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FARMER-LABOR PARTY CONVENTION IS OPENED

Hundreds of Delegates Flock to Street Car Men's Hall---Text of National Secretary Brown's Report

THE big national convention and conference of the Farmer-Labor Party opened last Tuesday in Street Car Men's Hall, Chicago. Hundreds of delegates from state branches of the party, labor unions, farmers' organizations, co-operatives and working class political groups assembled to canvass the possibility of political unity for farm and city workers and the national political situation.

A meeting of the national committee of the party occurred Monday afternoon to arrange final details for the convention. Monday evening a caucus of the Illinois delegation was held, to which delegates from other state branches of the Farmer-Labor Party were invited.

Following the first day's session, a dinner and entertainment, arranged by the Chicago branch of the party, were given at Riverview Park. Parley Parker Christensen, 1920 candidate for president, and Ray McKaig of Boise, Idaho, were the speakers. Full accounts of these events will appear in the next issue of **THE NEW MINORITY**.

National Secretary J. G. Brown submitted to the convention his report containing an outline of the events leading up to the calling of the convention and conference, including a description of the Cleveland meeting of the Conference for Progressive Political Action, from which the Farmer-Labor Party withdrew some months ago. The text of Secretary Brown's report is as follows:

Secretary Brown's Report

To the Officers and Delegates to the Convention of the Farmer-Labor Party of the United States:

Greeting:

This is a special convention. It has been called for a very special purpose. That purpose is of vastly more importance than the recounting of obvious evils or the consideration of purely routine party matters.

In view of the above situation I shall content myself with saying that I am presenting a financial statement covering the period since the books of the national office were audited and approved last year up to June 1 of this year.

Aside from this, it appears to me, the only matter meriting a discussion concerning the past is the attitude taken by the party delegates who attended the meeting of the Conference for Progressive Political Action in Cleveland, Ohio, last December.

The first meeting of the conference was held in Chicago in February, 1922. There, due to the threatened strikes of the coal miners and the railroad workers, which later materialized into grim realities, and the nearness of the congressional elections, it was not felt advisable to try to do

more than find a basis for holding together the various groups and organizations represented. Hope was held out that at the second meeting a more definite and advanced position might be taken.

Change Place of Conference

The first conference fixed the time and place for holding the second one. It was to have been held, like the first, in Chicago, but at the last moment was switched to Cleveland, Ohio.

Unlike the first meeting, there were early indications of the adoption of steam-roller tactics. Resolutions were pigeon-holed, credentials were not acted upon and a disposition shown to jam through administration measures regardless of consequences. After a fight led by the Farmer-Labor Party delegation the suppressed resolutions were forced before the meeting, but too late in the last session to admit of anything like a fair consideration of more than a very few. One that was quite fairly debated was a resolution offered by the Farmer-Labor Party delegates proposing to commit the conference to independent political action on the part of the workers through a party of their own. On a standing vote this resolution was defeated by a vote of 64 to 52.

Acting on the report made by the delegates of the Farmer-Labor Party to its national committee, that body voted to sever its connection with the Conference for Progressive Political Action. This action was taken in the belief that the Farmer-Labor Party could not subscribe to the constitution and nonpartisan policy adopted and continue to carry out what it felt to be its mission, namely, of bringing the workers of hand and brain into a party of their own for the purpose of capturing the powers of government. Adoption of its constitution changed the character of the organization from one of a more or less informal conference to a closely organized nonpartisan movement dual to that of the American Federation of Labor.

Cleveland Meeting Dashes Hopes

Many had hoped that the conference would start in the direction of independent political action by uniting the big railroad unions, the farmers' organizations and the several minority political parties. With these as a beginning it was felt that it would not be long till others would come in and a movement corresponding to the British Labor Party could be built in this country.

Some felt the Farmer-Labor Party should have

continued its connection with the conference, believing that it might yet grow into a real labor party. Some still entertain that hope. This is a degree of optimism the Farmer-Labor Party cannot share. But since it could see no promise through the conference for Progressive Political Action, the Farmer-Labor Party did feel duty bound to itself point out a means which might result in knitting together the many warring and divided groups into some measure of political unity. The calling of this convention and conference is in response to that feeling. Invitations to participate have been widely sent out. No protesting organization, no group claiming to be radical or progressive has been sighted.

Some have rejected the invitation, some have ignored it. This was to be expected. There are few organizations, as there are few individuals, that care to be trail-blazers. The many prefer to drift with the tide and take the easier way. If we succeed in accomplishing the objects for which we are assembled, and in proportion as our program meets the approval of the slower and more critical groups who are not represented, others will join and we shall grow in power and influence. Thus a step forward will have been taken.

Need for Labor Party Felt

The time honored policy of the trade union movement in this country has been nonpartisan. It has been built on the theory of rewarding friends and punishing enemies. Even this policy has been given its narrowest interpretation by many who have assumed that it must be confined to choosing between candidates of the republican and democrat parties. Others, adhering to their understanding of this policy, have insisted that where friends appeared in neither of the old parties it was a duty to set up a new party, separate and apart from the gold-dust twins of big business.

When a comparison is made of the injunction secured against the United Mine Workers to prevent their threatened strike in 1919 by the then U. S. attorney general, A. Mitchell Palmer, backed by the democrat administration, and the one obtained by the present attorney general, Harry M. Daugherty, supported by the republican administration, against the striking railroad shopmen, it is seen that both are enemies of the workers, and each will exert itself to crush organized labor. Indeed, Mr. Daugherty quite frankly stated that the whole power of government would be used to prevent the unions from destroying the "open" shop movement. What has been the experience of the organized industrial workers will, I am sure, be found equally true among the farmers.

In the face of these undisputed facts it is amazing that the workers of both fields and factories can be induced to support candidates of the republican and democrat parties rather than massing their political strength in a party of their own. It is almost unbelievable that leaders could be so unmoved by experience as to advocate the continuation of such a fruitless policy, and equally un-

Federation Minutes

Due to the fact that the first half of the current week contained a holiday, publication of the minutes of last Sunday's meeting of the Chicago Federation of Labor has been deferred. They will appear in the July 14 number of **THE NEW MINORITY**.

believable that men and women could be found to follow those who so advise. The answer is, of course, that we are so hopelessly divided that the workers conclude that the slight choice offered between two recognized evils is the best that can be expected.

Civil Liberty at Low Ebb

The Farmer-Labor Party at its inception adopted the policy of fighting none of its rivals. It also refused to quarrel with officials of the labor organizations or to be drawn into factional union strife. It felt such a policy would win converts. It has made a growth that to many would be satisfactory. But its successes have been in spots only. It has not as yet rallied to its support any large number of the more powerful international unions or the larger farm bodies. The main reason for this slowness of growth is, doubtless, to be found in the fact that all the other groups and parties claim to be trying to do the very thing the Farmer-Labor Party is trying to do. In the 1920 elections in Illinois, there were ten candidates for governor. Big business was represented in the republican and democrat parties, and the opposition was divided eight ways. The workers themselves felt the situation was hopeless and thousands voted for the candidates of one of the old parties.

This must stop. Civil liberty is at a lower ebb today than ever before. Rights long cherished are slipping away. Great combinations of wealth are becoming more and more ruthless. Farmers are losing their farms. Promises are made wholesale, fulfilled retail. These ills constitute a necessity for closer unity of the workers politically.

This is the truth with which all agree. The big problem is: "How can be it done?" The Farmer-Labor Party has tried to learn what general plan would meet the largest measure of approval from those who are represented here today. It has been felt that political parties would not surrender their own entity; labor and farm bodies, for the most part, are not constructed for political purposes primarily. A number have suggested a federated most part, are not constructed for political purposes and also political parties might become affiliated. Full autonomy, by this arrangement, would be granted to each affiliated organization. The term "federation" is well understood. A federated labor party would thus become self-explanatory. Whatever may be the defects of the federation plan, they would not constitute a barrier at this time, and corrections and improvements could be taken care of at succeeding conventions.

