joined in the confusing hubbub, ignoring the law, which provides a tax not on normal profits, or large profits, but on "excess profits." Section 312 of the law says:

"That the excess profits credit shall consist of a specific exemption of \$5,000, plus an amount of credit equal to 8 per cent of the invested capital for the taxable year."

This means that after a business man pays salaries to himself and associate managers, wages to his employees, interest on his bonds, sets aside substantial sum for depreciation of plant, provides for a sinking fund to care for outstanding indebtedness, etc., he may then set aside \$5,000 of his profits, and then an additional amount equal to 8 per cent of his investment.

Then and not till then are his profits subject to an 8 per cent tax under the excess profits law.

Even under these conditions the capitalist can conceal large amounts through a ruling that he may inventory his plant at the present market price rather than the original cost. The treasury department estimates that the excess profits for 1920 will amount to \$850,000,000, and that this year's tax will total about one-half of that amount.

These vast sums will be increased beyond computation in the coming days of prosperity, but no portion of them will assist in paying the nation's debts.

The repeal of this law will put an added war tax burden on the common people, who are being called upon to pay the staggering war debt,

COAL INDUSTRY SICK; REFUSES TO FACE FACTS

Want to Reduce Wages But Refuse to Permit Government to Examine Books.

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—The coal industry is sick and refuses to let the doctor make an examination, said John Brophy in an address before the public ownership league.

The speaker is president of coal miners' district No. 2 (central Pennsylvania). He is also chairman of the nationalization research committee of the United Mine Workers of America, which has declared for the nationalization of mines.

The address was a challenge to coal owners. The unionist charged these business men with profiteering and quoted their own figures to prove it. He charged them with waste and inefficiency, and quoted government officials and coal owners to prove it.

He charged them with producing coal for the stock market and not for use, and presented statements by stock brokers to prove it.

Despite this array of facts the speaker said that the miners do not ask for a verdict from the public until every source of information is available.

"When the miners ask that all the facts be put at your disposal, the operators start a publicity campaign against facts through paid advertisements in the newspapers.

"What facts are needed? First, facts are needed on costs and profits. The federal trade commission started to collect this data. In 1920 congress asked the commission to investigate and report the cost of mining coal, and \$150,000 was appropriated for the job. The national coal association asked for an injunction stopping the investigation. The injunction was granted because mining coal was not interstate commerce.

"We miners stand for nationalization of the coal industry and as a first step we ask the co-operation of the American people in securing a centralized continuous and compulsory fact-finding agency. In demanding this I am talking as an American citizen. It is in the interest of the great class of American coal consumers that as a representative of the United Mine Workers of America I ask you to urge congress to pass immediate legislation for a fact-finding agency."

ONLY MAKE \$200 PROFIT ON MILK

Washington Investigation Shows Up Profiteering Among Milk Distributors.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Pity the poor milk dealer—not the little fellow with one or two cows, but the concern that deals in this commodity by the carload.

The manager of one of these concerns in the nation's capitol told a congressional milk investigating committee that he has made a profit of \$200 every day for the last nine months. His total profit during that period was \$38,900. This does not include annual salaries aggregating \$37,000 which his family draws out of the business and of which he receives \$15,000. Five of his sons are on the payroll and two of them are paid \$10,000 a year.

"We can not believe that the fixing of wages should be left entirely to the hard and fast law of supply and demand," the award states. "This implies struggle, with possible strikes and lock-outs."

"This board would not be prepared as a board to endorse the principle of a minimum wage. It does think that the railways of the country, and more especially, perhaps, the government railroad owned by the people of Canada, in fixing wages, must have some regard to the minimum cost of living under frugal but decent conditions."

While remarkable in many respects, the award was none the less of a judicial and impartial nature. It asserted that, unpleasant though it might be, railway employees should not be exempt from making their contribution to the lowered cost of living. On the other hand, it stated that the board was not greatly impressed with the statement made regarding the financial condition of the Canadian National.

"The board," the award says on this point, "is not interested in the causes of the deficit, for which the employees can not be held responsible."

Statements made by leaders of the men indicate that they will be willing to accept and abide by the award.

CITY CAN BUILD ITS OWN PLANT AND GIVE HEAT TO ALL AT COST

Private Company Must Not Be Granted Right to Pick Cream of Business and Neglect Other Sections of City.

CITY FULLY ABLE TO BUILD HEATING PLANT

The city of Duluth is abundantly able to finance and build public heating systems that will supply the needs of every dwelling and business block at cost.

Fuel in Duluth is a big item in cost of living. Wood, once the poor man's fuel, is now on the luxury list. Homes must be heated for nine months every year.

Heating pipes are only laid beneath the surface of the ground. There is no serious problem of construction involved. It is more simple than gas and water construction.

The cream of the heating business is in the heart of the city. No one would want to build plants in other sections which would bring in nominal returns. The city incinerator and private power plants are equipped now to sell steam to city as we now buy gas.

SUPREME COURT SWATS JUGGLING

Declares Rockefeller and Dupont Must Pay Millions Into U. S. Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Stock dividends are taxable when there is a reorganization and this stock extends to the new company, rules the United States supreme court.

The decision means that John D. Rockefeller and Edith Hale Harkness must pay the government \$16,000,000 and the Dupont Powder company must turn in about \$24,000,000.

