

# THE NEW YORK JOURNAL

Vol. 10, No. 7.

CHICAGO, AUGUST 18, 1923.

Five Cents a Copy — \$2.50 a Year.

## GUNMAN SHOTS SMELTER STRIKER

### Zinc Company Starts Trouble at Taylor Springs to Get Soldiers Sent There

By Carl Haessler  
Federated Press

Taylor Springs, Ill.—Universal resentment against gunmen and the sending of state troops here is the aftermath of the shooting of an unarmed striker at the American Zinc Company's plant at this place. It is the familiar story of an employer who won't pay a living wage resorting to violence to queer an orderly strike.

William Garcia, a union man of long standing, is in the Hillsboro hospital with a bullet through his leg and two gunmen have ducked out of town after taking a sound thrashing for insulting women pickets and pulling guns on an unarmed group of strikers.

The zinc company has resisted for three years the efforts of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers to unionize the plant. There is an absentee owner named Rossman of St. Louis who sends his son Kenneth down to run the smelter.

Ed Carbine, union organizer, determined to try to unionize the works this summer after several failures in other years. The increase in wages all over the country and the demand for labor made it a good time to start. Through quiet meetings Carbine got a fourth of the 300 employes signed up.

### Company Fights Union

The company hired stool pigeons and fired each man as soon as it learned he had taken out a union card. When the union had between 50 and 60 per cent of the employes Organizer Carbine asked the company to recognize the union and to raise wages. In reply the company discharged all known members.

The union retaliated by putting the smelter definitely on the unfair list. Strike placards were put up and that morning 85 per cent of the working force was union, swelled by night to 97 per cent.

The company imported gunmen from Litchfield and other points, armed them with guns and told them to get busy. The company had them sworn in as special deputies. They swarmed onto the street cars running to the plant and began cursing and insulting the women pickets, wives of the strikers, who also rode on the cars. When the guards began to get rough near the plant and the women were in danger of physical violence the strikers took a hand and the guards started gunplay. There were no firearms used by the strikers, but one guard shot Garcia, a striker, who was then taken to the hospital. Several of the guards received a pummeling and landed in the county jail, whence they were subsequently released to beat it out of town.

The strike has proceeded peacefully ever since. The men hold daily meetings.

### Troops to Protect Scabs

Following the shooting of Garcia, the union man, by the company's gunmen, the company called for the militia, so that it could put strike breakers at work, under protection of the soldiers. Ten units were sent by Governor Small's administration.

Ed Carbine and Adolph Gorazza of the organization committee have had several con-

## COOKS AND WAITERS

The Hotel and Restaurant Employes' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America opened their twenty-second biennial convention Monday, August 13, in the Cameo Room at the Morrison Hotel, in Chicago, with President Edward Flore, of Buffalo, in the chair.

Alderman Oscar Nelson, who is also the vice-president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, represented Mayor Dever in a welcome address. Victor Olander, secretary of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, and Mother Jones addressed the delegates.

John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, bid the delegates welcome, in behalf of the workers of Chicago. He related to the men and women the many failures of the forces of big business in their drives against the labor movement in the last few years. He also reminded them of the great task before them of educating the workers to be thinkers.

## Striking Coal Miner Is Denied U. S. Papers

A. F. of L. News Letter

Baltimore, Md.—Judge Valentine of Parsons, W. Va., will not grant citizenship papers to a striking member of the United Mine Workers, according to President Drum, District No. 16, United Mine Workers, in a letter to a local trade unionist.

Dan Spolarich asked for citizenship papers, and presented his honorable discharge from the United States army, where he served nine months. The court took an unusual and unnecessary interest in the applicant's private affairs. The young alien was asked why he was not working and if he were a member of the United Mine Workers.

O. B. Anderson, government representative, told the court, according to President Drum, that Spolarich had no right to be admitted to citizenship; that he was a striker and a member of the United Mine Workers. Said President Drum:

The final outcome of the hearing was that the court refused Spolarich citizenship papers because he was a member of the United Mine Workers, and so stated. This judge used to be a local attorney of the Western Maryland railway in that county, whose craftsmen have been on strike for over a year. This shows you what we have to fight against in District No. 16. It shows you the prejudices against our cause.

## Want Eight-Hour Day

The Order of Railway Telegraphers demands that the railroad labor board stand by its eight-hour principle. First, the board gave recognition to the eight-hour day and later ruled that eight hours could be worked within twelve hours, in certain offices. Said President Manion, of the telegraphers:

If we are to have an eight-hour day, let the board so decide. But if it is the intent of the board to provide twelve hours' service to the carriers in our class, then let the board so rule.

ferences with the owners. The union demands recognition and higher wages.