F. L. P. Provides Opportunity

In this connection it is worth while calling attention to the structure of the Farmer-Labor Party itself. It is provided therein that political, economic and co-operative groups may become affiliated without being required to forfeit any of their individual autonomy. If the present Farmer-Labor Party could be constituted as or converted into the central body of a federation it would have the advantage of being already established, and in quite a number of states has the standing of a recognized political party. Moreover, there are several hundred local labor organizations already affiliated with it.

Since it is our hope that out of this convention will come a larger body than was originally anticipated, it is probable that changes in the organic laws of the Farmer-Labor Party would be necessary in order to provide for automatic membership on the national committee of any group that might at the outset or later become affiliated.

It would appear to be desirable that such representation on the national committee should be based somewhat on the membership represented by the affiliating body. Whatever instrument is set up to constitute the central body, provided the federated party idea appeals to the delegates, should have an executive committee with somewhat larger powers than the present executive committee of the Farmer-Labor Party. Such a body should preferably be elected by the convention rather than by the national committee, as at present.

Such an executive committee would be called upon to act in reality for the national committee in all minor matters at least till such time as funds were available to enable more frequent meetings of the national committee than has so far been possible. As the number of affiliated bodies increased problems affecting the relations of the groups to each other would arise, applications of new organizations for affiliation would have to be passed upon and conventions of the federated labor party for the adoption of a platform and the naming of candidates arranged.

Urges New State Branches

In those states where no political organization already exists eligible to affiliate, energetic steps should be taken at the earliest possible moment by

NEGROES FREED

By Harry Godfrey
Federated Press.

New York.—The six Negro peons who have been awaiting retrial for more than two years, accused of participation in the so-called race rioting in Elaine county, Arkansas, in October, 1919, have been freed by the Arkansas supreme court, a telegram from Little Rock informs the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This organization has led the fight to save the lives of the Negroes.

The rioting followed the organization by Negro share-croppers of a legal aid society through which they planned to take court action to end the vicious economic exploitation to which they have for years been subjected. To prevent such court action, a rumor was spread that these Negroes had organized to massacre white people and seize their land. Mobs poured into Arkansas and in three days killed more than 250 Negroes. Seventy-nine Negroes were arrested, tried, and twelve were sentenced to death, while the 67 others were given long prison terms.

All the convictions occurred within three days, while the courtroom was thronged with a mob which threatened death to any juror who voted for an acquittal.

Last February the U. S. supreme court reversed the Arkansas federal court in six of these cases, and the decision of the state supreme court frees the six others who were sentenced to death.

Looks as if the Farmer-Labor Party May Elect U. S. Senator

Minneapolis.—Magnus Johnson, Minnesota Farmer-Labor candidate for U. S. senator to succeed the late Knute Nelson, will be supported by Senator Shipstead, Congressman Knud Wefald and O. J. Kvake, who will take the stump in his behalf.

At a stormy session of the Republican state central committee, William A. Gerber, former sheriff of Ramsay county, resigned from the committee, saying he would not support Gov. Preus, Republican candidate for the senatorship. It is rumored that many other members of the Republican state committee will support Johnson.

Preus is considered a foe of organized labor. He used the militia against the striking packing house employees and congratulated Daugherty upon the injunction against the railroad shopmen. Preus has the backing of the Harding administration, but Johnson has the support of the farmers and organized labor.

the national executive committee to promote the organization of such a body. Other duties of a more or less obvious character, which would devolve upon such a national executive committee, will indicate the proper scope and functions of such a body and, I take it, indicate the wisdom of having its members elected by the convention.

Provided the present Farmer-Labor Party structure could be made to fit the requirements demanded, officers could and should be chosen who are best fitted to push the work without regard to those who are at present serving for the Farmer-Labor Party.

In order that consideration of the above suggestions may be properly had and all interests protected, it is but proper that at this point the status of the Farmer-Labor Party and the other groups, who by order of the national committee have been invited to confer with us, should be defined and the method of procedure indicated.

The national committee of the Farmer-Labor Party has directed that as soon as the convention shall have been organized, it shall adjourn as such and immediately call a conference to be made up of itself and all invited representatives, where the

vital problem of political unity, which concerns to the same pressing degree both the conference and our own convention, be at once taken up. At the conference the Farmer-Labor Party will become merely one of the participating groups and as such will join with others in trying to find a basis of unity.

Conference Not Binding

The findings of the conference cannot bind the groups responding to the invitation to confer, neither will they be binding on the Farmer-Labor Party, but will have to be referred back for consideration when our convention reconvenes at the conclusion of the conference.

In the belief that the suggestion herein made may commend itself to some of the groups, other than the Farmer-Labor Party, I have drafted amendments to the present constitution, which together will furnish a basis for discussion by whatever committee may have the duty of considering such plans as may be advanced by those represented here, for effecting united action.

On an occasion such as this many questions press for consideration. But this is not the convention that can properly deal with them. If we build wisely and well we can make a start here that will enable us to hold a convention next year; where the delegates will assemble ten thousand strong and whose tramping feet will add emphasis to the things we do and the things we say. Such a convention would serve to demonstrate to the enemies of labor that the days when we stage combats between ourselves over capitalist issues are at an end.

Law Penalizes Poor

Concentration of wealth and the ever increasing improvements in its production should serve as a warning to the workers that unless they can close ranks correspondingly they are going to be worsted in the fight. New times bring new problems, and new means for their solution must be found.

Long neglect in developing political unity among the workers in this country has been made the most of by the plunderbund of the nation. Farmers find themselves at the mercy of the money trust, as helpless as though lashed in a strait-jacket. Trade unions are obliged to fight not only their employers, but the national, state and local governments as well. Every newspaper every day proves there is in this country one law for the rich and another for the poor. The rich may freely advocate any form of open violence and lawlessness while the prison doors close upon the poor for the mere expression of their opinion. The time, the place and the opportunity for correcting these conditions are here today. If the deliberations of our convention, and the conference which is to follow, are marked by a broad tolerance on the part of ourselves and those who have done us the honor to accept our invitation, even the weighty problem confronting us is possible of solution.

If, out of this gathering, will come something that will revive the hope of those who have fallen in discouragement by the wayside and justify the faith of those who are still in the fight, I am sure the Farmer-Labor Party will be happy in knowing that it has played a small part in setting in motion the impulses which shall have accomplished it.

The workers of farm and factory, of hand and brain, have a right to expect that we shall measure up to our responsibilities on this important occasion.

Speed Explodes Dynamite

Washington, D. C.—The United States bureau of mines estimates that at least 75 per cent of all the industrial accidents with dynamite and other explosives are caused by hurrying the work and by taking chances where conditions are known to be dangerous. The bureau says that probably 20 per cent are due to carelessness, the rest having at least fairly excusable causes.

—A. F. of L. News Letter

Steel Wage Declined in 1922

Washington, D. C.—Hourly earnings of workers in the iron and steel industry decreased in 1922 as compared with 1920, according to the bureau of labor statistics. The decreases ranged from 23 per cent in the standard rail mills to 45 per cent in the puddling mills. In spite of this reduction, the 1922 hourly earnings were from 66 per cent to 102 per cent higher than in 1913.

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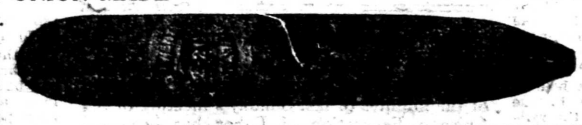


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GOMPERS SAYS LAWS WONT AID FARMERS

Agrarians Must Organize to Save Selves, Says A. F. of L. President

"If farmers can devise no sounder method than legislative cure-alls to maintain their proper place in the economic scheme of things, they are doomed to disappointment," declared President Gompers at the recent national wheat conference in Chicago. This conference was called by governors and other public men "to help the farmer." The A. F. of L. executive continued:

I see no reason why farmers need to expect hope from anything that does not also offer hope for labor and labor long since abandoned any dream.

This conference, called by those whose present trend of thought, at least, is toward political remedies, must turn its feet toward paths that lead into the economic structure itself if it wishes to work real benefit and point to lasting and sound methods.

