

THE NEW MAJORITY

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CHRISTENSEN IN JAB AT BANKERS

Writes Denunciation of Credit System in Protest on Tie-up of His Funds

San Francisco, Calif.—Parley Parker Christensen, 1920 candidate of the Farmer-Labor Party for president, traveling here, wrote a characteristic letter to the Irving National Bank, of New York City, protesting against difficulty he experienced drawing his own money from that institution and, incidentally, grilling the banking system of the United States. The following was his letter:

Gentlemen:—Am shocked, pained and humiliated by having a number of my checks, drawn out west here, turned down by your bank and returned to me by those to whom I had intended to pay my obligations.

It appears that the checks heretofore drawn by me back east managed to find where my money is supposed to be on deposit. Attached to these returned checks is a slip bearing the following: "Returned to 679 T. N. T. (T. N. T. is hot enough to mean hell). No account at this office. Please indicate at what office account is kept and present again." Signed, Irving National Bank, Columbia Trust Co., Woolworth Office.

To me this is amazing, and if it were not so damaging to my integrity, my credit and my financial reputation, it would be funny. I have had money on deposit with you for years. The first business was transacted with Mr. Williams, one of your officers, a very obliging and apparently very efficient gentleman. You fellows always are very kind and considerate when you want our money, but it is quite different when we want it back.

Criminally Brutal Indifference

Your indifference to your depositors (after you get their money) is so gross that it amounts to criminal brutality. I gave you my money, you handed me a check. This check furnished by you certainly ought to have "ear marks" sufficient to find its way to my account. When I issue a check from your check book, it should be quite sufficient that I date it, fill in the amount and sign it. I don't need also to write on the front or back of it, "take to Department A, or Branch 3."—I am not expected to write a letter of instructions to follow, or attach to it. Neither I nor the public should be concerned with how many banks, branches or departments you may have. I opened my account with you in the Woolworth Building, New York City, have continued to deposit my money there, your checks which I carry bear that address, and I have the legal right to expect that they will be honored when presented. And what's more, I propose to see that they are.

Because you are a money changer and closer to the courts than I is no reason, sufficient to me, why you should do me an irreparable injury, and then proceed to rub it in three or four times; no, not to me, Shylock! The arrogance of the Wall Street banker is only exceeded by his indifference to the public's welfare.

You have usurped from the people and from their government the right to "issue" money. Practically all money, save metal coins, is now issued by the banks; poor old Uncle Sam merely manufactures the money and then hands it over to you and you issue it. This prerogative carries with it the control of credit (the organized confidence of the community); and with both our money and our credit you juggle to your heart's content, and to the destruction of our country and the bankruptcy of the people. We poor fish continue to hand over our money and you have grown so callous, so indifferent to our reputations or welfare that you refuse to honor our checks.

I am still at your mercy. What can I do? If I draw new checks on my money in your bank they too no doubt will be again turned down. Issuing a bum check is bad enough; to draw it again in the same way will make my creditors furious. Can't send post office money orders. That too calls for money. You have not ruined my credit out here yet—the hotel will cash my check, but you will no doubt again turn it down (for I have only the blank checks you gave me, the same I used before), and then the hotel will be compelled to bring me back as an absconding debtor.

I see no other way out of it, however, than to again draw checks on you. You have my money

C. F. OF L. E.

John Fitzpatrick, president, Oscar F. Nelles, vice president, E. N. Nockels, recording and corresponding secretary, F. G. Hopp, financial secretary, Thomas F. Kennedy, treasurer, and George H. Plowright, reading clerk, all were re-elected without opposition at the annual election of officers of the Chicago Federation of Labor, last Sunday.

David A. McVey was elected delegate to the Portland convention of the A. F. of L.; Charles Hayman was elected sergeant at arms; Glenn W. Campbell, M. B. Philp and Gertrude Stoetzel were re-elected as members of the finance committee; Will R. Boyer, Joseph W. Morton, Martin Nelson, Harry E. Scheck and T. G. Vance were elected as the legislative committee; and the following were elected as members of the executive board: Frank Buchanan, M. J. Kelly, Julius Lichtenstein, T. F. Neary and Charles F. Wills.

The official report of the election will be published in a later issue of **THE NEW MAJORITY**.

Chicago Printers Reject Job Shop Bosses' Offer

Typographical Union No. 16 almost unanimously voted down the proposal of the Chicago job shop bosses, providing for about half the wage increase demand, a three-year contract and arbitration instead of negotiation for proposed changes in the wage scale.

The proffer of the bosses was referred back to the job scale committee for further negotiation. All three of the features mentioned were objected to by the printers.

Chicago Tailors May Strike

Gus Soderberg, secretary of Journeymen Tailors' Union No. 5, states that the Chicago local has presented a new wage scale to the merchant tailors with a demand that it go into effect October 1. So far there is no sign of its acceptance, and a strike may result. The increases asked are \$1 an hour, instead of 85 cents, for journeymen tailors; 58 cents instead of 50 cents for helpers, and 41 cents instead of 36 cents for bushelmen. The bosses are organized in the Merchant Tailors' and Designers' Protective Association of Chicago.

Leo George Heads National Union

El Paso, Texas.—The convention of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks, in session here, made no change in its official personnel. Acting President Leo George, of Chicago, was elected president. Secretary-Treasurer Thomas F. Flaherty was re-elected, as were the vice-presidents. The convention voted to make the pay question the paramount legislative issue at the next congress. The executive committee was empowered to take the necessary steps to acquaint the public and congress with the need for increases.

Farrington Swats Herrin Slander

Springfield, Ill.—"A damnable lie" is the comment of President Frank Farrington, District No. 12, U. M. W. A., on the Herrin part of the series of articles on the miners' union and revolutionary propaganda published by the international office of the United Mine Workers. The "damnable lie" in particular, according to Farrington, is the statement that the Herrin mine war of June 22, 1922, was a "revolting, inexcusable crime fomented, promoted and caused solely by communists." The publicity statement further blamed sixty-seven foreign born miners of Herrin for what it calls the "slaughter."

and if a check can't locate it, surely a telegram can't, nor would a letter, and I can't wait for that. Be aware, too, that I am not going to submit calmly to this outrage. The injury is too great. When I reach home I will take legal advice in the premises.

STATE MOVEMENT DISAVOWS FOSTER

Illinois Federation Repudiates Every Issue Communist Leader Advocates

Decatur, Ill.—The forty-first annual convention of the Illinois State Federation of Labor has concluded its sessions in this city. Its principal business was a complete repudiation of William Z. Foster and his supporters.

Every issue that the Fosterites worked for in the convention was overwhelmingly defeated. The issue of amalgamation was up in the form of two resolutions. It was defeated after a stormy debate by a vote of 313 to 80. The 1922 convention at Rockford defeated the amalgamation resolution also, but there the vote was 148 to 119.

The Foster group had a resolution introduced pledging support of Alex. Howat and August Dorchy in their controversy with the international officers of the United Mine Workers of America. It was defeated on the ground that the matter was not the business of the federation.

Foster's adherents spoke in favor of a resolution sent to the convention by the Chicago Federation of Labor, asking the A. F. of L. to take steps for the formation of a labor party. The Fosterites introduced this amendment in the Chicago Federation of Labor, and it was amended in a manner not to their liking. In the Chicago Federation they were defeated by a vote of four to one. Nevertheless, the state federation, because Foster and his friends supported the amended resolution, bowled it over by a vote of 245 to 65.

Refuse to Hit F. L. P.

The Fosterites also attempted to have the state federation repudiate the Farmer-Labor Party of Illinois, organized at the instance of the federation, through a resolution asking the federation to call a state-wide conference of unions to form a new labor party. The federation refused to repudiate the party it started and overwhelmingly voted down the Foster measure.

Recognition of the Russian government has been demanded in four conventions of the Illinois-State Federation of Labor. This convention defeated a resolution on this issue by a vote of 350 to 80. This reversal of policy was caused by the fact that the Foster delegates supported the resolution.