Wages range from \$3 to \$4.50 per day. Skilled men get the \$4.50, while common labor takes \$3. The eight-hour day is supposed to be in force, but the company works its men twelve to sixteen hours at a stretch and discharges any man who murmurs against it. The extra hours are paid for as straight time instead of time and a half or double time, as unionized plants allow.

Col. A. L. Culbertson, Illinois national guard, and Dan Dintzen, state mediator, have both joined in the conferences between union and company. Says Dintzen:

The union naturally asks recognition and the company, which runs smelters in a number of states, won't hear of it. Wages could be adjusted.

## MILLIONS LOOTED FROM RAILROADS

### R. R. Men Have Equipment Companies that Haul Out Flood of Gold from Inside

By Leland Olds  
Federated Press

Exorbitant profits of railroad equipment companies show bankers lining their pockets at the expense of the traveling and shipping public. Each year railroad profits to the extent of tens of millions of dollars are piped off in their equipment and supply bills to swell the dividends of corporations dominated by railroad interests.

New York financiers have a double interest in inflating railroad costs. They exact a profit from every dollar spent for coal, rails, switch frogs, cars, locomotives, brake shoes, etc. What is more, every dollar tacked on to the fair price for railroad supplies adds that much to the valuation of every similar supply on all the railroads of the country and so tends to inflate the value of the carriers for rate making purposes. Such is the meaning of valuation on the basis of "cost of reproduction."

Heavy railroad orders mean a boom for big business, and assured profits over which there is no quibble because Wall Street is selling to Wall Street. Orders this year and last year have brought the equipment and supply companies the most prosperous year in their history. It is generally conceded that railroad equipment companies have earned their entire year's dividend requirements in the first six months of 1923.

### Earns 48% for Stockholders

The American Locomotive Company, during the first six months, grabbed a profit of \$6,972,125 after payment of interest and taxes. When preferred dividends had been paid the profit remaining for common stockholders was equivalent to \$12.19 a share. But last year stockholders were given two shares of no-par value stock for each share of \$100 par value stock. In other words profits for the six months are really equal to \$24.38 on the original shares, or at the rate of 48 1/2 per cent a year. That's one reason why railroad rates are high.

Baldwin Locomotive's profits for the half year are estimated to amount to \$19 for each share of common stock, or at a \$38 a year rate. This company illustrates the extent to which the railroad industry is carrying an unnecessary burden in the equipment industry. During 1922 Baldwin made a net profit of nearly \$2,000,000, although it operated only about 35 per cent of capacity. Railroad users paid a profit on capital which was two-thirds idle.

Lima Locomotive works profited to the extent of \$11 a share of common stock during the first half of the year. That means 22 per cent profit for the year as a whole. American Brake Shoe & Foundry more than got its \$5 annual dividend on common stock in the six-month period, while New York Air Brake earned approximately \$5 a share on its stock during the same time. Both of the companies have stock of no par value, profits in the case of New York Air Brake being really, at the rate of 20 per cent per year.

### More Unholy Millions

American Car & Foundry during its fiscal year ending April 30 took profits of \$10,633,562, which meant \$13.71 a share for its com-

## MANY "SACRED" LAWS ARE ONLY RIDICULOUS

Legal Editor Says Mere Precedent  
as Basis for Decision Is

Foolish

A. F. of L. News Letter

New York.—"Rules which are looked upon with veneration today, and which are called the law, will some of them be the laughing stock of the next generation," said I. Maurice Wormser, editor of the New York Law Journal and professor of law at Fordham university, in a recent New York World interview. He continued:

Law is looked upon by nine judges out of ten, and by nine lawyers out of ten as a thing apart from life instead of a thing which is a part of life. The tendency today is to regard the law as a bundle of little maxims, rules, black letter texts, which can be tied up with blue ribbons, memorized and then applied by machine.

My theory is that the law must correspond to the inexorable economic, social and ethical demands of the community. If it meets these a law is a good law, and if it does not, it may have behind it precedents from William the Conqueror to the latest decision, and it remains a bad law.

He Cites an Example

Rules which were looked upon as sacred 100 years ago are laughed at today as nonsense. In 1890, if I agreed to sell you my cow and you agreed to buy her, I was bound to deliver the animal even if you were unable to pay for her, and, vice versa, you had to pay for the animal even if I could not deliver her. The rule was in operation for almost 200 years. A sensible man came along, Lord Mansfield, and he said this rule was nonsense, and then for the first time people realized that it was nonsense, although there were many who maintained that, after all, a law is a law.

Precedent is not the most important question, for what may be perfectly good law in 1890, may be outrageous law in 1923. The primary thing for a judge to consider is the effect of his decision sociologically, economically and upon business.