Politicians Face Demands

There are all manner and varieties of evangelists shouting from the house tops, demanding miraculous works from politicians, and the poor politicians are being driven to desperation. I am perfectly willing that they should be driven to desperation, and there are a lot of political crooks and charlatans whom I would joyfully see driven clear out of the game; but all of that brings home precious little bacon, either to farmer or wage earner.

If the wage earners of our country had not the sense and the courage to organize, nobody would have much sympathy for them, and nobody would take their complaints very seriously. Gentlemen, the temptation to say, "Go thou and do likewise," is almost beyond my power to resist.

The best knowledge of an industry or an occupation is to be found within that industry and that occupation. Farmers know more about farm problems than anyone else knows about these problems. Why do farmers think they must run to legislators to find out about the things of which they themselves are the best experts?

There is a great gulf between politics and industry. Industry must work out its own salvation, build up its own great governing forces, apply democratic principles to fit its own structure and meet the needs of humanity out of its own intelligence. There is no other force that has the qualifications to take this job away from industry, and as long as organization persists and grows within industry and the intelligence that is in industry devises methods of functioning, no other force can ever grow up that will possess the qualifications.

Organize Huge Silk Trust

New York.—Organized textile workers in the silk industry will soon be faced by a super-silk trust similar to the corporations which dominate steel, oil, copper and food, according to Wall Street reports. The plan for merging ten important silk manufacturing companies into a \$50,000,000 corporation dominating 25 per cent of the country's silk production is a further step in the rapid process of organizing the nation's economic life into great administrative departments under the financial autocracy which rules the country from New York.

Wages for Last 10 Years

Washington, D. C.—Labor has made big gains in wages within the last ten years, according to the bureau of labor statistics. The hourly pay rates on May 15, 1922, as compared with May 15, 1913, showed an increase of 167 per cent for bakers; 68 for bricklayers; 114 for building laborers; 88 for carpenters; 90 for inside wiremen; 99 for painters; 74 for plasterers; 68 for plumbers; 96 for freight handlers; 93 for machinists; 92 for iron moulders, and 75 for compositors, newspaper, day work. The cost of living also increased.

Can't Build Railroad

Washington, D. C.—The interstate commerce commission has refused to permit the Virginia railroad to build a one-mile branch in West Virginia to serve mines being opened. The commission defended its unusual position on the ground that fewer mines would produce more coal, because railroad facilities and railroad stock could be better concentrated. Said the commission:

There are at present more mines in the country than is consistent with the efficient use of carriers' equipment and their aggregate car supply.

—A. F. of L. News Letter

MISS ANGLIN'S BUNK

New York.—Margaret Anglin's statement that trade unionism affects her art is pure "bunk," says Equity, official magazine of the Actors' Equity Association, affiliated with the A. F. of L.

"It is too bad that Miss Anglin feels this way, but there are many others who belong to our union who have not felt cramped, confined and bound in by being so," says Equity.

"Such artists as Eithel Barrymore, Laurette Taylor and Jane Cowl, to mention only two or three (for the list is long and would cover several pages of this magazine), have never done better work than they have since they became members of the American Federation of Labor. It has been generally recognized that there has been no better acting at any epoch of American theatrical history than there has been the last year, and yet 95 per cent of these artists belong to the Actors' Equity Association.

"Miss Anglin's statement is pure 'bunk.' Art is not affected one way or another by the artist belonging to a union."

—A. F. of L. News Letter

Union Levies Assessment to Assist Steel Strikers

Newport, Ky.—The central committee of this city has issued a reminder to members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers that Newport members are still contesting the lockout of the Newport rolling mills.

More than two and one-half years ago this concern declared for the anti-union shop and refused to renew an agreement with its organized employees. In December, 1921, the company secured the state militia. The soldiers stayed three weeks. Later they were returned at the request of the company. They were armed with machine guns and shot up the town. After six months of this militarism the governor was induced to recall the troops. Since then there has been no disorders. Injunctions have been issued against the steel workers and four of them have been sentenced to serve eight months in jail. These cases are now being carried to the United States supreme court.

The Warren (Ohio) convention of the Amalgamated association levied a 2 per cent assessment on the membership to aid their Newport brothers.

—A. F. of L. News Letter

Cossacks by Degrees

Annapolis, Md.—The legislative conference of the Maryland League of Women Voters has declared for cossacks "to preserve order in any part of the state." The women asked that the present state road police have their jurisdiction extended throughout the state. The women's request is identical to similar requests from other quarters and verifies the claim made by trade unionists when the state road police was established. At that time workers were assured that the police would be used for the sole purpose of arresting speeders.

—A. F. of L. News Letter

Anti-Labor Man for President

New Orleans.—John M. Parker, anti-labor governor of Louisiana, is being groomed by Democratic politicians in the south as a candidate for president on the Democrat ticket. He has been a member of the Bull Moose party, and two factions of the Democrat. He was elected governor largely by the support of "open" shop newspapers. Parker in a recent interview in Baton Rouge said: "I would not give a silver dime for the labor movement. Please excuse me, as I have to water my cattle." Labor in the south will oppose him if he is nominated.

Laundry and Dye House Drivers

LAUNDRY Drivers' local No. 712 will hold its annual picnic at Fox River Grove, on the Aurora-Evanston railway, Sunday, July 23. There will be a ball game, races and other sports for men, women and children. The picnic of this organization is an event which is eagerly looked forward to by those who have attended previous outings. Any trade unionist desiring a real outing among real union men should attend this affair.

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BRITISH LABOR PARTY WANTS CAPITAL LEVY

Advocates Government Taking Part of Wealth of All Big Capitalists

London, England.—The Labor Party of Great Britain, at its annual conference in session last week, adopted the capital levy as a major plank in its platform. It provides for the government to collect portions of the principal of all persons of wealth having more than £15,000 (\$60,000), the levy to be graduated so that the percentage taken by the government shall be larger as the fortune levied on is larger. The levy does not necessarily have to be paid in cash, but securities, with certain safeguards, are accepted.

The party also voted, 2,300,000 to 366,000, to exclude the Communist Party from affiliation.

All Right to Have King

The conference declared in favor of keeping the king and queen, by rejecting a resolution declaring them to be unnecessary British institutions. George Lansbury, labor member of parliament, said he used to think it was the monarchy and the nobility that made the people poor, but he had come to the conclusion that it was the capitalist system. Said he:

Royalty is just ordinary common clay, like anybody else. They eat like you do—only a little worse, and do everything just like you do. When you have changed the system you may be quite sure that you will be able to do with a king, a queen, a president or anyone else.

Santa Fe Revives Bonus System

Topeka, Kan.—The anti-union Santa Fe railroad will revive the bonus system, and more turmoil among strikebreaking shopmen is predicted. The management is desperate because of failing equipment. Crops are ready to move, but cars are not being repaired. The bonus system means favoritism and a development of all the petty spies and small meannesses that a certain kind of foremen are capable of. Concessions will be awarded favorites and the high mark set by one man will be considered the standard for all employees.

—A. F. of L. News Letter

James Lucas Loses Wife

James Lucas, 4120 Barclay Avenue, Chicago, a member of local No. 191 of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, lost his life partner last week, when death took Mrs. Lucas. Hers was a long record of courageous struggle with her husband in support of trade union principles. She is survived by several children and grandchildren.

Legion Joins "Minute Men"

The Minute Men of the Constitution have reached Chicago from the suburbs. The 300 members of the Advertising Men's Post of the American Legion have joined the new organization. Gen. Charles G. Dawes, its founder, now claims for this newest organization of 100 percenters a total membership of 23,000, divided into 22 "companies," mostly "in the outskirts of the city."

Criticism Stings Gary

New York.—The storm of criticism against Gary's 12-hour-day report has caused the steel trust head to change front. He now says he hopes for the elimination of the long work day "in the comparatively near future." This is vague, but it shows the steel trust head is stung by criticism.

—A. F. of L. News Letter

N. Y. Barbers Win Strike

New York.—More than 2,500 barbers employed in the Harlem section of New York City have won a complete victory after a three-day strike for shorter hours and a \$30 a week minimum wage. They will receive 50 per cent of all money earned over \$45 weekly. Between 800 and 1,000 shops were affected.

EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDS ARE NOT DEEDS

President Harding is a genial gentleman who probably, if left to himself, would not harm a mouse. He is a likeable elderly party, with the milk of human kindness flowing in his breast. He believes, according to his speeches, that Americanism means exaltation of private property, protection of the nation from nationalization of coal and railroads, and perpetuation of the alleged opportunity of the individual to invest his money in private enterprise (an opportunity that once existed, but is fast disappearing, due to Wall Street's monopoly of banking and credit.)

No doubt Mr. Harding is right that these do constitute Americanism as practiced, although theoretical Americanism is supposed to place human rights above property rights.

But Mr. Harding, in his own business relations, has dealt with labor unions and has announced himself as satisfied so to do. On his western speechmaking tour he has made a bid for the labor vote with a speech defending with unmistakable and emphatic words, the principle of collective bargaining. He charged that interests have attempted to force the Republican Party to join in destroying the labor movement and that he will not stand for it.

This might appear to be a repudiation of "Hell and Maria" Dawes, his friend and budget-maker, and Harry M. Daugherty, his attorney general, the two who tried, when the president was playing golf in Florida, to have him incorporate an "open" shop plank in the Republican platform for 1924. But no one should be alarmed. He has not broken with Dawes, who has organized the "Minute Men of the Constitution" to try to get both old parties to put "open" shop planks in their platforms. Neither has he fired out of his cabinet his political henchman, Daugherty, who said in open court, when asking for the notorious Wilkerson injunction against the railway shopmen, that he would "use the power of government to prevent the labor movement from destroying the 'open' shop."

From all of which it would appear that Mr. Harding's cordial words and his official acts are quite separate and distinct. Of course they are. The words and acts of any human sort of a man are different when he is an office-holder elected on old party tickets. It makes no difference what kindly impulses he may have, he cannot give them play for the benefit of the people. The bosses of his party won't let him. Mr. Harding may demand the fostering and defense of the labor movement until he is blue in the face—with words. His administration still will do all in its power to hamstring the workers. It will not be otherwise until the workers have their own party and elect their own candidates to office on their own platform and ticket.

This fact received startling demonstration even while Mr. Harding was on his tour, having already written the fair words defending labor. His attorney general, the same Harry M. Daugherty, dismissed indictments for criminal conspiracy against 127 coal operators and miner officials, which indictments grew out of the coal strike of 1919, and, in doing so, said:

Usually many of the things agreed upon at the meeting between representatives of the operators and representatives of the miners, but not often made public, constitute a conspiracy. It is well settled in this country that the government has the power to compel transportation companies to perform the functions for which they were created and to prevent the interruption of interstate commerce. The same rule will be applied to the production of fuel, which is indispensable to transportation, as is applied to transportation itself.

This is an official utterance of the Harding administration. It goes without saying that compulsion to prevent interruption of fuel production will be applied to the miner and not to the employers. Now comes the unofficial campaign speech of President Harding. In his address at Cheyenne, Wyoming, in a coal district, June 25, he said:

There is a mistaken notion that somehow the government may wield a magic wand or strike with the iron hand and produce cheap coal. It can do neither. You can no more enforce the mine worker to produce coal than you can enforce the farmer

THE NEW MAJORITY

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DOROTHY WALTON, Associate Editor
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Dedicated to the hard 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.

to grow wheat, or corn, or wool. We saw that erroneous belief exploded a year ago. . . . There can be no coal mined in free America under force of arms.

The president's remarks at Helena, Montana, on collective bargaining are quoted herewith. After stating that systems of capital had attempted to exercise the power of the Republican Party in reducing wages of labor, he continued:

They insisted that wages must come down. Some of them went so far as to sound the slogan that organized labor must be crushed. These have forgotten the lesson in organization, in co-operation, in community of sacrifice, by which civilization has been able to rescue itself. They have forgotten that the right of organization and co-operative dealings is not any longer the special prerogative of management and capital.

The right of men and brains and skill and brawn to organize, to bargain through organization, to select their own leaders and spokesmen, is not one whit less absolute than is the right of management and of capital to form and work through these great concentrations of interests which we call corporations.

HEALTH NOT FOR WORKERS

It costs \$1,854.28 to support a wage earner's family in health and decency, according to the report for March, 1923, issued by the Philadelphia Bureau of Municipal Research. This is just half again as much as the average worker in American industry gets in wages. Either health and decency are not for the common man or else the discrepancy between his wages and the cost of supporting his family must be made good by the industrial employment of his wife or his children.

The cost of this Philadelphia wage earner's budget shows a surprisingly small decrease from the peak year 1920. The bureau's 1920 study was made on the basis of prices prevailing in August of that year when the total arrived at was \$1,988.32. In other words the cost of maintaining this particular standard has decreased only 7 per cent since that study was made.

The following table shows for 1920, 1921 and 1923 the cost of the various items which compose this budget:

| | Aug. 1920 | March 1921 | March 1923 |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Housing | \$326.00 | \$360.00 | \$444.00 |
| Fuel and light | 98.10 | 103.70 | 103.70 |
| Food | 681.82 | 566.45 | 526.54 |
| Clothing | 439.37 | 326.27 | 354.27 |
| Carfare | 25.40 | 44.25 | 44.25 |
| Cleaning supplies & services | 52.55 | 49.46 | 49.60 |
| Health maintenance | 59.94 | 44.85 | 47.51 |
| Furniture and furnishings | 47.25 | 47.53 | 50.57 |
| Taxes, dues, etc. | 37.79 | 33.13 | 35.25 |
| Recreation and amusement | 24.65 | 21.60 | 22.99 |
| Education and reading | 19.72 | 17.28 | 18.49 |
| Insurance | 65.44 | 54.73 | 58.22 |
| Miscellaneous | 95.31 | 83.53 | 88.58 |
| Total | \$1,988.32 | \$1,742.68 | \$1,854.28 |

This is a budget for a family of five, including the wage earner, his wife, a boy of 13, a girl of 10 and a boy of 6 years. It was devised by the bureau in 1912 after an extensive inquiry into standards of living of workmen's families in Philadelphia.

The cost of the first items was found by applying actual prices to the quantities of goods and services found to be necessary. The cost of the remaining items was deter-

mined by applying certain percentages to the total cost of the first six. Altogether these last items amount to 21 per cent of cost of the other part of the budget, distributed as follows: Health, 3.1 per cent; furniture, 3.3 per cent; taxes, dues and contributions, 2.3 per cent; recreation, 1.5 per cent; education and reading, 1.2 per cent; insurance, 3.8 per cent, and miscellaneous, 5.8 per cent.

This budget affords 5 tons of coal for the year and 31,100 cubic feet of gas. Clothing is reduced to lowest terms. An allowance of \$84.29 for the wage earner permits among other things the purchase of a felt hat and a straw hat of the cheapest sort every two years, a sweater every two years, an overcoat 40 per cent wool every three years and a 50 per cent wool suit every year. Two pairs of shoes are also included.

The wife gets \$83.04 for her clothes, being allowed to purchase a plain velvet hat every two years, a plain straw hat each year, a \$20 overcoat every two years, a suit every two years, etc.

Obviously this makes no attempt to be a comfort budget; it simply allows for a minimum of decency. Such budgets merely serve to call attention to the fact that in the most prosperous country in the world the present organization of industry does not provide the average wage earner with a decent living, and, what is more important, that a dominant interest in producing profits prevents the making of perfectly possible adjustments which would insure this socially desirable end.

—Leland Olds, Federated Press.

Movie Reviews

SCARS OF JEALOUSY

THERE is nothing in the dope that a poor boy can't be as good as a rich boy when he grows up into a man. This is the main idea of the photoplay, "Scars of Jealousy," shown last week at the Chicago Theater. It was a bang-up good movie, excepting only one thing, and that was the emphasis it placed on the aristocratic blood that ran in the veins of the ragged hill billy who turned out to be the hero. Blood is blood. Character is not a matter of heredity—neither is ability to learn to think, nor courage. There is no magic fluid in the veins of the rich that makes them better than the poor. There is no such thing as being high-born or base-born.