Other measures passed by the convention were the fixing of a voluntary per capita of one-third of a cent per member for affiliated unions to support the work of the joint legislative board (the vote on this was 302 to 83); provision for the joint legislative board to report to all affiliated organizations on the records of members of the legislature; demand for the immediate release of Tom Mooney and his colleagues.

Debate on Legion Is Averted

A brisk debate seemed imminent on the proposal of the executive board that union men form posts of the American Legion, but this was avoided when the committee on officers' reports changed the recommendation to one that union men join some ex-service men's organization. This substitute was adopted.

President Walker recognized the reorganization of the Chicago Building Trades Council, the claims of which to official recognition are pending at the Portland convention of the

TELLS SAD STORY OF NOVA SCOTIA WORKERS

Clergyman Recites Conditions the Bosses Impose on Their Employes

Quebec, Canada.—A story of exploitation of mine and steel workers in Nova Scotia, who recently struck, is told by Canon Scott, prominent clergyman, who has returned from an independent investigation of conditions in that area. In an interview here, he said:

I visited the steel works and had different interviews with the executives of the steel workers' union and a large number of the men who have been blacklisted on account of the strike, and who are now under sentence of eviction from their houses by the company. As regards wages, if employment is continuous, the maximum earning of a large number of the miners would be about \$3.35 a day, say \$80 a month, but owing to various conditions, employment is far from continuous, with the result that the men frequently fail to obtain a living wage. The steel workers are in a much similar position as regards pay.

Describes Housing Conditions

At mine No. 11 we made an inspection of the houses owned by the company, and in which the miners live. There were about 1,500 people in them. Water was laid into the houses and through a pipe from the sink the drainage passed into little open gutters leading into a main one at the rear, also open. At the back of the houses, stood rows of dilapidated latrines, each family having to pay a dollar to have them cleaned out. There were no double windows or storm doors on many of the houses, and the whole place had a squalid appearance.

I also visited the company's houses at Sydney Mines, where the conditions were even worse, and took photographs of the backyards as well as of the rows of miserable buildings in which the families were compelled to live.

The general atmosphere is one of gloom and a spirit of depression pervades the whole region. The men do not trust the company, and the company does not trust the men.

The "red" element is of very little importance beyond the fact that it is used to blind the eyes of the public to the real issue and bad conditions under which the people live.

Just Can't Tell the Truth

The "Worker," a weekly paper, official organ of the Workers' Party, in a recent issue referred to J. G. Brown, national secretary of the Farmer-Labor Party, as having made a motion in the July conference, for the Farmer-Labor Party to affiliate with the Federated Farmer Labor Party, which is controlled by the Workers' Party. Neither at that conference, nor at any other time, has Secretary Brown held any attitude toward the Federated Farmer Labor Party except one of opposition. He made no such motion as that stated, and he opposed the only such motion offered.

Gompers Urges Jap Relief

President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor has urged all workers to contribute to the funds being raised for relief of the sufferers from the Japanese earthquakes.

building trades department of the A. F. of L., by introducing Arthur Wallace, Chicago painter, as president of the Chicago Building Trades Council, when Wallace addressed the convention. Edward Ryan is the other claimant of the presidency of the Chicago Building Trades Council.

Peoria was selected as the place for the 1924 convention.

FARMER LABOR PARTY NEWS

By J. G. BROWN
NATIONAL SECRETARY, FARMER-LABOR PARTY

In the state of Oklahoma, where, due to the closed-door election laws, preventing new parties from getting a place on the ballot, the Farmer-Labor Reconstruction League was compelled to make its fight in the elections last fall on the Democrat ticket, most of the places on the ticket having been won in the primaries by the league, the situation is now in bad shape. Governor Walton, who has the League candidate for governor, and who has repudiated pre-election promises, is out, it is reported, to destroy the league.

Advices from Oklahoma are to the effect that the folly of trying to reform one of the old parties is to be abandoned, but the first step in that direction must be to initiate a fair election law, making it possible for a new party to get on the ballot.

Before this can be done, under the present law, it is necessary that such new party shall have polled 10 per cent of the vote cast in three states other than Oklahoma. In the 1920 elections this was done by the Farmer-Labor Party, but when the matter came before the election commissioners of Oklahoma—all old party politicians—the evidence was promptly rejected on technicalities.

In South Dakota, the branch of the Farmer-Labor Party was known in that state as the Non-partisan League Party. In spite of the fact that all presidential electors were Farmer-Labor, the returns from that state were thrown aside. In Wyoming, no governor was elected in 1920, but the highest official to be elected was the one congressman allowed that state. He ran on the Farmer-Labor ticket, but the commissioners of Oklahoma ruled that since he was not running for the office of governor, the vote of that state could not be considered.

Thus it happens that all the energies at the present time of the Farmer-Labor Reconstruction League are concentrated on a reform of the antiquated election laws. If this can be done it is likely that in 1924 there will be a healthy and successful Farmer-Labor Party ticket in the field in Oklahoma. But even if this effort is not successful, it is declared that never again will the fight be made through either of the old parties. Events are forcing the conviction on all sides that the only hope for the workers in factories and on farms is by independent political action through a party of their own.

With more than previous sentiment, the question of independent political action will come before the Portland, Ore., convention of the American Federation of Labor which will begin its annual session October 1. State federations in Minnesota, Indiana and Utah have instructed their delegates to the convention to introduce and work for the passage of resolutions providing for the modification of the constitution of the American federation so as to permit that body to take a stand for an aggressive political policy on the part of the workers. Numerous city central bodies have taken similar action, the latest of which is the Trades Council of Ogden, Utah.

Carl Mullen, who was chosen to start the drive for the upbuilding of the Farmer-Labor Party in Indiana, reports that steps will be taken immediately to get local unions affiliated with the state body, and at the same time establish branches of the party in all parts of the state. As soon as the movement is sufficiently well under way it is proposed to hold a state convention and provide for a strong state ticket in the elections next year. Sentiment is perhaps as strong for the Farmer-Labor Party in Indiana as in any state in the union, with the possible exception of Minnesota. The job of organizing this sentiment will be pressed with vigor from now on, according to Secretary Mullen.

Parley Parker Christensen spoke recently in Reno, Nevada, a state that never had a Farmer-Labor Party organization. He made a profound impression. The papers containing accounts of his address were bought by fives and tens. When he wrote to the editor of the paper for a copy for his own files, Mr. Christensen was informed that the edition was completely exhausted. The editor was surprised and so expressed himself in a letter to the Farmer-Labor Party presidential candidate.

Mr. Christensen has spoken in numerous places in California, both in the southern and central part. Everywhere the story is the same. The call for farmer-labor unity is sweeping the country, and early steps will be taken in building up of a strong Farmer-Labor branch in California.

About the first of October, Mr. Christensen will

ALLIANCE OF NEEDLE WORKERS IS FORMED

President of I. L. G. W. U. Heads New Effort for Industrial Co-operation

New York.—An alliance of 400,000 needle trades workers, embracing five international unions, will carry on joint organization activities and give mutual moral and financial strike support as the result of the formation here of the Needle Trades Workers' Alliance of America. The new organization consists of the International Ladies' Garment Workers, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the International Fur Workers' union, the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America, and the United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers of North America.

Morris Sigman, president of the ladies' garment workers, was elected president of the alliance and Max Zaritsky, president, cap makers' union, secretary-treasurer.

The executive board includes Sigman, Zaritsky, Sidney Hillman, Morris Kaufman, of the furriers, and Thomas Sweeney, of the journeymen tailors.

Headquarters in New York

The opening of permanent headquarters in New York, the election of an executive secretary and an annual budget not to exceed \$20,000 was decided upon. The plan of organization, adopted on the basis of a report by a committee of five, follows:

The purpose of this alliance shall be to promote solidarity, mutual aid and co-operation among the affiliated international unions: (a) To establish an organization department in order to carry out joint organization work for two or more affiliated international unions in such localities and at such times as conditions may warrant. (b) To give the affiliated international unions moral and financial assistance in organization work, in trade matters, as well as in strikes and lockouts.