Many persons, including judges, agree with me on this point, but you can not expect them to say so. If a judge of the supreme court said what I have said, it is not at all inconceivable that he would be impeached. But an eminent judge told me recently that in his opinion society would be just as well off if every case that was ever litigated in the courts were decided exactly opposite to the decision rendered. He meant that, in too many cases, the courts have ignored the demands of the people and have considered only dry-as-dust precedents.

mon stockholders. This company has piled up over \$36,000,000 in surplus profits after paying stockholders 8 per cent a year during 1917 and 1918, 9 per cent in 1919 and 12 per cent a year during the three following years.

During the year 1922 Westinghouse Air Brake secured profits amounting to about 24 per cent for its common stockholders. In that year Railway Steel Spring earned more than 10 per cent on its common stock. General Railway Signal Company is now earning at a rate of more than 14 per cent.

The steel companies, largely dependent on railway orders for their prosperity, are earning big profits, those of U. S. Steel being at the rate of 18 per cent a year. Taken with the other supply and equipment companies they show surplus undivided profits of over half a billion dollars.

This flood of excess profits flowing to the great Wall Street profit dynasty is money milked from the railroads. It increases their construction, maintenance and operating costs. It enables the railroad interests to hide behind the plea that railroad profits are moderate. Such profits are the real obstacle to getting railroad rates on a reasonable basis.

Control of the country's transportation system is important to Wall Street in large measure because of the enormous strategic purchasing power which it represents. Refusal on the part of the U. S. Railroad Administration to purchase steel because Gary asked a price which could have been cut in half without eliminating legitimate profit showed the money kings what to expect if this purchasing power were handled with a view to saving money for the public.

## Cook County F.L.P. News

THE quarterly convention of the Cook County Farmer-Labor Party, deferred from July to August, because of the national convention, was held last Sunday at 180 West Washington Street.

Amendments to the county constitution of the party were proposed, and laid over until the next convention, regulating the qualifications of officers of the party and candidates for public office. One of these was offered by a subcommittee of the Executive Committee, providing that elected officers of the party be required to have individual dues-paying members for not less than three months. Another, introduced as a resolution from the floor, provided for membership for one year as a qualification not only for elective and appointive office within the party, but also for candidates for public office. There is pending also a proposed amendment to the latter resolution, excepting candidates for public office, inasmuch as the constitution at present requires that they have the approval of the executive committee.

A resolution favoring abolition of capital punishment, sent in by John W. Maskell, was adopted. It was published in a recent issue of **THE NEW MAJORITY**.

Mrs. Dora Nordboe, Glenn Campbell and Robert M. Buck were elected as delegates to the Farmer-Labor Party state convention at Decatur, Ill., September 8 and 9.

### Anti-Fascisti Drive Here

New York.—Anti-Fascisti groups are to be formed in all the large industrial centers in America as part of a campaign planned by the Anti-Fascisti Alliance of North America.

The plans include the sending of organizers to these centers to inform the workers of the actual nature and methods of Fascism, and the raising of funds to be sent to labor bodies in Italy and to aid the victims of the Black Shirt terror there. This announcement marks what is regarded as a speedy realization of the plans of the alliance, which was organized several months ago on the initiative of the Italian Chamber of Labor in New York. The alliance immediately won the support of such central labor bodies as the Central Trades and Labor Council of New York, the United Hebrew Trades, and of central labor unions in a score of other important cities. At the same time it received the active cooperation of union internationals such as the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union, Samuel Gompers, president A. F. of L., among others, expressed his satisfaction with the work of forestalling the Fascist designs in the U. S.

### These Slaves Can't Talk Back

St. Louis.—Deaf mutes are favored slaves when the Curlee Clothing Company hangs out a Help Wanted sign. In the St. Louis Globe-Democrat the senior partner of Curlee Clothing Company explains that he is going to hire deaf mutes in his factory hereafter because they don't waste time gossiping about their work. The company holds the dirt medal for low wages, bad treatment of workers and long hours of work in St. Louis, and St. Louis clothing factories are among the worst in the country. Curlee likes deaf mutes because they can't talk back to the master when he cracks the whip.

### Cigarmakers' Convention Meets

The forty-fourth convention of the Cigarmakers' International Union met last Monday at North Side Turner Hall, Chicago. Two hundred delegates were in attendance. It was said that one of the chief items of business to be transacted was revision of the constitution to permit organization of all classes of employes in the cigarmaking industry. Maintenance of the insurance provisions was said to have become burdensome to the union and turning over the insurance feature to a private company was to have been discussed.

