

Baerfacts

By J. M. BAER, The Congressman-Cartoonist

Useless Effort Over Pink-Headed Duck

International Labor News Service

"Pink-Headed Duck is Caught at Last" headline the newspapers, which chronicle the fact that the American Museum of Natural History has succeeded, after a three-year search with men and elephants, in getting a pink-headed duck.

The pink-headed duck, which is almost as rare as a word from "Silent Cal," was found by a native hunter near the Nepal border in northern India, after nearly 200 men and scores of elephants had failed in the search. In 1922 and 1923 more elephants are said to have been employed in the hunt than Hannibal had when he invaded Italy.

The search for the "pink-head" took a vast expenditure of human effort and must have cost a goodly sum. It is a pity that the human race, which will expend so lavishly of time, money and energy in getting something that has not the slightest value to humanity, can not show the same enthusiasm over something really useful.

While the papers were telling of the successful search for the pink-headed duck, they were full of such headlines as: "Three Die in Oil Explosion"; "Eight Dead, Four Hurt, in Blast"; "Fifty-one Die in Indiana Mine Explosion"; and numerous others telling of death and injury to the workers.

If only the enthusiasm and devotion that is manifested in finding a rare bird or beast were put into the prevention of industrial accidents, how greatly would the happiness of the human race be increased! Think of the poverty, bitter misery and heart-breaking sorrow that could be prevented by the elimination of accidents in mine, mill and factory!

And yet, while red-blooded American workers die, we hunt pink-headed ducks! And now one has been found! To adapt a line from the Ingoldsby Legends, "Will anybody be one penny the better?"

UNION WORKERS

Laud Julius Fleischmann As a Friend of Labor

By International Labor News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Resolutions of condolence paying tribute to the late Julius Fleischmann, head of the Fleischmann Yeast Company, as a friend of organized labor have been passed by Local Union No. 48, Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers' Union. After declaring that Mr. Fleischmann earned for himself an enviable reputation as a man of high honor and sterling integrity, the resolutions say:

"Whereas his recognition of the American principle of the right of his employees to organize, to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, to enter into agree-

ments which were observed in spirit and letter, made him one of the foremost of humane employers of this country; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That organized labor has lost a friend, the Yeast Workers' Local 48 a kindly and benevolent employer, and society one of its most upright citizens."

The resolutions were signed by Anton Haker, president; L. M. Green, vice president; W. H. Ryan, recording secretary; Chas. H. Lederer, financial secretary; Geo. Miller, treasurer; A. Higdon, sergeant-at-arms; Henry Miller, business agent; Adam Remder, Frank J. Keller and Harry J. Thompson, trustees.

LAW MAKERS PROTECT BEES

Albany, N. Y.—The state legislature refused to pass the federal child labor amendment, but it has passed an act to prevent disease among bees.

THE KALEIDOSCOPE

By I. C. McCUMBER

Fifty-one willing workers—miners—lost their lives in a mine in Indiana. Nearly all of them were men of families. Only a few years ago great big business men, so-called Christians and church members, stated that to put into operation a workmen's compensation law would be to drive business men out of business. What that law did do was to make some of the so-called Christians come across with funds to take care of dependents, and the families of those men will receive something over \$200,000. In the good old "trust in God" days those dependents would not receive a nickel.

There was a hospital—so-called—in one of the eastern states, which was very popular with ambulance cases. Almost every hour of the day and night an ambulance changed its way to the portico, orderlies grabbed the stretcher and the "patient" was rushed into the hospital place. A new traffic officer happened to be passing when a "patient" was being removed. He stopped, held up his hand in token that the procession should halt, lifted the sheet which covered the "victim" and found? I'll bet a catfish you have already guessed. Anyway, he found several bottles of gin and whiskey. How would you like to be able to operate a hospital of this kind?

Professor Doolittle Squashem bowed his most elaborate bow and accepted an invitation to dine with the Hon. Love Easy. The professor had just delivered an eloquent address on "How to Make Father and Mother Raise Their Offspring Along Proper Lines." "We'll raise a fund to place you on a very good salary," said Mr. Love Easy, "and then you can frame your law and we'll order the Snoop and Snoop Societies to get behind it. We'll even go farther than that. We'll enlist some of the boys who have been drawing down easy money for many years making this country 'dry.' In fact, we'll make them eat hay for breakfast, eat hay for lunch and eat plain straw for dinner. Those parents should be made to know that children should have a taxi to carry them to school and be served highballs when they get there."