Any labor union of the needle trades is eligible for affiliation; the admission of such organization shall be decided upon by a majority vote of the executive council.

Building Unions "Suspended"

The old officers of the Chicago Building Trades Council, headed by Edward Ryan, have "suspended" eleven unions "outlawed" by the "open" shop "Citizens' Committee to Enforce the Landis Award." These unions are the ones that elected Arthur Wallace president of a reorganized building trades council. The "suspension" is a move in the fight for control between the old and the new groups, which will be submitted to the building trades department of the A. F. of L. at Portland.

Ogden Demands Labor Party

Ogden, Utah.—The Ogden Trades and Labor Assembly has passed a resolution nearly identical in text with that recently adopted by the Chicago Federation of Labor, calling on the American Federation of Labor to make provision for the organization of a labor party.

start for his home in Chicago, filling some pressing speaking dates in the important centers en route. In San Francisco, Los Angeles, Reno and other places where Mr. Christensen has been, the newspapers are eagerly printing interviews, and are especially anxious to get his views of the situation in the countries he visited on his recent tour of the world. Most of the stories are on the front pages, illustrated with pictures of the Farmer-Labor Party champion.

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DUBS HERRIN BATTLE A NATURAL INCIDENT

U. S. Coal Commission Says People
Will Fight for Their
Convictions

By Leland Olds
Federated Press

Inability of the United States Coal Commission to make definite proposals looking to peace in the soft coal fields is blamed on the irrepressible conflict between labor and capital, according to the latest report of the commission. Until the battle for supremacy between the United Mine Workers and the "open" shop operators of West Virginia, Kentucky and Illinois comes to an end or is tempered with a measure of tolerance by both sides, outbreaks such as those which have occurred in these three states in the past will continue.

The Herrin battle of June, 1922, in southern Illinois, is treated in this report as a natural incident in the class struggle, with the responsibility equally divided between the miners, public officials and the operators. Williamson county miners are pictured as fighting to preserve the union which had made decent life possible.

Williamson county, according to the commission, is intensely patriotic and had a fine record in the world war. Its people are intelligent, soft spoken, extremely religious, not given to profanity, and would resent any suggestions that they are not good, patriotic American citizens. Says the report:

History of Local Movement

When mining began in that country, it was upon a ruinously competitive basis. Profit was the sole object; life and health of the employes was of no account. Men worked in water half way up to their knees, in gas filled rooms, in unventilated mines, where the air was so foul that no man could work long hours without seriously impairing his health.

There was no workmen's compensation law; accidents were frequent, and there was no common ground upon which employers and employes met. They had not interests in common and they regarded each other with hostility and distrust. The average daily wage of the miner was from \$1.25 to \$2.

Then came the union in 1898 and 1899. Peace and good will and mutual respect have been the general rule since that time. The workmen's compensation law has been enacted. Earnings advanced to \$7 and even to \$15 a day; improvement in the working conditions was reflected in the appearance of the workmen, their families, their manner of life, and their growing cities and public improvements.

There are 13,000 miners in the county, 62 per cent of whom own their own homes and most of them own automobiles. All occupations are unionized. They believe in the union, for they think it brought them out of the land of bondage into the promised land when their government had been careless or indifferent to their needs. They hold themselves to be good American citizens and proved it during the great war, but what they have of daily comfort they think comes from the union and not from the government.

Opens Fight on Union

The report shows how the Southern Illinois Coal Company came into this county like an agent of foreign conquest to reduce its people once again to the old bondage. According to the commission:

There is no doubt that when the promoter of the Southern Illinois Coal Company started to operate his mine in defiance of the union, he was inviting mob violence and flitting with death; he knew it and prepared to meet it. The resentment was spontaneous and instantaneous. He challenged the supremacy of the union. Those in the mob undoubtedly believed that it was an attempt to return to the old conditions before the mines had been unionized.

The story of increasing irritation on both sides is told and the killing of strike breakers portrayed. But the commission also says:

Recurring to the Herrin situation, there is indisputable proof that three union miners were killed and that no attempt has been made to ascertain or punish the guilty parties. There is no doubt that what are commonly known as strike-breakers, gunmen, or thugs were brought to that county thoroughly equipped with arms and ammunition, and perfectly willing to shoot with or without provocation.

What the commission terms an honest though mistaken belief in the right to resist to the limit any interference with the rights

MIDSEA LABOR DAY

By Albert F. Coyle
Federated Press

New York.—For the first time in American labor history, a group of trades unionists separated from their homeland by 1,500 miles of water, commemorated Labor Day with a big public meeting and open forum discussion for the education of their fellow-passengers. This Labor Day found the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers' Co-operative National Bank party of European tourists out in midocean on board the Cunard Liner "Saxonia." On the same boat was General Secretary J. W. Brown, International Federation of Trade Unions, and a few friends of labor who supported the move for a Labor Day meeting. The big dining room of the liner was secured for the purpose, and was well filled with interested passengers, ranging all the way from naval officers to clergymen and university professors, who wanted to hear what labor had to say for itself.

Among the speakers who addressed this unique gathering were Herman E. Wills and Fred A. Burgess, assistant grand chief, B. of L. E., and J. W. Brown. George W. Lyon, an American returning from South Africa, presided as chairman of the meeting. When the meeting was thrown open to questions, the proponents of organized labor were kept busy for an hour answering questions and objections of big employers, professional men and students,—many of whom were in dire need of an education concerning the purposes and principles of labor unions.

Strong Amnesty Sentiment in West

Washington, D. C.—"When you are in California you leave the constitution alone." Chief of Detectives Mathewson of San Francisco advised Miss Julia Emery, representing the Joint Amnesty Committee, when she reached San Francisco, in a tour to develop amnesty sentiment along the route of President Harding's western tour. Miss Emery has returned to Washington to report that the release of the remaining political prisoners is being urged in all the states she visited. In San Francisco she was questioned by Mathewson, who wanted to know whether there was any special significance in her being in that city at the time the president was due to arrive. She replied that she had deliberately planned it. When told that her activities would be restricted, she made reference to her constitutional right only to be informed that, when in California, you leave the constitution alone.

Track Laborers Stand Pat

The metal trades in the shops of the Chicago street railways have submitted their grievances against the street car system to arbitration, and have named Vice President Oscar Nelson of the Chicago Federation of Labor as their representative. The track laborers, who are on strike for increases to about 27 cents an hour, having in mind the three cents an hour awarded to the conductors and motormen by arbitration, have voted to continue their walkout and not submit their demands to arbitration.

Steward Is Re-elected

Denver, Colo.—The convention of the National Federation of Federal Employes re-elected President Steward. Boston was selected as the next convention city. Many resolutions bearing on improved working conditions in the government service were considered. Labor colleges were approved, and members were urged to give their support to same.

The New York Central has informed the railroad labor board that it has granted increases of from 1 to 3 cents an hour to clerical and shop employes. The raise will date back to last July, and will aggregate \$1,341,682 annually.

of unionism and all that it is shown to stand for, is seen by the commission as the underlying cause of the bloodshed. "The blood of the people," it says, "is such that they fight for their convictions."

SACCO-VANZETTI CASE COMES UP OCTOBER 1

Folks Wonder How Lightning Change
Perjured Witness Will
Testify

Boston, Mass.—Definite notice to defense attorneys that the Sacco-Vanzetti case will come before the court' October 1, to clear away all motions connected with the case, has set defense workers to wondering what Louis Pelser, lightning change testimonial artist, will do when called on to take the stand in the hearing on his repudiation of his trial testimony.

Pelser gave his first statement to a defense investigator months before the trial. He said he could not identify anybody connected with the South Braintree murders, of which Sacco and Vanzetti are charged. All he had seen was the back end of the machine. He had the number of the car. At that time he was not working.