### Ex-Senator Fall on Russia

New York.—Albert B. Fall, ex-senator from New Mexico and President Harding's first secretary of the interior, who was formerly a foe to recognition of Russia and Mexico, has returned from a trip to Russia. He announced himself as surprised at how well things are going there and said the Russian people seemed to be working out their destiny fairly well and that general conditions there were "better than usually pictured."

## LABOR MAYOR WINS ROCKFORD CONTROL

Aldermen Unanimously Behind Him  
After Two Years of  
Struggle

By Carl Haessler  
Federation Press

Rockford, Ill.—With the unanimous confirmation by the Rockford city council of Mayor I. Herman Hallstrom's appointments the wings of the city government have signaled harmony that his succeeded after two years of struggle and deadlocks.

Hallstrom is a labor mayor. The council was predominantly anti-labor. On many things the two have got together. The mayor carries a card in the bricklayers' union and knows all about splashing mortar and making bricks dance into position in a foundation. In fact foundations are his strong suit. As he explains in his office in the city hall:

We have done nothing startling. I started out in 1921 with two aldermen against 14. We knew we had to have public confidence before we could undertake real labor measures, so we stuck to building our foundations.

Hallstrom conducted his office with a strict eye to the public's business. Although he headed the returns in 1921 with 5,400 out of 15,000 votes in a field of four, the nonlabor majority in the council turned down all but four of his twenty-seven major appointments. He plugged steadily on until the next election, which took place last spring. He was given 10,200 out of 18,000 votes in a field of three candidates, a notable sign that the foundation of public confidence has been won. The labor group in the council was tripled, having six out of sixteen. Public endorsement of the mayor at the election paved the way to harmony in the council and made the majority ready to respect his appointments.

### Street Cars Are Big Problem

As in most cities, the street car question is a sore spot in Rockford. The 80,000 population is too big to be handled by municipal motorbus. The privately owned street car system is a mess of overcapitalized junk. The franchise expires in October. The mayor started the public's fight against the company when he was editor of *The Labor News*, Rockford's labor weekly, in 1917. He organized the defeat of a franchise grab and since then vetoed a new franchise, insisting that it have a referendum clause in it. This was inserted and the franchise beaten at the polls 2 to 1. Hallstrom's plan is to let the company run on a permit system until the city is ready to acquire it. Says he:

The first step in municipal ownership is to own the electric power plant. From that the rest will follow. The city owns its poles and wires, the skeleton of a complete distribution system. When the city owns the power plant it can light the streets, furnish all the public departments with light and power, then extend into the home consumption field and then sell power commercially. The street car system would follow.

The mayor has made appointments that commend themselves to the city. His appointive power extends to all departments except fire and police, which are under civil service.

The organization that manages the labor campaign is known as the Labor Legion. It is Rockford's local labor party.

### N. Y. Socialists in Appeal

New York.—Dissatisfied with the outcome of the recent Albany labor political conference, which ended with a decision against independent political action this year, the Socialist Party, the Farmer-Labor Party, the American Labor Party and local labor unions which were excluded by the rail organizations have requested W. H. Johnston, chairman national committee, Conference for Progressive Political Action, not to recognize the organization formed at Albany. Johnston is asked to leave the way open for the formation of a state branch of the national organization which shall include all the elements represented in the national conference, and to call a new state conference to this end.



## BROPHY NAILS COAL-OPERATORS IN LIES

Shows Huge Profits for Owners Who Deal With Mine Workers' Union

Clearfield, Pa.—In a statement to the U. S. Coal Commission, John Brophy, president District No. 2, U. M. W. A., replies to the brief recently submitted to the Coal Commission by the Central Pennsylvania Coal Producers' Association and the Association of Bituminous Coal Operators of Central Pennsylvania. He takes up each point made against the United Mine Workers by the operators, and explains the position of the miners.

The most striking part of the statement is that which replies to the charge that owing to the union "the spectre of bankruptcy shows his grim visage on the horizon of Central Pennsylvania." Brophy quotes figures from Moody's Manual showing that certain coal companies dealing with the union, which are mentioned by name, have distributed in dividends in December, 1922, and the early part of 1923 from 40 per cent, in the case of the Pennsylvania Coal & Coke Corporation, to as high as 150 per cent on capital stock, in the case of the Jefferson & Clearfield Coal & Iron Company. The figures quoted, says Brophy, are fairly representative of the financial standing of the union coal operators.

In defense of the check-off system of collecting union dues, which was attacked in the operators' brief as yielding an enormous sum of money which is the chief cause of strikes, the miners' statement gives a detailed account of how the union's money is used and shows that under normal conditions only 11 per cent of the union's yearly income is used for strike purposes. It further states that this money is only used in legal strikes, to prevent wage reductions or abrogations of contract, or to secure a union contract, and that in case of an unauthorized strike, not only is there no money given in relief, but the union insists that the men live up to the terms of the contract.