Good Books to Read and others

The Intellectual and the Labor Movement, by George Soule, published by the League for Industrial Democracy, 70 5th Avenue, New York City.

This pamphlet of 32 pages contains an unusual amount of information in which Soule, with others whose ideas he sought, answers the questions:

"How can the young intellectual be of service in this field? In what spirit should he approach the task? What pitfalls should he avoid? What should be the attitude of the trade union leaders toward the technicians?"

The booklet assumes that the reader is convinced of the importance of the labor movement. It does not attempt to cover the whole field of intellectual activity surrounding the movement, but confines itself largely to the opportunities of the technician, in the broader sense of the term, in the present-day trade union movement.

It lists, as among pressing opportunities to cooperate with the labor movement on "part time," the following:

Economic and engineering research and counsel; publicity and editorial work; labor law and bill drafting; accounting; labor banking; work in the co-operative movement; teaching in labor classes and schools; labor health work.

He cautions the reader that he "should not for a moment make the mistake of assuming, as a professional man, any of the duties or responsibilities of labor leadership. The political functions belong with the elected officials. They are the ones to assume responsibility for policies; they are the ones to take action. The technician's business is to arrange and interpret facts, to give advice, to practice his own profession. He can, in so doing, accept as much, but no more responsibility than a professional man would accept in working for a corporation."

Demanding the union label, shop card and button is a duty which we should view as an opportunity to do good rather than an irksome obligation.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP IS INCREASING IN FAVOR

So Says Speaker at Conference of League for Industrial Democracy

Camp Taminent, Stroudsburg, Pa.—An optimistic view of the prospects for eventual public ownership of public utilities was presented by Harry W. Laidler, director League for Industrial Democracy, at the June conference of the league here. Laidler asserted that there are marked tendencies in America toward the transfer of industry from a private to a public basis.

He cited the business of supplying water to communities as bearing out the contention that municipal industry may be economically and satisfactorily administered. He declared:

The nineteenth century opened with sixteen water works systems in the U. S., only one of which was municipally owned. The century closed with approximately 3,500 water works systems, more than half of which were under public ownership, and 200 of which had changed from private to public control.

In the electric lighting industry in 1917 there were 2,318 central electric light and power stations, or more than one-third of the total, owned by the public, although the municipal plants are chiefly small ones, and generate but 4 per cent of the total power. One hundred and twenty-five gas plants, or about 6 per cent of the total number, are municipally owned.

30,000 Municipal Markets

More than one-half of the cities above 30,000 inhabitants own their own municipal markets. Several cities, including San Francisco, Seattle and Detroit, have recently purchased their street car systems.

The federal government is now building a railroad in Alaska, and operates cable, telegraph and wireless services in that possession. It owns the largest printing plant in the world.

The Canadian government in 1919 acquired ownership of the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk line, and its affiliated line, the Grand Trunk Pacific. Throughout the world, in one country or another, the public postoffices conduct almost every kind of banking and insurance business.

There are increasing trends toward public ownership in the business of lighting and heating, housing, forestry, mining, education and recreation.

Public administration, on the whole, he averred, has eliminated competitive wastes without subjecting the community to the tyranny of the private monopolist, and concluded:

On the other hand, public ownership has thus far failed to give adequate representation to the workers, and has continued to treat manual workers about the same as have private owners. The public ownership which proves most valuable in the future must be accompanied by an increasing labor control of government, and increasing strength of organized labor in the economic field.

The next steps in public ownership in the United States, he predicted, are likely to be railroads, the mines, and water power development.

Many Small Wage Raises

New York.—According to the national industrial conference board, an employers' organization, the month ending June 14 witnessed an unprecedented number of wage increases in industries throughout the United States. A review by the organization cites increases in seventeen industries, covering 287 kinds of work. The one reduction noted was that to railroad transportation workers. However, there is no danger of an epidemic of high living among the workers, for the average weekly earnings rose only from \$25.62 to \$26.55, the review asserts, adding that the largest advance during the month was, that to unskilled labor.

Fascisti in Louisiana

New Orleans.—The first Louisiana branch of the Fascisti was organized in this city June 17. Forty thousand Italians, according to reports, helped to organize one of the largest branches in the country. Samuel Semprevivo, a former automobile salesman, is chief Fascist organizer for Louisiana and seven other southern states.

INSIDE DOPE

Washington, D. C.—There are so many thousands of federal detectives "that the task of managing them is one that would have made the founders of the republic shudder," according to John W. H. Crim, assistant attorney general of the United States. Crim is about to retire. Perhaps that accounts for his amazing frankness in a speech that has visibly agitated the department of justice.

He was addressing the alumni association of the William and Mary College of Virginia when he declared:

Take the department of justice out of politics. If the defender is rich, he builds up a political defense beginning with the local district leader and ending with a more prominent statesman of national reputation.

The federal arm of the law doesn't bother the rich and influential criminal, according to Daugherty's assistant.

The Newspapers Lied about Oklahoma; Here Is the Truth

Oklahoma City.—The conference of the executives of farm and labor organizations, which was heralded by the anti-labor press as a break between Walton and the league, met in Oklahoma City June 18. That there was some cause for the rumors was indicated by the attempt of two delegates to form an organization to supplant the league. But the commodity marketing organizations refused to take any political action and seven of the remaining executives signed a declaration that they endorsed the league as the political vehicle of the farmer-labor movement in Oklahoma. The proposed "council of 12" was not organized.

The outcome of the conference was the agreement by the farm and labor executives on the principle of collective bargaining and co-operative marketing.

The governor frankly told the executives that in his position as governor he could not really help them as individuals. He declared that he could only call on all individuals to join the organizations of their class; their unions and co-operatives.

In concluding his address to the executives, Gov. Walton declared:

When a farmer or laborer walks into this room and asks me why something is not being done for the farmer and laborer, I shall tell him to go home, join a local, and there he will have a voice in one of the most powerful organizations in the state, and an organization which has the power to give him relief.

Won't Let Hindu Marry

Martinez, Cal.—Sader Din, a Hindu, was refused a license to marry an American woman here, on the unique plea that as he was not eligible to citizenship, by a recent ruling of the U. S. supreme court, he could not marry a citizen. Din, a wealthy rancher, produced a copy of his declaration of intention to become a citizen, but was still refused, and was obliged to go away without the license. This is the first time in the United States, so far as is known, that eligibility to citizenship has been made a prerequisite for legal marriage.

Gas Kills More Miners

Washington, D. C.—Fewer miners are being killed this year, in comparison with last year, as a result of haulage and falls of roofs and coal, but more are dying from explosions of gas and dust, according to the report of the Bureau of Mines. Accidents at coal mines during April, 1923, caused the death of 175 men. The figures for April brought the total number of fatalities for 1923 to 851, indicating a death rate of 3.96 per million tons, as compared with 671 fatalities during the first four months, last year, representing a rate of 4.04 per million tons.

Longshoremen Win Strike

New York.—Longshoremen on the docks at Hoboken, N. J., have won their strike to compel the steamship companies to assign ten men instead of eight to the hold of each ship being loaded. It wasn't a big strike. The victory, though, is a notable one, for the strike was won not only against the ship companies but against the U. S. shipping board as well.

HARD COAL MINERS DEMAND WAGE RAISE

Adopt Scale Calling for Increase of Twenty Per Cent and \$1 a Day

Scranton, Pa.—A demand for an increase of 20 per cent in the contract wage scale, with an increase of \$1 a day for workers by the day, was adopted by a convention of the three anthracite districts of United Mine Workers here last week.

The demands were drafted by the scale committee and followed the general line of the demands formulated in January, 1922, and fought for five and a half months last year in a strike. The demands in addition to increased wages, included the following:

Other Demands Listed

A two-year contract with complete recognition of the union.

That the differential between classifications of labor previous to the award of the United States anthracite coal commission shall be restored.

Uniformity and equalization of all day rates and skilled mechanics, such as carpenters and blacksmiths, etc., be paid the recognized standard rates existing in the region, which shall not be less than 90 cents per hour as a basis.

All day men to be paid time and a half for overtime and double time for Sunday work.