Two weeks before the trial began in 1921, Pelser got a job working for the Rice & Hutchins shoe plant in front of which the murders occurred. Between getting that job and the time of trial he developed his memory so that he gave a coherent, but highly contested story of what happened on April 15, 1921. He said he saw Sacco standing over the body of Berardelli, with a smoking gun in his hand. This he saw through a three-inch opening in an opaque glass window. The crime occurred fourteen months before he took the stand, and he had not seen Sacco in all that time. In fact, he took the stand without trying beforehand to identify Sacco. Other witnesses took that precaution.

Pelser Dodged Under Bench

At the trial Pelser's workmates all swore that he and they had dodged under the work benches when the firing started. When the shooting stopped, they looked out the window. One of them read off the number from the rear end of the fleeing auto. Pelser wrote it on the wall. It disappeared before the trial started, and was not put in evidence from that source. These witnesses volunteered after reading Pelser's testimony in the papers.

Long after the trial a defense worker found Pelser at the home of his parents, out of work. His answers and affidavits confirmed all his workmates said at the trial and what he told the defense before trial. When the defense filed the affidavit and motions based on it, Pelser was again working. The state brought in another affidavit, repudiating his confession, and swearing that the defense had bribed and intimidated him. He swore the investigator had given him 70 cents and part of a package of cigarets, besides paying for his lunch.

Several months ago, we are told, Pelser was caught stealing material from the cutting room where he worked. He said he took the leather to make his sweetheart a pair of shoes. But Pelser was not prosecuted. He was only discharged. Since then he is said to be unemployed.

If he lives up to his record, unemployment will make him a defense witness. But maybe the state will find him a job.

What will Pelser do? The defense is wondering.

Postal Employes Are Stung

Washington, D. C.—Postal employes who expected to get extra pay because they worked on the day of the funeral services for the late President Harding, have been told that their hopes were in vain. That day was declared a holiday for all governmental departments. "Employes in the postal service who were required to perform services on said day are not entitled to compensatory time therefor," declares John H. Bartlett, first assistant postmaster general. In support of his ruling, Bartlett declares that the president's proclamation did not set the day aside as a holiday, but only as a day of mourning and prayer throughout the United States.

EDITORIAL PAGE

A WORLD GONE NUTS

Is "civilization" going backward? In Spain: the generals of the army have seized the government, backed the king up in a corner, made him take their orders, junked the parliament and the cabinet and have set up an autocracy of the aristocrats. The correspondent of the conservative, staid, old Chicago Daily News says "constitution-alism has received a heavy blow."

In Italy Mussolini has become the dictator of the government in behalf of big business, while the Fascisti, organized and headed by him, holds off the labor movement and disbands unions at the points of guns. Musso- lini faces the Italian government about and makes it march toward the rear, by turning the publicly owned railroads and other utilities over to private ownership and control.

One of the most important international labor unions in the world permits the editor of its official organ to issue in its name a long series of lurid, panicky misstatements about the "perils" threatening the labor movement. The series was so laughable that even the kept press didn't take it seriously.

In England, where the Labor Party has acquired more members of parliament than it ever had before, and seems on the road to capture of the reins of governmental power, there is talk of the movement being forced to abandon publication of the London Daily Herald, influential labor paper.

In Oklahoma, the whipping parties and other mob rule demonstrations of the Ku Klux Klan have resulted in the state being placed under martial law.

What is the meaning of these events? Is reaction sweeping over the world like a tidal wave? Will it wipe out such measure of political democracy as "parliamentary" and "constitutional" governments have established? Will it result in a long continuance of the loss of free speech, freedom of press and assemblage, freedom of opinion?

No, it is hard to believe that there is a wave of reaction, in view of the recent election of Magnus Johnson to the United States senate from Minnesota on a Farmer-Labor Party ticket, and in view of the growing demand in the United States of sentiment for deliverance from the political domination of the two old parties, to say nothing of the progress of the Labor Party in England, and many other events that might be cited.

It seems more probable that "civilization" has left the leaders of the ruling classes in Spain, Italy and elsewhere with such poverty of imagination that they cannot devise any other plan for defeating progress which will rob them of part of their stolen profits, than suppression which, if continued, is bound to concentrate the power of the protests they seek to bottle up.

So, also, in the United States, while the stupid tactics of certain "progressives" in lining themselves up with the communist movement, have made necessary and inevitable their complete repudiation, progressive ideas will not long be handicapped or retarded, but will continue their progress.

The crazy events we are witnessing are principally manifestations of the panic of timid folks who see through magnifying glasses and fear "perils" that do not exist.

Science teaches us that nothing remains static, but progress is continuous, not counting temporary setbacks which are insignificant in the long run. But the onward march might be facilitated and the hampering incidents shortened and minimized if the men and women who are concerned about the welfare of society would do a little independent thinking and cultivate a little more courage.

MORE PAY—ALSO MORE GOODS

It is common knowledge that wages have recently been rising more rapidly than the cost of living. When the pay wage-earners receive increases more rapidly than the prices of the necessities they have to buy, their purchasing power grows. Another way of saying this is to say that their real wages, or wages

THE NEW MAJORITY

ROBERT M. BUCK, Editor
DOROTHY WALTON, Associate Editor
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Dedicated to the hand and brain workers of the United States who have been scattered hopelessly as minorities in miscellaneous groups, but who, when they start to function unitedly in politics, will form a new majority that will sweep all opposition before it and take over the government to be administered thenceforth by the workers.

measured in the goods they can buy, rather than in dollars and cents, increase.

A fairly good indication of the course of wages throughout the nation are the figures published by the New York State Department of Labor covering weekly earnings of manufacturing wage-earners in that state. These may be compared with the government figures for changes in the cost of living. This comparison shows that average real wages, or purchasing power, for the first seven months of 1923, is about 27.8 per cent above the level of 1919, and a little less than 20 per cent above the level of 1920.

Some business commentators maintain that present wages are too high and must be reduced. They reason this way merely because wage rates have been increased more than prices. Their favorite expression is that wages are "out of line." Of course, if they were right, and wages could never be increased more than the cost of living, the wage-earners' purchasing power and living standards could never be improved, no matter how much "progress" the world might make.

What they forget is that production of goods increases also, and that the more there is produced, the more goods there are for each person in the country. If the purchasing power of consumers did not increase these new goods could not be bought.

Production increased about 30 per cent for each person in the country between 1899 and 1919. That means that real wages could also have increased at least 30 per cent in the same period. As a matter of fact real wages did not increase at all in those twenty years. In 1919 the wage-earners were not receiving the same share of the nation's product that they received in 1899. They were short of it by more than 30 per cent. Therefore, even if production had not increased at all since 1919, a gain of real wages amounting to 28 per cent would not quite bring the wage-earners back to the relative position they enjoyed in 1899. On this ground alone the increase in real wages since 1919 is more than justified.

As a matter of fact, moreover, production has increased rapidly since 1919. Of course it dropped during the 1921 depression, but since then it has recovered and more than made up the loss. Average production of basic industries, including agriculture, mining and manufacturing, was 23 per cent higher for the first seven months of 1923 than it was in 1919, according to the Federal Reserve Board. Meanwhile the population increased only about 5.3 per cent. Therefore the production per capita of the nation increased 16.7 per cent in that period. There were 16.7 per cent more goods produced to each man, woman and child in the country in 1923 than in 1919.

Production of manufactured goods alone also increased. It was, for the first seven months of 1923, 11.6 per cent larger than in 1919, according to the U. S. Department of Commerce. And it actually took fewer wage-earners to make these goods in 1923 than were employed in 1919. This we see from

the index of employment in New York State, which was almost 3 per cent lower in 1923 than in 1919. The production of manufactures per wage-earner is thus 14.8 per cent higher than five years ago. In other words, each wage-earner is nearly 15 per cent more productive than in 1919.