### Work Only Part Time

The statement takes up each case in which the operators charge the union with calling strikes in violation of contract and deals with the causes of the general strike in 1922.

It also maintains that the charge that the union opposes the introduction of labor saving machinery is not true, but, on the contrary, is in favor of new machinery in the mines, especially that which will eliminate car-pushing.

Brophy stresses the intermittency of work in the coal fields and in reply to the operators' figures concerning high labor turnover, says that the factors in the labor turnover are: (1) Slack work—chasing after the ever elusive steady job; (2) slow turn—failure of management to supply sufficient mine cars to keep miners steadily employed during the day; (3) bad places—abnormal conditions which do not permit the miner to make a fair daily wage; (4) favoritism—working heading on idle days makes a favored class, and consequently arouses discontent among other miners at such mines; (5) housing and social conditions—poor housing, isolated communities and lack of good schools.

In conclusion Brophy says:  
Low wages is the operators' panacea for all the ills of the mining industry. It is the cure for overdevelopment, the antidote for competition, the corrective for intermittency. Low wages will not prevent intermittency. The miners received extremely low wages in the '90's and work was just as intermittent as now. Check unnecessary production and shorten the work-day and the problem of intermittency is solved.

### Swedish Bricklayers Strike

Stockholm, Sweden.—Attempts of employers to lower wages have brought about a strike of 400 bricklayers in this city on account of which local construction work has been retarded.

## War Cannot Be Ended by Nice, Polite Folk

A. F. of L. News Letter

Williamstown, Mass.—The problem of world peace is not just a question of getting a number of sweet tempered and reasonably minded people around a table, said Philip Henry Kerr of London, former secretary of Lloyd George, in speaking before the institute of politics at this place. The speaker declared that sentiment is not the road that will lead to world peace. Said he:

The international problems would be comparatively simple if all the 1,550 millions of people in the world were exactly alike in race, language, religion and color, but they are not.

The white population of the world is about 550,000,000, distributed mostly through Europe and America; the brown and yellow peoples number about 550,000,000, distributed almost entirely through Asia, and the blacks, who inhabit Africa, are about 100,000,000. In race, the Mongolian is the largest with about 665,000,000 people. Next comes the Caucasian with 645,000,000, and then the Negro with 100,000,000.

### Accuse Coal Barons of Abuses

Washington, D. C.—Charges that employes of many coal mining companies in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Alabama are held in a state of virtual isolation in the towns where they reside were made today in a report addressed to the United States coal commission by a voluntary committee of educators and clergymen. The payment of deputy sheriffs by coal companies also was attacked. The authors of the report, who describe themselves as the Committee of Inquiry on Coal and Civil Liberties, are: Zechariah Chafee Jr., professor of law at Harvard university; Prof. H. A. Miller of Oberlin college; Rev. John A. Ryan, director of the National Catholic Welfare council, Washington, D. C.; Rev. Arthur E. Holt, social service secretary of the Congregational church, Boston, and Kate Holladay Cleg-horn, head of the department of social research of the New York School of Social Work. Winthrop D. Lane had charge of the committee's investigations, being assisted by Jerome Davis, assistant professor of sociology, Dartmouth college.

### Break Rail Prosperity Records

New York.—According to Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, American railroads are today the most prosperous in their history. This statement comes at a time when the people are being told that the railroads are on the verge of bankruptcy. This campaign has been carried on for months, and is intended to "scare off" proposed railroad legislation by creating a public opinion that "the roads must be left alone." Mr. Kruttschnitt now throws a monkey wrench into the poverty propaganda by acknowledging the roads are the most prosperous in their history. He said his own company is in the middle of its best year.

—A. F. of L. News Letter.

### Calls Farmers' Income Meager

New York.—Half the farmers in the United States made less than \$1,000 last year, according to Nathan Straus Jr., chairman agricultural committee, New York state senate. Straus, who has specialized on the problem of food production, declares in the American Agriculturist that while the terrors of crop failure have been largely overcome by agricultural research, no increased prosperity has come to the farmer from his larger crops. Said he:

The average farmer's income for his long hours of work and his risk was, in 1912, a banner year, \$1,456. It was only \$465 in 1920. It was \$1,211 in 1922.

### Printers Convene at Atlanta

Atlanta, Ga.—The annual convention of the International Typographical Union went into session here this week with 600 delegates. On the opening day there were addresses by Governor Walker, Mayor Sims, Charles B. Gramling, president of the Georgia State Federation of Labor, Alfred C. Newell, president of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, John S. Cohen of the Atlanta Newspaper Publishers' Association and C. W. Cunningham, president of the Atlanta Federation of Trades.