Stock dividends means that the capital stock of a concern is increased when profits are so large that they may attract attention. Instead of receiving these excessive profits the stockholder is given additional stock upon which he pays no income. This practice has been upheld by the United States supreme court.

The scheme has been enlarged to include reorganizations, but the court now holds that stock dividends, when issued in this manner, shall be classed as income, and are subject to the income tax.

The amount of money the defendants are called upon to pay the government will give some idea of profits that have been made during the past few years.

STOPPED WORK TO KILL RAT; INJURED AND WAS REFUSED COMPENSATION

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 1.—The state workmen's compensation commission reports a queer compensation case, wherein a worker engaged in mowing a house chased a rat from under the building. In attempting to kill the rat with a piece of board a sliver pierced the hand of the worker and blood poisoning developed. In rejecting a claim for compensation it was ruled that if the worker was employed to hunt rats and was injured, he would be compensated, but not under present conditions.

It Would Be Folly. Would it not be folly to grant to private parties a franchise to supply the central portion of the city; to take the cream of the business, and to permit the rest of the folks in other sections to look on with envy while they are being denied such a luxury?

The proposed franchise extends from Third avenue east to Seventh avenue west and up the hill to Third street. It can be depended upon if the people living below Third street in the central portion of the city enjoy the convenience of a public heating plant a demand will be made from other sections for the same convenience.

What company would want to take the responsibility and the risk of furnishing heat to the lean sections of the city? To grant such a franchise as is asked for at this time would be but another municipal blunder which we would live to regret. It is true the central plant could be purchased at any time, but if such were done we would be forced to pay for valuation, going value, good will and a lot of other trash. There is nothing doing.

Will Not Reduce Rents. Is one foolish enough to believe that the granting of the franchise would result in reducing office rents in the public buildings down town? In the upper section of the district it would result in increasing rent. We know of a private boarding house where it is necessary to employ a maid to take care of the furnace. His services would not be necessary when heat is to be supplied by a private company. The landlord would soon find it out and he would only exact that much more in rent that is if we are to judge by his habit.

The installation of a public heating system in Duluth, one that would extend from Lakeside to New Duluth, is no physical or financial problem. It would pay for itself in twenty-five years. It is not necessary to lay steam pipes as deep in the ground as water and gas pipes. There will be very

(Continued on page 2.)

Wages Before Profits in Canadian Rail Award

The Board of Arbitration appointed to hear the dispute between the Canadian National Railways and certain of its employees respecting a reduction of wages has rendered an award that is interesting in that it takes the position that cost of living shall have first consideration in the adjustment of wages, and that when reductions are made they shall bear due relation to the amount that will remain for each class of workers.

This is completely at odds with the position of American railroad owners, who insist that the poorest paid workers shall sustain the biggest cuts, and who were recently sustained by the United States Railroad Labor Board, which established wages for certain railroad workers averaging not more than \$9.60 a week.

The Canadian board made its award

on the assumption that employees earning \$125 a month and more are able to stand a cut of approximately 12 1/2 per cent, but that the reduction should be less in the case of lower paid workers.

Chairman (Rev.) Byron Stauffer and Harold Fisher, representing the men, signed the report, to which George D. Kelley, representing the Canadian National, dissented and submitted a minority report.

The effect of the award was to sustain the proposed reduction in the case of employees receiving \$125 or more per month and to suggest a sliding-scale reduction in the case of other employees, on the following basis: Employees receiving \$80 per month, \$5; employees receiving \$81 to \$95 per month, \$3.50; employees receiving \$96 to \$125 per month, \$10. This basis is similar to that put into effect in the Toronto accounting department of the Canadian National.

While the award is not binding upon

either party, the comment contained in the verdict is important in that it takes a position completely reversing railroad practice on this continent.

Dealing with the proposed general reduction, the award drew attention to the fact that cleaners would earn \$19.20 per week, and shipmen, fire-builders and coalmen, \$20.44 per week, and said: "The board thinks that even with the reduced cost of living, it is almost impossible for the average family to live on these wages. All of these employees are little more than unskilled labor, in a sense. It is not necessary for these employees to go through a long training, but most of them are permanent employees, and we think that their positions require from them a considerable amount of intelligence and reliability."

"It would not be merely decent treatment, but good business, to see that these permanent employees get wages which will make them contented and willing."

Referring to sleeping, dining and

parlor car employees, the report suggested that "if the management and the employees will seriously undertake the pioneer reform of abolishing gratuities this board will be glad to offer a supplementary report."

The award recommended that the maximum decrease for hourly paid men such as loaders, freight truckers or porters, locomotive cleaners, ashmen, fire-builders and coalmen be not greater than 10 per cent of the wages paid before the reductions. Stenographers and sleeping, dining and parlor car employees are not affected by the recommendation for reductions for monthly paid employees getting \$125 or less.

"We can not believe that the fixing of wages should be left entirely to the hard and fast law of supply and demand," the award states. "This implies struggle, with possible strikes and lock-outs."

"This board would not be prepared as a board to endorse the principle of

a minimum wage. It does think that the railways of the country, and more especially, perhaps, the government railroad owned by the people of Canada, in fixing wages, must have some regard to the minimum cost of living under frugal but decent conditions."

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Statements made by leaders of the men indicate that they will be willing to accept and abide by the award.