It is apparent from the above that there is still plenty of room for wage increases without injustice to any other class, and without inflation of prices. The wage-earners received a certain share of the national product in 1899. Perhaps it was not enough, but it was paid, and so we know that at least it was a share possible for them to have. Between 1899 and 1919 production increased 30 per cent per capita, and real wages did not rise. Between 1919 and 1923 production increased about 15 per cent and real wages increased 28 per cent. Altogether, from 1899 to 1923, an increase of per capita production occurred amounting to about 50 per cent, compared with an increase of real wages amounting to only 28 per cent. If the wage-earners were each to receive the same share of the national product which they had in 1899, real wages would have increased as much as production, or 50 per cent. That means that average wages might still go up about 20 per cent without any increases in the cost of living, or without damage to the country.

The Health School

Conducted by DR. P. L. CLARK
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ASTHMA—V

WHEN the body becomes thoroughly saturated with acid-acidosis—supplemented by toxicosis, a person will break down with any of the catarrhal diseases such as bronchitis, asthma, tuberculosis, as day follows night.

Asthma and hay fever, being both catarrhal diseases, the treatment is the same for both.

Get 100 quarter-grain podophyllin pills and take two at night. In the morning, take one to four teaspoonfuls of castor oil. Regulate the amount of oil taken to produce two to five bowel movements a day. It may be necessary to cut the podophyllin pills to one at night. Take an enema, night and morning, consisting of two quarts of water in which you dissolve a heaping teaspoonful of common baking soda.

The enema should be taken in the knee chest position (on the knees, with forehead on the floor), and it is well to take one fore full and expel it, then take a second and third bag full.

If you have asthma badly, eat absolutely nothing but a glass of orange juice for breakfast, another glass for your noon meal, and another glass of orange juice for your evening meal until your asthma ceases to trouble. Meantime rest yourself all you possibly can. Get to bed at seven or eight o'clock, whether you sleep or not.

Let me emphasize the necessity of rest, physical, mental and physiological. Physical rest by staying in bed. Mental rest by dismissing all worries and mental activities, and the physiological rest or the rest for your internal organs and glandular system you will get by your lessened food intake.

Sometimes orange juice irritates a very catarrhal stomach and a rich vegetable broth should be substituted.

If the stomach is very much irritated, and either orange juice or vegetable broth is irritating, take only water, a glass every half or three-quarters of an hour, until asthma disappears.

If you give it half a chance, the blood will rapidly clear your body of poisons by pouring them into the stomach and bowels. If concentrated food, such as starches and proteins, is eaten, these poisons are reabsorbed and again thrown into the blood in the process of digestion. So you see why the orange juice or vegetable broth is necessary, and also the utility of the laxatives and enemas in carrying quickly out of the body these poisons before they can be reabsorbed.

As soon as your blood becomes cleaner, it will stop pouring mucus out of your nose and lungs, and the lungs will soon be clear enough so the asthmatic spasms will be relieved.

Then have fresh fruit for breakfast; a large salad consisting of lettuce, tomatoes, celery, cucumbers, spinach or any raw vegetable, for the noon meal and the same at night. A pint or two of vegetable broth may be taken noon and night also.

Continue this last list of meals if possible until your tongue is clean. Watch your tongue from the first and you will see it will be very much coated and gradually begin to clear as your body clears up.

When all asthma is gone and the tongue is clean, you can add one or two cooked non-starchy vegetables to your meals at noon and night for a week or so, and then live according to menus in "How to Live and Eat for Health."

MORE ILLINOIS JOBS; WEEK EARNINGS DROP

Average Income of the Industrial
Workers in This State
Is \$26.74

By R. D. Cahn

General Advisory Board, Ill. Dept. of Labor

Migration of workers into Illinois from other industrial areas continued during August. Into the Illinois labor market for the month an increasing supply of labor was pouring, and although the industries of the state were at the same time expanding, the expansion was not sufficient to assimilate all of this newly available man power. Consequently, the ratio of people out of work to vacant positions increased over the July figure.

The employment survey for the month is based upon the signed reports from 1,519 Illinois employers. These concerns had 417,174 workers in August, an increase of 1.3 per cent over the number the identical firms reported one month before. This growth compares with an increase of one per cent in August last year and a decline of .4 per cent in July of the current year. The additional workers bring employment to a point 15.8 per cent above August of last year and 21 per cent over the same month two years ago.

Employment moved briskly upward in the principal food industries and rose moderately in the stone, clay and glass industries, and the wood and leather groups. In clothing and chemicals the movement was definitely downward, while in metals, machinery and conveyances, some of the larger industries had increased the number of workers, while some of the smaller ones showed very sharp reductions.

Gains in Building and Steel

In the building industry, and the dependent industries, those making building material, there was considerable activity during the month. Building workers increased in number by 5.7 per cent, the largest expansion being in the miscellaneous contracting and road building classes. Building construction alone gave jobs to 1.3 per cent more workers on account of rush work necessary in pushing the completion of buildings for fall occupancy on October first, the semi-annual moving day.

However, in iron and steel there was a gain of 5 per cent, part of it doubtless being due to the substitution of the three shift system for the two shift, that is, the installation of the eight-hour day. In Chicago alone the employment gain in steel workers was less than one per cent.

One of the most important declines was in men's clothing. Several concerns are reported to have gone out of business. The reports from ten factories show that 7.4 per cent of the workers were laid off during the month.

At the mines, cooler weather and a threatening strike in a competitive field brought an increase in the number of workers for the month amounting to 4.1 per cent, and a gain in earnings aggregating 14.1 per cent. At the mail order houses and department stores there were declines,—in the former case it was 2.9 per cent, in the latter 10 per cent. In the manufacturing industries alone the change during the month was a drop of 1.2 per cent for the 1,189 concerns reporting.

Employment of Women Increases

The women fared better than did men in the shifting of jobs during August. An analysis of the signed reports from 493 manufacturing concerns, which had five or more female workers and which submitted reports for both July and August, shows that the rate of increase of female employees was larger than that of males in every industrial group except one, for which comparable figures are available.

Small firms again suffered in comparison with the larger sized firms. For the fourth consecutive month the firms having fewer than 100 employees reported a decrease in employment. The August reduction of 1.1 per

Illinois-Building Trades in New State Association

Delegates from unions in the building trades, attending the Decatur convention of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, started a new organization named Associated Building Trades of Illinois. If enough affiliations are secured, a convention will be held in the spring, and application made to the building trades department of the American Federation of Labor for a charter. In any event, it is planned to hold a convention preceding the state federation convention next year. The provisional officers of the new organization are the following:

A. C. Anderson, painter, Wheaton, president; Al Hemmer, hod carrier, O'Fallon, 1st vice president; John Gallahan, bridge and structural iron worker, Chicago, 2d vice president; J. R. Holmes, carpenter, Springfield, 3d vice president; J. Torrey, plumber, Aurora, 4th vice president; L. J. Hopper, electrical worker, Peoria, 5th vice president; David A. McVey, lather, Chicago, secretary-treasurer.

Chicago Labor Classes Open

The classes conducted at the headquarters of the Women's Trade Union League, 311 South Ashland Boulevard, under the joint auspices of the league and the schools committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor, were scheduled to open September 21. The course to start on that night is one in Practical Psychology, in ten lessons, by Dr. William A. McKeer. A ten-lesson course on Government Industrial Relations and Labor Problems, by Victor Yarros, starts October 9. One on Parliamentary Law and Public Speaking, by Mrs. Maurice H. Lieber, opens October 10, and one on Word Usage and Public Speaking, by Mrs. Lieber, begins January 9. Classes in foreign languages will be organized as demanded.

Steel Drive Asks A. F. L. Support

Support of the A. F. of L. convention will be asked by the committee of national and international organizations in the steel industry, according to Secretary William Hannon. Hannon will attend the convention which opens at Portland, Ore., October 1, and will also attend the sessions of the metal trades department there. The educational work among the steel workers, which has been in progress throughout the summer, has accomplished a good deal, Hannon says, in all the three general organization districts centering in Chicago, Cleveland and Bethlehem, Pa. Meetings held in the mill towns and literature distributed in many languages have had their effect.