Ohio is looking for a new chief for its state prohibition director, or rather one to represent the federal government. It is reported that Senator Willis and the powers that be, are inclined to favor J. O. White, who had his hat ready to throw into the political ring as governor a short time ago. They could save themselves much trouble and worry if they would go to Sing Sing prison and apply for the services of Mr. W. H. Anderson. He would not delay the game at all in making a speedy "clean-up" on all the money and moonshine in sight—and some not in sight.

"Do you have trouble with the young men coming to your dancing academy, in that they bring whiskey or moonshine?" we asked of one of the attendants. "Not on your life," was the reply. "The girls bring the stuff and the boys come to get it." Prohibition prefers this form of demoralization. They are for prohibition but not in favor of temperance. Why? Prohibition means an easy living to many of them and temperance would do away with their fat salaries.

"Every time I eat too much of my favorite dish," said one of my backdoor prohibition friends, "I suffer from a terrific headache." Let's pass a law prohibiting him from eating that favorite dish and pass another law compelling him to be temperate in all things—including eating. Temperance to him doesn't mean anything; it's prohibition for the other fellow.

URGE INJUNCTION BILL

Springfield, Ill.—Organized labor in this state is demanding that the Illinois legislature regulate the issuance of labor injunctions. The workers' agitation is weakening the stock claim of anti-union employers that the proposal is "a charter to violate law." The workers reply that it is the employers who would condone violation of law by substituting government by law for government by individuals.

RETAIL CLERKS

In Vigorous Campaign For New Members

By International Labor News Service. Indianapolis, Ind.—The International Association of Retail Clerks has started a vigorous campaign for membership during 1925.

The election of international officials of the union will be held in June, the nominations for officers closing on March 1. There is considerable interest manifested in the nominations, which are to be announced within a short time, and in the election to follow.

H. J. Conway, international secretary, La Fayette, Ind., has sent out blanks to all locals requesting members to get busy in sending in lists of new members.

CREDIT UNION

For Indianapolis Letter Carriers Organized

By International Labor News Service. Indianapolis, Ind.—The Indianapolis Branch No. 39; National Association of Letter Carriers, is preparing articles of incorporation for the formation of a credit union. Application for a license to do business in banking has been filed with the state securities commission.

The credit union has been organized with 22 charter members who will hold the common stock. The preferred stock will be sold among the letter carriers, who find themselves in need of small amounts, on short-time notes and at a moderate rate of interest. Officers of the union will not be chosen until after the incorporation has been completed. O. A. Collins, secretary, said the amount of capital stock had not yet been decided upon.

OPPOSE CONVICT LABOR

Chattanooga, Tenn.—The Trades and Labor Council calls on Governor Peay, chairman of the state prison board, to end the convict labor system in this state. The unionists declare that contracting of the labor of convicts is but a subterfuge for the antiquated and barbarous system of leasing prisoners. The state executive is urged to "put an end once and for all to this system which enriches private parties at the expense of the state's unfortunates."

RETAIL FOOD COSTS UP

Washington.—Retail food costs increased in 20 of the 51 cities included in the latest compilation by the United States bureau of labor statistics.

From December 15, 1924, to January 15, 1925, Cincinnati, Kansas City and Savannah lead with increases of 4 per cent. Butte, Little Rock, Louisville, Omaha and Peoria were next with 3 per cent. Manchester and Providence reported decreases of less than five-tenths of 1 per cent.

For the year period, January 15, 1924, to January 15, 1925, the largest gains, 8 per cent, were reported by Louisville and Norfolk. Baltimore, Little Rock and Savannah followed with 6 per cent.

NEW DEAL

For Labor By Governor Gore

Charleston, W. Va.—Governor Gore, the new state executive, has started anti-union coal owners and other elements hostile to organized labor by inviting the organized workers to join with him and other citizens in discussing problems of interest to the commonwealth.

Never before has a governor of this state taken such action. In referring to the high ideals of West Virginia citizens, the governor paid a high tribute to organized labor during the war and expressed his confidence that labor will contribute the same service in solving the problems that have resulted from the war.

In his inaugural address the chief executive let it be known that he is opposed to the guard system and private armies maintained in Logan and other anti-union counties of this state.

"Such authority," he said, "can be vested safely in but one agency, and that is government itself, and encroachments upon the authority of government I do not and will not approve."

Subscribe for The Press.

CULINARY WORKERS

Of California Push State-Wide Drive

By International Labor News Service. San Francisco.—Formed for the purpose of organizing the culinary workers in the small towns and rural

communities of the state and looking after their legislative interests, the California State Federation of Culinary Workers has established two district branches to aid in the undertaking. The southern branch has headquarters in Los Angeles, while the headquarters of the northern branch are in this city. The federation represents 7,500 union culinary workers.

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