That the eight-hour day clause in the present agreement apply to all persons working in and around the anthracite collieries coming under the jurisdiction of the union.

That where coal is paid for by the car the system shall be changed and the miner paid on the ton basis of 2,240 pounds, and where penalties are imposed for refuse, that the amount of the refuse be fixed by a mine committee and colliery officials.

A more liberal and satisfactory clause in the agreement covering the question of miners who encounter abnormal conditions in their working place.

The present wage scale, adopted last September, expires August 31.

Phone Girls Strike

Boston.—New England is in the grip of a telephone strike by organized girls who demand higher wages and less hours. The girls are affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. In the strike vote it was said that 7,599 ballots were cast, of which 6,466 were in favor of a strike. An attempt to reward strikebreakers \$6 a week proved a boomerang and the company withdrew it after the operators that refused to join the strike had this hurled at them by the strikers. In explaining the withdrawal of the "special emergency payment" the company said this course was taken because "so many of the operators have protested against accepting any extra payments for maintaining public service."

—A. F. of L. News Letter

May Try to Organize Steel

Another serious attempt may be made to unionize the steel industry. A group of organizers are being sent to the principal steel districts to investigate the reputed labor shortage in the industry and the temper of 12-hour workers. The organizers are being sent out by and will report back to a special committee from the executives of the various international unions of the trades represented in the steel industry. This committee at a recent meeting in Chicago decided upon the investigation. If an organization campaign and strike are attempted they will probably hinge on demands for union recognition and the 8-hour day.

Labor Bureau, Inc., Is Growing

New York.—Labor is increasingly fighting its battles with facts and figures, as is shown by a report issued by the Labor Bureau, Inc., an organization of economists and statisticians established to serve the labor movement. The report for 1922, which has just been issued, shows that 144 unions used the services of the bureau during the year, an increase of 189 per cent over the previous year, while the volume of the work performed by the bureau increased 142 per cent during the same period.

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Labor Party Wins Queensland Fourth Successive Election

Brisbane, Queensland.—For the fourth time in succession the Labor party has swept the polls in the general elections in the state of Queensland. This is perhaps the first time in the history of world politics that a party has maintained its identity through four successive parliaments without resorting to coalition with other parties. The big majority given to the Labor government of Queensland means that for 11 years, Queensland is to have continuous Labor rule. Another record established was that the Labor party did not lose a single seat, but made gains from its opponents.

The most prominent feature of the campaign was the landslide of the farmers to the Labor party. When Parley Parker Christensen was in Australia a few months ago he predicted to the Federated Press correspondent that this would take place. Never before in Australian politics has there been such a swing-over of the farmers to the Labor party ranks.

Prior to the elections the strength of parties was: Labor, 37; Country party (Conserv-

IN AUSTRALIA

Sydney, New South Wales.—In the coal mines of Australia, events seem to point to a great strike in the near future. Following a lockout, the coal barons have set up a list of demands, the unions can't grant and it appears as if the bosses seek to force a strike. Among the bosses' demands are:

No stopwork meetings to discuss grievances. Operators to have unquestioned right to fire whom they choose, beginning with the blacklisting of eight hundred men for alleged radical activities.

All rates of pay and conditions of employment to continue as at present.

Machine men to resume work at once and any grievances against new machines—already shown to be detrimental to health—to be withdrawn.

Public opinion is largely on the side of the miners.

(atives), 24; Tories, 11; Labor had a majority of one, not counting the speaker. The result of the elections is: Labor, 43; Tories, 17; Country party, 12.

New York.—A profit of \$4,446,089 for the first six months of 1923 is announced by the Hudson Motor Car Company.

—A. P. of L. News Letter

President Harding Takes Swat at Nationalization of Coal

Cheyenne, Wyo.—In his customary position of one leg on one side of the fence and one on the other, President Harding, speaking here on his way to Alaska, "solved" the national coal problem by throwing sops to both operators and miners.

In line with his Kansas City speech opposing nationalization of the railroads, here he condemned nationalization of mines—with sufficient vigor to satisfy even the National Coal Association. But, with an eye to the labor vote, he said there "would never be any coal mined in free America under force of arms."

After admitting the inefficiency of the present system in the bituminous fields, in which miners can work only 100 to 150 days a year, he assured his audience that the federal coal commission would soon arrive at a solution.

Whipping Boss on Trial

Lake City, Fla.—Thos. W. Higginbotham, convict camp whipping boss, is on trial here on a charge of murder in connection with the death of Martin Tabert of North Dakota.

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, June 25, 1923.

Credentials from the Farmer-Labor Exchange, certifying that Brothers T. J. Vind and C. F. Lowrie had been named to act as fraternal delegates to the league for the purpose of boosting the union label among farmers as well as city workers, read and delegates seated.

Chairman Curry, of the Own Our Own Store Committee, reported that the committee had held their regular meeting Wednesday evening, June 13, when the matter of increasing the number of shares to be sold to a union or individual had been fully discussed and the decision reached to adhere to the original decision and the limit to be sold to a union or individual remain at twenty shares. The question of raising money by mortgage in order to hurry along the opening of the store was also discussed and finally tabled.

The subject of assisting the speakers' committee in their efforts to sell stock was discussed at length and it was decided that greater efforts should be made to secure volunteer speakers, and that officers of the Chicago Federation of Labor be requested to furnish credentials to the speakers to be used to visit unions in the interests of the store proposition and that the speakers report to President Schack on expenses for cartage and postage and they would be reimbursed for the same. President Schack reported that he had conferred with the officers of the Chicago Federation of Labor and it had been decided that the credentials be made out by the league with the endorsement of the federation. On motion the report and the credentials were received and endorsed.

President Schack, reporting for the speakers' committee, said:

Fellow Delegates.—Much time was consumed since our last meeting, making plans, and trying to induce volunteers to assist the few active members of our committee who are in earnest and willing to do as much as it is physically possible for them to accomplish, besides appearing before local unions at night.

I was accompanied by Financial Secretary Loughridge, and we called on the president of the A. F. of L. while he was in our city. We were only given a few minutes of his time, but were thankful for that. He asked that we reduce to writing the true condition as we see it in reference to union label agitation and what is needed to get the best results in this city.

We promised to do that and were assured by Secretary John J. Manning, who was also present, that a letter will reach every local asking that they affiliate with the Label League, or at least contribute their share to enable us to carry on an effective campaign.

Delegate Irwin accompanied me one afternoon and made an elegant talk to the upholsterers' union members who are on strike against the State Street stores.

We also called on the office of the Smart Style Shop, which had made inquiry from the secretary of the C. F. of L. regarding the textile workers' union label. We assume that the demand for the union label on ladies' hose and men's socks induced this company to become interested. We were told that they were willing to can-

vass the shops where unionists are employed and supply them with union label merchandise. Of course we welcome such a move.

The Lobby Hat Store, at Madison near Western Avenue, reports quite a noticeable increase in the demand for the union label. They assure us that they are anxious to sell the right kind of merchandise. One may feel sure that when an article bearing the union label comes from the Lobby Hat Store, it will be of good quality because every garment must bear inspection.

I called on Mr. Rasmussen of the Elston Clothing Company, who is president of the Business Men's Neighborhood Club. A complaint reached me that a placard was conspicuously placed in the window of all Allied Printing Trades Union Label had been omitted, causing an ill-feeling among some unionists who had cheerfully given their mite. I was told by Mr. Rasmussen that it was an oversight, and in the future they will be more careful about matters. He was slow to understand that due to the carelessness in this matter, many contributors will not hang up the sign without the union label.

We hope the delegates will bring all these things to the attention of their local unions at the next meeting. Our plea is simply this: Paralyze the employer of organized labor and demand the union label—and convince the store keeper that your unionism is more than card deep.

Delegate Seward, photo-engravers, reported that he was acquainted with the manager of the Smart Style Shop and it was through his efforts that the firm had become interested in the union label, he had learned that they were dealing with the Chattanooga Kutting Mills, a partly organized plant, and he thought that by getting them interested in the union label it might result in making this factory 100 per cent union. He also reported that the matter of buying shares in the union label stores would be taken up at their next meeting.