Labor Men Defeat Steel

Melbourne, Australia.—Labor members in federal parliament made a dramatic exposure of ordinances which were to go into effect, whereby big beef owning interests were to get lengthy leases of land in the northern territory of the continent for sums ranging from 25 cents to \$1.20 per square mile. The same land in Queensland, divided only by a wire fence from the northern territory land, was bringing up to \$50 per square mile. Owing to the exposure, the federal government withdrew the ordinances, and new ordinances are to be issued fixing the rentals of land in the northern territory at a just figure.

cent was less than the preceding month's reductions for firms of this size. Concerns having between 100 and 249 workers suffered decreases during August amounting to .7 per cent. The biggest gain was by the fifteen firms having from 2,000 to 4,999 employees. The firms in this class added 9 per cent more workers. Nine of the 1,519 firms have more than 5,000 workers. These nine firms employ more than one fourth of the total number of the workers included in the entire tabulations. During the month these largest employers added 1.7 per cent to their working forces.

The 1,518 reporting employers paid out \$10,569,062 in wages during the week of August 15. This was a gain of 1.9 per cent for the identical concerns over the July 15 disbursements. The average weekly earnings in the manufacturing industry stood at \$26.74 per week in August, which was twenty-three cents under the average for July, but

HARD COAL PROFITS NOW IN PUBLIC EYE

Lewis Demands Freight Rate Probe;
Royalties Also Are
Scrutinized

Federated Press

Washington, D. C.—The struggle of the United Mine Workers to obtain better working conditions and increased wages for its members in the anthracite coal regions, following the 10 per cent wage raise compromise, enters upon what union officials consider to be a less spectacular but more important phase: the restriction of the mine operators' ability to obtain huge profits by their association with the anthracite hauling railroads.

In addition to the demand made by Pres. John L. Lewis, U. M. W. A., that the interstate commerce commission investigate anthracite coal freight rates, labor is looking to the coal commission to make recommendations concerning the royalties which are paid for the lands on which the mines are located.

In reports submitted thus far, the coal commission made only passing reference to the part which royalties add to the cost of coal production. The rate of royalty was not shown in those reports, but what was shown was the portion of total general expense that went to royalty payments. According to the information disclosed, independent dealers pay as much as 51 cents as royalty on each ton mined, while the larger dealers pay 42 cents a ton as royalty. The largest companies, which own most of the lands on which their coal is mined, pay 10 cents per ton.

Royalties Have Been Increased

In 1919, royalty charges represented 2.7 per cent of the total cost of mining coal. In 1923 it rose to 3.18 per cent. The Girard estate of Philadelphia, which is considered to be the largest beneficiary of the royalties which every anthracite coal consumer must pay, bases the royalty payments on a percentage of the sale price of the coal at the mines instead of requiring fixed royalties. This percentage varies from 15 per cent to as high as 28 per cent of the price.

From 4 per cent to 5 per cent of the total anthracite production mined on the Girard estate. In 1909, the royalties yielded the estate close to \$8,000,000; in 1919, \$11,500,000. The production during that period increased 7 per cent and the royalty rate 35 per cent. This estate, for which Stephen Girard paid less than \$220,000 in 1830, has already returned hundreds of millions of dollars.

Besides a revision of the terms of the leases providing for excessive royalties, officials of the miners' union are reiterating statements they have made before numerous investigating commissions concerning the excessive rates charged by the anthracite carrying railroads, which own mines producing about 80 per cent of the total anthracite production.

It will be shown by the labor representatives again that the anthracite carriers have utilized their position to extort the maximum profits from the industry, while laying the increased cost of producing coal to the slightly improved wages of the workers. The freight rate on anthracite is from two and one-half to three times as great as the operating cost, according to figures already presented to the interstate commerce commission.

Anthracite railroads have been paying, in dividends and in allotment of stock, as high as 37 per cent to their investors.

\$1.59 below the average for June, the peak month. A year ago the average weekly earnings amounted to \$23.95, so that with the decline, the factory workers of the state still had \$2.79 more per week than during August, 1922. For all industries the August average weekly earnings amounted to \$27.56. This is 31 cents per week greater than the amount for July, but \$1.15 under the average for June. One year ago, weekly earnings for all industries amounted to \$24.75.

BULLETIN BOARD

MIDDLE WEST

St. Louis.—Union meat cutters and butcher workers here are meeting with success in their effort for a wage increase of \$5 a week for journeymen and \$2 for apprentices, effective September 1. About 600 workmen will benefit by the increase. More than 100 employers have signed the new agreement.

St. Louis.—A conference of labor representatives from all parts of Missouri for the purpose of agreeing upon a proposed workmen's compensation bill, to be presented in the next legislature, has been called by the State Federation of Labor. At present Missouri is without a workmen's compensation law. Several measures passed by the legislature at previous sessions have been defeated in referendum because the various labor bodies were not agreed. Chief opponents of previ-

ous measures have been the building grades councils of Kansas City and St. Louis.

St. Louis.—The latest labor organization to be attacked with the judicial strikebreaking weapon in St. Louis is the Sheet Metal Workers' District council. Circuit Judge Mix has handed down an injunction which forbids the union from picketing a local metal plant against which a strike for a 10 per cent wage increase has been conducted since July 1. The strikers number 275 including 50 women. The company offer of a 5 per cent raise was rejected. These workers have not received a pay increase in three years, but have taken two cuts within that period totaling about 23 per cent.

St. Louis.—Union tailors here are seeking to establish the 44-hour week after October 1, when the present agreement expires. The workers are members of Journeymen Tailors' local No. 11, with a membership of nearly 500. The union will ask that the present minimum wage scale of \$40.50 a week be maintained.

WAY DOWN EAST

Hartford, Conn.—Organized musicians in this city have raised wages \$5 a week in motion picture houses and \$8 a week in vaudeville houses. The workday has been decreased.

New York.—More than 2,000 furniture workers, affiliated with the Brotherhood of Carpenters, have won their demand for an hourly rate of \$1.25. Settlements have not been made with several hundred of these workers who are on strike.

Springfield, Mass.—A 15 per cent wage increase has been secured by musicians, stage employees, motion picture operators and bill posters.

SUNNY SOUTH.

New Orleans.—Wages in the Louisiana lumber camps and mills are \$1.25 a day of ten hours, with no allowance for housing or food, either to single men or those with families.

Raleigh, N. C.—This state continues its program of building a school house a day, and within five years the entire physical equipment of the school system will be rebuilt. During the past two years 573 school buildings, costing \$14,042,445.58, and approximately 100 city school buildings costing \$11,264,000 have been erected.

New Orleans.—Impressed by the success of their white brothers, colored carpenters here have organized and will demand \$1 an hour for all construction work. Eight weeks ago the white carpenters struck for \$1 an hour and the closed shop. While the

strike is not yet won, fully two-thirds of the union men have received the new wage scale and the conditions asked. Unless the demands of the colored carpenters are granted, they will strike.

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of this city does not believe that labor injunctions should be issued merely because they "could do no harm" to workers. A restaurant manager wanted an injunction because, he said, his striking waiters were assaulting employees. The court found that this statement was not true. Then the attorneys assured the court that an injunction would not harm the workers, but the court rejected this reasoning.

Salt Lake City, Utah.—The federal district court here has issued a permanent injunction against the state public utilities commission lowering telephone rates of the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph company.

Denver, Colo.—Colorado coal miners worked an average of eighty-seven days in the first seven months of this year, according to a report by the state mine inspection bureau. The miners' income during this period averaged \$87.50 a month.