You Can Help ~~THE~~ by Patronizing Its Advertisers.

## UNION MEN MAY PASS OUT LABOR HANDBILLS

Chicago Corporation Counsel Says Ordinance Doesn't Forbid Distribution

In their organizing campaign, members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in Chicago passed out handbills urging the advantages of belonging to the union. They were arrested. They were charged with violation of section 2,718 of the city code, prohibiting distribution of handbills advertising business in public streets.

The cases were tried in the municipal court of Judge Hayes and were defended by Alderman Oscar F. Nelson, vice president of the Chicago Federation of Labor. Attorney Nelson pointed out to the court that these were handbills of an educational nature on economics and did not advertise any business. Judge Hayes dismissed the cases.

In view of the fact that the police for years have harried and hampered labor by twisting and distorting this ordinance and arresting union men, Alderman Nelson demands that the chief of police cause such arrests to stop.

### Law Department Supports Nelson

Morgan Collins, police chief, asked him to get an opinion from the corporation counsel. Nelson asked the corporation counsel for an opinion and was supported in his contention by the city law department in the following document, signed by Frank M. Padden, assistant corporation counsel:

Your letter of July 6, 1922, asking for an interpretation of section 2,718 of the municipal code of 1922, has been referred to me. I am of the opinion that section 2,718 has no reference to handbills which you say are being distributed by the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. The ordinance specifies the kind of handbills to which it applies and educational matter is not included therein.

The text of section 2,718 reads as follows: No person or persons shall distribute, cast, throw or place in, upon or along any of the streets, alleys or public places of the city, any handbills, pamphlets, circulars, books or advertisements, for the purpose or with the intent of advertising or making known in a general or promiscuous manner, any business, occupation, profession, medical treatment or medicine, under a penalty of not less than five dollars nor more than fifteen dollars for each offense.

### Won't Survey Retailers

Washington, D. C.—The coal commission will not survey retail coal dealers, as this can be handled by state and municipal agencies. The commission found that coal retailing is inextricably associated with trucking and storage and with the retailing of a variety of other commodities. A nationwide survey of the more than 40,000 retail coal dealers would cost \$2,000,000, and even then results would be unsatisfactory because of conditions, the commission hints.

—A. F. of L. News Letter.

### Dutch Squelch Java Strike

Batavia, Java.—As a protest against the arrest of one of its principal leaders, and foreign exploitation of sugar, the Association of Railway Employes recently proclaimed a general railway strike which temporarily crippled the movement of trains throughout the north coast of Middle Java. By governmental decree the strikers were declared to be revolutionists and places of those who did not return to work within the time set by the Dutch government were filled by strike-breakers.

### Labor Board Censures Erie

Following its censure of the lawless strike-breaking Pennsylvania railroad, the U. S. railroad labor board has been forced by repeated defiance of the Erie to issue three "public rebukes" against that road. The board declares that the Erie has not only violated its orders but "is wilfully and knowingly persisting in such violation in contempt of the opinion expressed by the board and in contravention of the public welfare."

## EDITORIAL PAGE

## LABOR BACKGROUND

Critics of the Farmer-Labor Party have said that it should not have withdrawn from the Conference for Progressive Political Action, after the Cleveland meeting of that group, no matter how antagonistic the "conference's" attitude toward a party for labor. These critics state as their reason for this comment that the conference is an organization of labor unions and the party should have stayed in it to keep in close contact with the unions and provide itself with "labor background."

This is a curiously uninformed criticism. The Farmer-Labor Party does not need "labor background." Its own background is of labor. It does not need contact with unions through any other agency. It is itself composed, for the most part, of delegates directly from unions. It has its own contact with the unions.

They are only pseudo-labor parties, parties of intellectuals trying to impose a ready-made political program on labor, that need to provide themselves with artificial approaches to labor and "labor background." Some of them try to secure this camouflage through the agency of the Farmer-Labor Party, so well do they recognize that the Farmer-Labor Party is itself not only for and by, but also of labor.

## OUR NEW PRESIDENT

The center of national interest has shifted from the funeral of the late President Harding to the personality of the new President Coolidge. Comment in the newspapers is such as to indicate that the Wall Street interests are quite as confident of being safe in the hands of the new president as they were in the hands of the old.

Labor does not need, however, to depend upon the opinions of the business interests to understand where it gets off with President Coolidge. He has a definite record as to his attitude toward the organized workers and it does not include even such tolerance of the unions as marked the personal relations of President Harding toward his employees.