Delegate Cahill, boot and shoe workers, again called attention to their picnic to be held at Elm Tree Grove, Saturday, June 30, and invited the delegates to attend.

Delegate Curry called attention of the delegates to a book that had come into his possession containing a list of union carpenter shops in the city that he had found useful in determining where to go when wanting work done. Delegate Plansky, Carpenters' No. 1,367, explained that the book had been issued by the Carpenters' District Council as a guide to union men in search for work, but he could readily see the great good they could be put to as outlined by Delegate Curry and would see that the league was supplied with enough of them to go around.

Delegate Curry also reported that the firm of Miller & Bantz, 3395 Archer Avenue, was willing to put in a stock of gents' furnishings, including hats and shoes, and asked that the delegates of the unions making the products take a personal interest in seeing that salaried men be sent to this firm. There was also a number of cigar stores in this neighborhood that could be taken in hand with a view of having the street car men who congregate there supplied with union made smokes.

Delegate Jones, boot and shoe workers, in reply to a question, replied that the union stamp is put on shoes made in union factories when requested, it was not made compulsory by the union, but on the part of the buyer there was only one guarantee that the shoe was union made and that was the

label and that it should always be demanded when purchasing.

Delegate Kalla, Bakers' No. 2, reported that the Bakers were making progress in their fight and that the output of union labels was on the increase. The hall they had given in the spring had proved a great success and now the singing society connected with the union were going to have a picnic at Byer's Grove, Saturday, July 14, and tickets would be distributed at the next meeting of the league; also that he had been appointed by his local to sell shares in the union label stores to the members, and those to whom he had spoken on the matter, he had advised not expect to get rich on their investment, but rather to buy shares as a duty to help along a bona-fide movement to improve the condition of the workers. He also explained the conditions under which the bakers work and how difficult it is to make the smaller shops live up to the agreements signed and the thousand and one excuses made for not living up to them. There is only one way to determine that the bread you buy has been made under union conditions and that is to see that the union label is on the loaf.

Delegate Colhard, Electrotypers No. 3, reported that the sale of shares in the union label stores in his local had now passed the \$2,900 mark; at their last meeting Mother Jones and John Fitzpatrick had favored them, each making stirring addresses which he felt sure would result in still greater activity among their membership and he expected would also help along an increase in the sale of shares.

A circular letter sent out by the Actors' Equity Society, advising that union labeled trunks and leather goods bearing the label of the United Leather Workers can be had at 526 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, was read and filed.

A communication from the African Blood Brotherhood, calling attention to the efforts of the bosses to bring colored help from the South, and asking for aid to bring the message of unionism to them, was received and filed and referred to affiliated unions.

Chairman Fitzgerald of the conference committee reported that the next conference meeting would take place at 180 West Washington Street on Thursday evening, June 28, 1923. Prominent speakers would address the meeting and the prizes for the best slogans for the union label campaign offered by Secretary Manning of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor would be distributed.

She also reported that the bunco party given by the Women's Union Label League at 220 South Ashland Boulevard on Friday, June 15, was a great success. The prizes had been donated by the broom makers' union and from an unknown source had come a large bouquet of flowers which was greatly admired and afterwards distributed among those present and she would take this method of letting the unknown donor know that the gift was appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

James Loughridge,
Secretary.

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THE NEW MAJORITY



FERMENTATION—IV

SURGICAL wounds, varicose ulcers and X-ray burns sometimes refuse to heal because the fluids of the body are lessened in alkalinity, and there constantly oozes through the wound an exceedingly acrid irritating acid fluid, of which nature is endeavoring to rid the body, and this acrid discharge irritates the wound, causes intense burning, itching, pain, and prevents healing. When the methods of Sanatology are used, the normal alkalinity of the body restored, and the toxic poisoning eliminated, nature has no further use for the opening in the wound through which to eliminate poisons, and the irritating fluid ceases to exude through the wound, the irritation is stopped, the wound cleans up and begins to heal.

Any varicose ulcer can usually be healed entirely in from three to six weeks. If surgical understand the value of clean alkaline blood in healing the wounds they make, they never would operate upon a patient except in extreme emergency, until by proper treatment the normal alkalinity had been as nearly restored as possible.

For years after Lister's germ killers were brought out, the medical profession went almost into spasms over the necessity for use of antiseptics and fumigation.

Even the old "hard boiled" allopaths now understand that the best fumigator for bedding and germ-laden clothing is six to eight hours on a clothes line in the sun and air, nature's great fumigator. Germs cannot live long in sunlight and air.

Then, too, it has been found that just cheap, plain hot water and common old yellow laundry soap liberally applied to germ-laden floors is all that is needed to make them uninhabitable for germs of any kind—just cleanliness, sanitation, in other words.

Long ago, Koch of tuberculin fame, in view of the many facts I have previously given, stated, as a conclusion, that the mere presence of a germ in an organ or tissue is not sufficient proof that it causes the disease, and he laid down four requirements which must be satisfied before any such relation can be admitted. First, given a specific disease in which a definite germ is constantly detected and with a constant disposition with respect to the tissues, organs, etc., this organism or

germ should be absent from animals free from the disease.

One of the anomalies of medicine is found in Green's Medical Diagnosis, page 386, where he says:

Consumption is an infectious disease caused by the bacillus of Koch.

On page 389 it goes on to say, under "Modes of Onset":

It should never be forgotten that nearly every case of tuberculosis, whatever its form or apparent suddenness of onset, gives a history of previous impairment of health.

No one ever developed consumption or any other disease without constant violation of nature's laws and a long preparation of the soil in which bacteria thrive. On page 390, Green gives, under "Symptoms":

Tubercle bacilli which may be present early, more often late, or in rare instances be absent throughout.

Thus, in one of the late standard medical works, we are told that here is a disease (consumption) in which the cause (tubercle bacilli) may be present early, but usually they are not, for oftentimes this cause of the disease overleaps and gets in late, and in rare instances the disease must wriggle along as best it can without any help at all from the cause.

You see, therefore, that Koch's first condition is not fulfilled in the case of tuberculosis, for a definite germ is not "constant," nor in either diphtheria or typhoid fever, because the germs of both diseases are found in "animal" bodies and human animal bodies which are free from the disease.

Koch's second requirement was that the germ should be cultivated in a nutrient medium outside of the body and kept pure for several generations, and obtained in some quantity by these means. Third, then, the inoculation of a small amount of this pure cultivation should produce this specific disease in a healthy animal.

The Bio-Chemical Society of Toronto, Canada, carried on a series of experiments in which pure cultures of typhoid, diphtheria, pneumonia, tuberculosis and meningitis germs were taken by the millions in food and drink by several different persons upon whom fifty tests were made. Here are fifty facts, not theories.

In every instance, no ill effect whatever was produced by drinking and eating typhoid germs, and throats and noses that were swabbed with diphtheria germs in forty-five different experiments, produced no traces of diphtheria. Pneumonia germs were swabbed in the nose and throat and placed beneath the tongue, yet no sign of the disease appeared. In twenty different experiments with tuberculosis germs, where the germs were

fed in water, milk, bread, potatoes, meat, cheese, butter, etc., no sign of tuberculosis followed.

The meningitis germs were used as swabbing for the nostrils and millions of them were swabbed over the turbinate bones and still other millions applied to throats, tonsils and tongues, and a series of tests were made in which millions more were used in water, milk, meat, potatoes, cheese, etc., with absolutely no sign of disease occurring.

Therefore, in accordance with Koch's second and third requirements to show that germs cause disease, the germ theory absolutely fails.

Koch's fourth proposition was, that the same foreign elements as before should be clearly detected in the tissues of the now diseased subject. So, you see, when pure cultures of germs have been made and have been eaten, swallowed and swabbed on the mucous membranes, no disease is produced, there are no foreign elements and there is no diseased subject, and the germ theory, as the cause of disease, hasn't a leg to stand upon.

The primary purpose of the Health School is to teach health and right living, the prevention of disease, and the prolongation of life. The economic aspect will also be presented.