PACIFIC SLOPE

San Francisco.—The Southern Pacific, Northwestern Pacific and Key Route Companies, operating ferries on San Francisco bay, have rejected demands of their employees for a \$30 a month raise. The ferryboatmen's union has appealed to the railroad labor board for redress. If the raise is not obtained in this way probably a strike vote will be taken.

San Francisco.—Failing to reach an agreement with the Southern Pacific railroad on their demand for an increase in wages, engineers, pilots,

deckhands and night watchmen employed on the company's ferry boats will follow the course prescribed by the national transportation act and present their case to the railway labor board. The men are asking for \$30 a month increase in all wage scales. At present, ferryman receive the following monthly wages: Captain, \$250; first officer, \$165; second officer, \$137; chief engineer, \$225; assistant chief engineer, \$213.75; assistant engineer, \$165; firemen, \$124.35; deck hands, \$119.40; cabin watchmen, \$119.40; and night watchmen, \$100.

San Francisco.—"California is ripe for a third party movement as Minnesota was when it elected Magnus Johnson to the United States senate," said Parley P. Christensen, 1920 presidential candidate of the Farmer-Labor Party, in his last interview before leaving San Francisco for the east.

Tapo, Cal.—At a meeting in this town of the Nonpartisan League of California, resolutions were passed urging President Coolidge to call a special session of congress immediately to deal with what the resolutions termed "the marketing, transportation and fuel tragedies of the country." Delegates at the meeting stated that Ventura county beams are obliged to pass through the hands of six varieties of middlemen between California and New York.

Oakland, Cal.—The Alameda County Building Trades Council will enforce the union card on all new buildings within its jurisdiction, as the result of a recent council decision. Each job will be all union or all scab. It is predicted that out of this effort to enforce the card will come a better understanding of the necessity of a closely knit organization of all the crafts in the industry.

San Francisco.—A call to the workers and farmers of California to "establish unity of action against the forces that are trying to wreck the humane, charitable, progressive, and educational functions of the state government" has been issued by the executive council, California State Federation of Labor. The call, signed by Seth Brown, president, and Paul Scharrenberg, secretary-treasurer of the federation, and by George Irvine, John Pinsky, J. H. Wasserburger, and Harry See, state representatives of the big four railroad brotherhoods, is for a convention to be held at Stockton on September 21.

Oakland, Cal.—California's dead letter law permitting sterilization of sex criminals, the feeble minded, epileptics and incurable tubercular patients, is to undergo a test before the state supreme court from a case arising here. Hitherto the law has not been enforced because officials were afraid of being sued for damages on their bonds.

San Francisco.—The bakery wagon drivers of this city are now 98 per cent organized, with the West Bay district a close second. The union is going after the other 2 per cent, and will then formulate demands for a raise from \$35 to \$45 a week, and the abolition of night and holiday work.

CANADA

Vancouver, B. C.—Lumber prosperity has hit the British Columbia lumberjack, unemployment is the reward for the men who this year made a record production of logs per man, the greatest ever recorded in the history of the lumber industry of this province. Following six months of "highball logging," which included the piece-work system for a bare existence wage and working and living under insanitary conditions, British Columbia log-

ging leases in order to keep up the present price of logs have ordered the logging camps of British Columbia to close for a period of thirty days.

MEXICO

Mexico City.—A collection is being taken among the school children of this city for aid to the school children of Germany who are under-sourished as result of the postwar poverty in that country. The ministry of public education has sanctioned the extension of this humanitarian work to all parts of the country.

Guadalajara, Mexico.—The convention of the Partido Laborista (Labor Party), held recently in this city, nominated for president of Mexico Gen. Plutarco Elias Calles, present minister of interior in the Obregon cabinet. General Calles has announced that he can accept no nomination officially until he resigns his present position in the government. General Calles will probably also be the candidate of the Co-operatista Party (Co-operative), which meets in convention early in October. The presidential elections take place in June, 1924.

Mexico City.—Students of the professional schools of the National University and various technical high schools of this city have formed a students' political party with the object of taking part in the coming presidential elections. The party plans to edit a paper and to engage in propaganda favoring General Calles for president.

FOREIGN.

Glasgow.—Unemployment in Great Britain, which is mounting at the rate of 35,000 to 50,000 a month, and which is expected to reach the 2,000,000 mark during the winter, has hit the Clyde Ship Building Works. Last month the tonnage production of the Clyde yards was 754, the lowest output with one exception in forty years. Compared with 1922, there was a production loss this year up to August of 54,000 tons.

Bulgaria.—The new Bulgarian Government has no intention of abolishing compulsory labor. According to information received by the International Labor Office, Mr. Stoencheff, the new Minister of Public Works, states, however, that certain modifications will be made. The question of the temporary compulsory service of citizens up to 45 years of age will be left to the discretion of the municipal councils, who will be competent to organize and utilize it in accordance with local requirements.

Lahora, India.—The government of India has refused to accept the nomination of the Indian Trades Union Congress for the delegate to the International Labor Office conference in Geneva and has substituted its own nominee who is not supported by a single bona-fide union in all India.

Germany.—By legislation the transitional period, which must elapse before an unemployed person is entitled to receive doles on account of the cessation of work, has been reduced from one week to three days.

Poland.—Increased living costs at the beginning of last month, because of the extreme decline of Polish cur-

rency, brought about strikes tendencies in a number of trades. Polish labor agreements call for monthly wage increases commensurate with increased living costs, and living costs rose so rapidly during the month that many workmen refused to await determinate figures, and declared strikes of short duration.



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SECRET DIPLOMACY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

By Taraknath Das

THE uninformed as well as the idealists looking towards the League of Nations as the instrument of furthering the cause of international peace are cursing the stand of the Italian dictator, Mussolini, on the Greco-Turkish row and praising Lord Cecil as the champion of world peace and international co-operation.

The charge against Italy is that by refusing to submit the Greco-Italian row to the league, Italy is acting against the interest of peace and the prestige of the league. This is technically true. But looking towards the league as the upholder of peace is a very wrong conception of the nature of that institution. The league is a diplomatic body, and it functions in terms of diplomacy and tries to do things by unanimous consent. The foreign offices of the nations represented in the league formulate their policy and then they have their parley in the league through various representatives to suit their purposes and interests.

Lord Robert Cecil, anxious to avert a possible war, is now urging Italy to submit to the league, but while he was visiting Washington a few weeks ago he held the view that France was justified in going into the Ruhr, and he voted in the British House of Commons with the Tories, against the proposition of referring the question of the Ruhr to the League of Nations. The British government for eight months held that the French occupation of the Ruhr was legal and then, later on, after the successful termination of the Lausanne conference, it mystically came to realize that the French stand was illegal.

There is much more beneath the Greco-Italian dispute than mere murder of the Italian Commission, and the Italian stand to secure indemnity, and Lord Robert's efforts to save humanity through the league.

Mussolini is a political realist. He is trying to carry out the Italian expansionist program arrived at long before the murder of the Italian boundary commissioners, the murder only having furnished the opportunity for quick action. Italy is not acting against all the nations of Europe, but Italy sees that her position is secure in the Mediterranean be-

cause of the Anglo-French rivalry, and she is playing the game to the finish. The league, after its first flourish of forcing Italy to its decision, has accepted defeat.

Italy knows well of the British attitude towards her. In fact, Dictator Mussolini knows that the British government is catering to Italy in the Mediterranean against the French ambition. Lord Curzon is in favor of Anglo-Italian understanding. During the Turko-Italian war of 1911, Italy was so much in the wrong that all the signatories to the treaty of Berlin were bound to uphold the territorial integrity of Turkey, but when Turkey appealed to all the nations, and particularly to Britain, Sir Edward Grey did not want to offend the Italians, and thus gave free hand to the Italian government by adopting the course of benevolent neutrality.

Sir Edward Grey's principal efforts at that time were directed to detaching Italy from the Triple Alliance, which he did very successfully. The Powers associated in the Triple Alliance, particularly Germany, were then between the devil and the deep sea of offending Turkey as well as Italy, and had to take the prudent course of silence and inaction with respect to Italy.