While Coolidge was governor of Massachusetts, the strike of the textile workers occurred at Lawrence, Mass. In the course of that struggle an effort was made for arbitration. Governor Coolidge was induced to make the suggestion of arbitration to the bosses. It was promptly met by the declaration on the part of the employers that the walkout of the textile workers was illegal and that they were a "bunch of bolsheviks" out to overthrow the government. That was the stock comment of employers concerning every strike in those days.

In the meantime, a group of liberals in New York undertook to line up certain financial interests to support the demand for arbitration and they communicated with Governor Coolidge, saying that they supposed he would welcome the support they proposed to give his appeal for arbitration. By return mail they received a curt reply from his secretary, using the language of the bosses and asking them if they did not understand that the strike was an illegal one and the strikers a "bunch of bolsheviks" seeking to overthrow the government.

He lost all interest in arbitration, thus indicating that either he was party to a plan to request arbitration and have it used to brand publicly the strike as "bolshevistic," or that he had readily taken his cue from the reply of the bosses.

During the same strike a committee of strikers went to Boston to request of the governor that an official inquiry be initiated into police brutality against the strikers. He would not even receive the committee, but sent them a communication saying that if the police were guilty as alleged by them, "the matter should be brought to the attention of the criminal court."

During a telephone strike in 1919, Governor Coolidge wired Postmaster Burleson, proposing that the state of Massachusetts take

**THE NEW MAJORITY**  
**ROBERT M. BUCK, Editor**  
**DOROTHY WALTON, Associate Editor**  
 PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT  
 108 West Washington Street, Chicago  
 Owned and controlled by the Chicago Federation of Labor and its affiliated unions in the interest of organized labor. National Official Organ of the Farmer-Labor Party  
 Member of the Federated Press  
 Annual Subscription ..... \$2.50  
 Canadian and Foreign annual subscriptions require 25 cents additional for postage  
 Entered as second class matter December 31, 1918, at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill.  
*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.*

over operation of the telephones as a means of breaking the strike.

Much has been said in the newspapers to the effect that Coolidge came into national prominence as a result of his sending, as governor of Massachusetts, the militia into Boston to break the policemen's strike, which followed the dismissal of a score of policemen for being affiliated, through their union, with the A. F. of L. His decisiveness of character, as exemplified in this situation, is commented upon as indicating that he is a determined individual who would make a strong president.

It is forgotten that what he actually did was to run away from this situation in a blue funk, and that the business interests pulled him back by the coat-tails, so to speak, and instructed him to send the troops to Boston, which he docilely did. He then sent telegrams to Secretary of War Baker and Secretary of the Navy Daniels, urging them to be in readiness to send further military force against the striking policemen if necessary.

Subsequently he told the business men of Boston, that his re-election as governor (which had been bitterly fought by organized labor) was a rebuke to the unions.

## THE BRICKLAYERS' WAGE

Bricklayers in New York are getting \$16 a day. So the editorial writers and the funny men of the newspapers, and the folks who live on interest from mortgages and bonds—and the still larger numbers who take their ideas from the first named—are being indignant, or funny, or alarmed, or envious, as the case may be. Other cities have a similar situation. The bricklayer is pictured in cartoons as a bejewelled plutocrat.

The facts are, as regards New York, that only relatively few members of the trade are getting \$16; and, what is more to the point, the bricklayers, one and all, average three days a week or less at work the year round. That cuts their actual wage to \$8 a day at the highest, and probably to something more like \$5 or \$6 a day in most cases.

Still another myth that has been given wide circulation is that bricklayers are laying only about half the amount of brick they used to. As a matter of fact, the average in New York is from 1,200 to 1,400 brick a day. Years ago, when rushing work was permitted, bricklayers frequently were credited with laying 1,500 brick a day. They didn't. What happened was this:

The trick then was to throw up the outside 4 inches of what was supposed to be a solid 13 or 16-inch wall, and fill the interior with anything that might be on the scaffold—bits of timber, dirt, broken brick. There are hundreds of such walls in New York, walls that really are hollow.

These are the buildings which collapse when a fire gets anything like a start. And most of them are tenement houses.

—Federated Press

## Good Books to Read and others

The Standard of Living, by Newell Howland Comish; The Macmillan Company, New York; \$2.

Because the rich live in luxury you must live in poverty. Your hardship is a direct result of the rich man's ease. That is one fact that stands out of an analysis of the elements of consumption recently published by N. H. Comish, professor of economics and sociology in Oregon Agricultural college. The book furnishes an economic background for the workers' health and comfort budget of the Department of Labor.

The American standard of living has reached its high water mark. It is probably on down grade. While the present economic order continues the average family will find it more and more difficult to get sufficient to live on. According to the author:

The standard of living of the American people will, therefore, be increasingly more difficult to maintain on the present level if the population grows as fast in the future as it has in the past.