Questions will be answered in the order received. The readers of this publication may, if they desire, receive free treatment at the Health School Clinic at 3 p. m. every Sunday, room 417, Kimball Hall Bldg., Jackson Blvd. and Washington Ave., Chicago.

A fee is charged for private consultation. Address all the queries to Dr. P. L. Clark, 30 S. State St., Chicago.

Packer Exchange Raps Co-op Law

The Live Stock exchange is greatly worried for fear the farmer will be exploited under the co-operative marketing bill recently passed by the Illinois legislature. Everett C. Brown, president of the exchange, brands the bill as "unconstitutional, inoperative and pernicious." He also declares that the law means the end of cattle loans in this state, as bankers will refuse to lend money to cattle raisers who have entered into a contract such as the co-operative marketing calls for.

Wall Paper Crafts Unite

The National Association of Machine Printers and Color Mixers and the National Print Cutters' Association amalgamated into one organization at a joint executive board meeting June 23 and 24. The new union is called the United Wall Paper Crafts of North America.

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BULLETIN BOARD

CHICAGO AND VICINITY

The 180 striking employes of the municipal garbage plant are back at work, following the promise of city officials that two discharged men will be given a hearing before the civil service commission. Simultaneously the charge of conspiring to injure the public health was dismissed in the case of Paul David, business agent Garbage Handlers' union. The mayor and commissioner of public works also promise to investigate the union charges against Eugene Vollmer, superintendent of the plant.

Arbitration hearings, in the dispute between surface car and elevated railway employes, on the one hand, and their employers on the other, will open here July 9. A wage increase of 10 cents an hour, bringing the rate back to 80 cents, where it stood before last year's strike, is the demand of the men. Working conditions will not be included in the matters arbitrated.

The U. S. railroad labor board is considering a joint submission, tendered by the A. T. & S. F. Ry. and the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, involving the workers' demand for higher pay. The scale is: Gang foreman, \$1 an hour; leading signalmen and signal maintenance, 90 cents an hour; signalmen and signal maintainers, 85 cents; assistants, 70 to 76 cents, and helpers 60 cents an hour.

About \$344,000 annually will be added to the pay of 7,500 Rock Island mechanics' helpers, apprentices, and power plant employes of maintenance of equipment department, as a result of an increase of 2 cents an hour, according to an announcement of Vice President Charles C. Pritch of the Rock Island railroad.

MIDDLE WEST

Cleveland.—Two thousand shop mechanics and helpers on the Nickel Plate system have been raised 3c per hour, taking effect as of June first. The raise affects practically every shop employe of the system, including both its Stony Island, Ill., and Con-

neut, Ohio, shops. Officials granted the increase to forestall action by its shopmen before the U. S. railroad labor board. The raise covers not only the shopmen on the Nickel Plate railroad proper, but also those on its affiliated lines, Lake Erie & Western, the Toledo, St. Louis & Western, the Fort Wayne, Cincinnati & Louisville, and the Chicago and State Line railroads.

Rock Island, Ill.—Crews on government boats near this city are striking in protest against the order of the U. S. engineer which places some of them on a 12-hour shift.

Danville, Ill.—Two trainmen were seriously injured, and nine others, trainmen and passengers suffered minor injuries when a C. & E. I. passenger train collided with a Wabash passenger train at Danville Junction. It was the third wreck which some of the passengers on the Wabash had experienced on the trip, the first having occurred just out of Maan, Mich., and the second at DeWitt, Ind., due to a defect in a brake beam. The Wabash is one of the roads which has refused to settle with its striking shopmen. Faulty repairs by the strike-breakers are said to have been responsible for the wreck.

St. Louis.—Zane Bowers and Asa W. Campbell, shopmen convicted of charges of violating the strike injunction obtained by the Wabash railroad at St. Louis and sentenced to serve six months in jail, were among the federal prisoners released by President Harding before his departure west. Campbell, who says he was fifteen miles away when his alleged offense was committed, was granted an unconditional pardon. Bowers was serving out his fine of \$500.

Cleveland.—An effort to have union made cigars sold at concession stands in the parks of this city is being made by the Cigarmakers' union. Although Park Director Reutenik claims that, under the contract with the concessionaire, the city cannot dictate what brands of cigars may be sold, it is known that other contracts provide that pies, milk and ice cream shall be supplied by concerns which are operating under "open" shop conditions.

WAY DOWN EAST

Boston.—Strikes are threatening in almost every industry in New England. The workers are showing signs of general unrest and protest against working conditions throughout the industrial belt. Telephone operators of the New England states have cast an 85 per cent vote in favor of a strike. Elevated railway workers of Boston have voted to leave their fate in the

hands of an arbitrator, the attorney for their union. Whether this action will forestall a strike is doubtful. Besides this, several street car strikes are threatened in smaller towns.

New York.—With 3,000 inside iron workers, members of the Bridge and Structural Workers' International union, on strike here for union recognition, more than two-thirds of the employers were seeking settlements the first day. The strike, which union officials believe is certain to succeed, is a result of the campaign of the National Erectors' Association, an anti-union body, to force the open shop by persuading steel manufacturers to refuse to sell to contractors who deal with organized labor.

New York.—A woman—Mrs. Anna M. Kross, who for five years was an assistant corporation counsel of the city of New York—has been appointed general counsel to the Building and Allied Trades Compensation bureau, which represents 60,000 workers in seventy-eight unions in the building trades. The bureau's purpose is to aid employes in securing compensation under the state compensation act. Mrs. Kross will furnish free legal advice to the members of the unions included in the bureau.

Buffalo, N. Y.—The attempt of the local street car company to establish a hand-picked "union" is costing a pretty penny. Evidence submitted to the state public service commission shows that the company's revenue for the first three months of this year was \$394,163 less than for the same period a year before the strike.

New York.—Various locals of dress-makers and pressers in this city that are affiliated with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union, will be merged into one local of dress-makers and one local of pressers.

Albany, N. Y.—Employment in factories of this state during May was 1 per cent lower than in April, reports the New York state department of labor. Decreases were reported in nearly two-thirds of the manufacturing industries of the state, but most of the increases were very slight or were due to seasonal influences. The department says there is nothing in these figures to indicate a reversal of the upward trend in manufacturing, which has been in effect since last summer.

PACIFIC SLOPE

San Francisco.—San Francisco Typographical union No. 21 claims that it has one of the longest continuous office-holders of any local of the international union, and certainly the longest in office who is a woman. Mrs. Alice Hawkes-Bennett has begun her 25th consecutive yearly term as reading clerk. She has in addition been several times elected delegate of the union to the Central Labor council.

Sacramento, Cal.—Governor Richardson has appointed George S. Hollis, president San Francisco Labor council, and until recently president San Francisco Typographical union, to succeed Paul Scharrenberg, secretary State Federation of Labor, as a member of the State Immigration and Housing commission. Scharrenberg was removed recently by the governor ostensibly for "lobbying activity," but

actually for his opposition to the administration's welfare and education-slashing budget. Hollis has been active in California A. F. of L. circles for more than twenty-five years.

San Francisco.—The Seamen's Union here charges that the Alaska Packers' Association is making a round of the county jails in California and securing the parole of offenders on condition that the released prisoner go to Alaska on the "hell ships" of the Association to pick salmon for almost nothing under unutterably bad conditions. No labor trouble or unionism need be feared from these virtual slaves. The specific instance is given of 12 men taken from the Fresno county jail and shipped to Alaska.

SUNNY SOUTH

New Orleans.—The local plumbers' union has signed an agreement with the master plumbers which grants them an increase of 15 per cent in wages.

New Orleans.—This city, with a population of 400,000, has only one shoe repairing shop which employs union labor.

Austin, Texas.—The new state compensation law, passed by the last legislature, is now in operation. Under the act a man's life is valued at \$7,200, as against \$5,400 under the old law. Formerly injured workmen were entitled to receive reasonable medicine and hospital service for two weeks. This has been changed to four weeks. The law formerly provided that an injured person should receive 60 per cent of his average weekly wages, but in no case less than \$5 nor more than \$15. The amendment provides for a minimum of \$7 and a maximum of \$20.

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