Today the situation in Europe, so far as the Italian position is concerned, is somewhat similar, due to the Anglo-French rivalry in world politics, which forces both France and England not to dare offending Italy. Italy has gone into Corfu as she did in an opportune moment in Tripoli in 1911. Loud talks of Lord Robert Cecil are for public consumption and to make the impression that the League of Nations is workable, when as a matter of fact it is machinery created for secret diplomacy with idealistic camouflage; and Italy is not dismayed by it.

Since the Washington conference, Britain is courting Italian support by being pro-Italian; that was quite evident in Balfour's advocacy of Italy having a navy equal to that of France. So far as Anglo-French rivalry is concerned, it has three important roots in the Mediterranean: first, the question of Tangier in Africa, where France wants to establish a naval base which will destroy

British control of the gate of the Mediterranean at Gibraltar; second, France's insistence on controlling Syria, which would mean that France would menace Suez, another gate of the Mediterranean; and lastly, increasing strength of the Little Entente in any form in the Adriatic will be an addition to French influence in the Mediterranean.

Britain wants the support of both Greece and Italy against France in the Mediterranean. She is much perplexed at the present enigma. Although anxious not to offend Italy, Britain does not want to see Italy get too strong in the Mediterranean. Neither does France want to offend Italy; she is rather ready to support the Italian stand and restrain the exciting attitude of the Little Entente, with the hope that pro-English Greece would be curbed by Italy and the extension of French political and diplomatic support to Italy would convince her not to go against France in the Mediterranean, but to have common action in the Mediterranean against Britain.

So far the position of the British diplomacy is very difficult, and it has suffered a defeat. Italian and French diplomacy has won. As Lloyd George, in an impulsive way, threatened the Turks while the French showed a conciliatory attitude that forced England to change her tactics, so the British are changing tactics in the Greco-Italian dispute. Italy has the diplomatic victory in sight if Mussolini can stick to his stand. The league has already abdicated, and at the French suggestion it has turned over the matter to the ambassadors' council, now sitting in Paris. The league will accept the ambassadors' council decision, rendered through secret diplomacy, and triumphantly hail it as a victory for international co-operation averting war.

To sum up: the Italian attitude about league intervention in the Greco-Italian dispute and the league's abdication in favor of the ambassadors' council, reveal the real nature of the league in relation to secret diplomacy. The league, as now constituted, is an institution for the perpetuation of secret diplomacy and imperialism.

Chicago Trades Union Label League

THE regular meeting of the Chicago Trades Union Label League was held at the hall, 166 West Washington Street, Monday, September 10. In the absence of President Scheck and Vice President Stoetzel, both in attendance on the convention of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, Secretary Hoff was chosen to preside.

Chairman Hoff reported that the regular meeting of the Trades Union Promotional League of Chicago had been held on the evening of September 6, 1923, at 180 West Washington Street. Interesting reports had been made by the field secretary, Harry E. Scheck, in regard to progress made in the work of the league. Election of permanent officers had resulted in the choice of the following: President, P. V. Blake, cigar makers; Vice President, Alfred Collard, electrotypers; Secretary-treasurer, James Loughridge, hatters; Sergeant-at-arms, Charles Slansky, meat cutters and butcher workmen No. 546.

Chairman Curry of the "Own Our Own Store" committee reported that the regular meeting of the committee would be held Wednesday evening, September 12; now that the heated term was over, the committee would take up the work of advancing the store proposition with renewed interest; there was not anything of special interest to report except that the electrotypers' union not allowing anything to interfere with their share selling campaign among their members, had turned in \$110 for shares, making about \$1,600 to date. He also reported that he had attended the convention of the Farmer-Labor Party at Decatur, Ill., and the union label had received considerable attention, and its interests advocated by numerous delegates, some of the miners' delegates being especially strong in their recommendations as to its value as an organizing medium.

Delegate Conrad A. Mueller, Typographical Union No. 16, reported that he had attended the convention of his international union held at Atlanta, Ga., as a delegate representing his local union, and that the convention had been addressed by Secretary John J. Manning, of the Union Label Department of the American Federation of Labor, on the union label. This address he considered one of the finest he had ever heard, and should be placed in the hands of every union man in America. A constant

and insistent demand for the union label is what is necessary for the advancement of the labor movement, and this feeling among the delegates manifested itself in many ways. Two resolutions on the subject were passed by the convention and, as a member of the committee on Resolutions, he was glad to say that he had helped to put them on their way to adoption. One of the resolutions adopted follows:

Whereas, The mutations of time have left labor but one effective weapon of aggression, the union label, and, Whereas, Insistence upon a fair day's pay for a fair day's work, and the payment of union dues do not in themselves establish the hallmark of unionism; and

Whereas, The members of the International Typographical Union are convinced that constant and consistent demand for the union label on goods purchased does stand for true unionism; therefore be it

Resolved, By the International Typographical Union in regular annual meeting assembled, in order to inculcate and enforce these views, hereby decrees that any member of this organization or its constituent units who seeks any office of honor, trust or profit in this or its subordinate locals, or political preferment in public affairs, shall declare possession of at least five articles of wearing apparel bearing the union label; and be it further

Resolved, That, should the aspirant's declaration be challenged, he shall convince the Executive Council of this body of its correctness before securing the support or endorsement of the International Typographical Union; and be it further

Resolved, By the International Typographical Union, that subordinate bodies chartered by it be enjoined to place upon their statute books laws in conformity with the intent of this resolution; to the effect that the union label shall truly be known of all men as the emblem of those principles of fealty, fraternity and fairness which its projectors and producers wish it to symbolize.

The other resolution on the subject was introduced by a delegate from Louisville, Ky., "that the Axton-Fisher Tobacco Company of Louisville Ky., by their fair and just treatment of their employees and their aid in support of the union label, deserve the support of the organized workers, and that they receive a vote of thanks from this convention." This resolution was also adopted.

Delegate Perzentka, carpenters, reported that their trade journal devotes considerable space to union label agitation and to information on the subject.

Delegate Holbeck, bakers' No. 63, reported that the matter of aiding the Trades Union Promotional League had been up before his local and there seems to be a lack of information as to its functions, and asked that a speaker be sent them. Entered to the field secretary of that body.

Delegate Hammond, auto painters, reported that

they were hopeful of organizing the entire trade, some of the obstacles that had stood in the way were being removed, and while they had received more help from the league than they had reason to expect, they knew that if it became necessary they could rely on the league in the present situation.

Delegate Clarke, gardeners and florists, reported that after some contention between their local and the Lincoln Park Board, a settlement had been reached satisfactory to the members working in the park.

Delegate Doyle, boot and shoe workers, reported that the demand for the union stamp on ladies' shoes was being neglected and asked that something be done to arouse the women in the labor movement to a sense of their duty in the matter. Motion made that a communication be sent to the women's local union in Chicago, asking that their membership take up this matter and help the boot and shoe workers by demanding the union stamp on the shoes they purchased. Carried.

It was reported that the matter of the union label belt buckle to be presented to Mr. P. Rivera Martinez, San Juan, Porto Rico, a delegate to the Cigar Makers' International Union convention held in Chicago recently, for his activities for the union label in that country, has been attended to, the buckle had been secured from A. Quint & Company, 5 South Wabash Avenue, a jewelry firm using the union label of the Jewelry Workers' International Union.

Communication from the Central States Co-operative Wholesale Society, announcing their convention to be held at East St. Louis, Ill., on September 30, received and filed.

Communication from the United Leather Workers, local No. 12, thanking the league for the assistance given them in their re-organization, received and filed.

Delegate Holbeck, reported that he had visited the union label store just opened by Geo. A. Irwin, at 4421 North Clark Street, and finding a good supply of union label goods, he reminded the delegates who live on the north side that it is a transfer corner of the Clark and Montrose car lines, and that would help them to give George a call and look over the stock.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES LOUGHBRIDGE,

Secretary.