This is true because the country will get less out of additional capital and labor invested in its natural resources.

According to the author's figures the American standard is nothing to boast of. In 1910 one-sixth of all the families in the country were on or below a pauper standard, an additional one-third were just able to sustain a bare subsistence, less than half the families in the country were able to maintain a health and comfort standard estimated at anything over \$300 a year. On the other side of the class line less than one twenty-fifth of the families in the United States lived in luxury.

Purchase of luxuries by this small class of wealthy families is in part responsible for the low standard of living of the majority, according to the author, who says:

Luxurious consumption ordinarily means excessive consumption. At present the poor have hardly enough to purchase the necessities of life. Hence, if more luxuries are demanded, the very demand will tend to divert additional land, labor and capital from the production of absolute necessities to the production of luxuries. This process will eventually tend to reduce the supply of necessities and thereby increase the prices of these articles. As a consequence the poor would probably pay higher prices for the absolute necessities of life.

Unwise or wasteful consumption is considered by the author as a vote in favor of continued production of unnecessary, worthless or even harmful goods. That means that your unwise purchases also have the effect of raising the cost of necessities.

Although Comish avoids the issue, the fact stands out in his analysis that these consumption wastes are largely attributable to miseducation of the people in the interest of the profits of the class that lives in pomp and luxury.

This book gives the lie to the old argument that a demand for luxuries tends to better the condition of wage earners by creating more jobs. So long as an idle leisure class is maintained in luxury a decent standard of living for wage earners will be more difficult to attain. The greatest waste in every country is the maintenance of a class of spenders who divert a large proportion of capital and labor from the production of a high standard of living for all producers to the production of goods and services which cater to excessive personal satisfaction and display.

Comish's book is important only as it calls attention to the problem of consumption. It is neither thorough nor fundamental in its approach. The author studiously keeps his skirts clean of anything which might be interpreted as criticism of the present business order.

## Movie Reviews

## THE COMMON LAW

A GENERATION ago Robert W. Chambers, considered one of the most promising of American writers of fiction from his pleasant style and lively imagination, stood at the crossroads, confronted by the choice as to whether he was going to be a real writer, grappling courageously with life's deeper problems, or whether he was going to be merely a fashionable writer for the money he could make out of it. He wrote a novel entitled "The Common Law," and it was seen that his decision was made. He was going to write sensational piffle for money.

The photoplay under the same title is a picture of his novel. It is sumptuously staged. Its woman star, Corinne Griffith, is a startling beauty. It provides good entertainment, but its theme is the unimportant problem of whether folks in high society are going to continue to be snobs, or whether they are going to "protect the institution of holy matrimony" by letting their rash young men marry artists' models when they so desire, or are going to force them to live with women to whom they are not married. The story caves in at the end when the man's society parents decide to take the artists' model into their midst, thus departing from faithful portraiture to life. The movie is exhibited this week at the Chicago Theater.



## GARMENT WORKERS IN STRUGGLE AS USUAL

With Fighting Spirit They Organize Shops Despite Scandalous Injunction

### Injunction

By Dorothy Helen Buck

The Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of Chicago, which was organized in 1916, affiliated with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, has gone through numerous fierce struggles, of which their strike of twenty weeks in 1917 was the most important one. The strike was lost to the workers, many of whom were jailed because of violation of one of the worst injunctions ever issued against working people. They have made many bold attempts to unionize their industry and to better conditions in the shops.

The conditions now existing in the majority of the Chicago clothing shops are abominable. In many the old sweatshop system of piece work is still carried on. Regulated hours are an unheard of thing in most shops. Young girls, just out of school, entering these shops soon break down in health due to the strain of long hours and piece work. The pay does not come near to the standard of a living wage.

A few favorites in many of the shops are paid to see that the other employes do not talk of organizing. In case men are sent to talk unionism to the women and girls, there are sluggers posted outside of the shops to greet them in the usual slugger fashion.

### Bosses Use Blacklist

The blacklist system is used in practically every shop. According to this system any person mentioning the working conditions of a shop is presented with his walking papers and put on the bosses' blacklist so that he cannot get a job in any other clothing shop.

Now, as a result of these poor working conditions and these lawless methods used by the employers to intimidate the workers, Meyer Perlstein, the third vice-president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, has launched a ripsnorting campaign in the Ladies' Garment Workers' Union of Chicago to improve the status of the women and girls in the clothing industry.

The members of the union are demanding an eight hour day, and a five day week with a minimum wage scale of a dollar an hour. It is necessary that these women and girls, most of whom have responsibilities at home, have two days a week to look after their homes and to get a rest from the routine of the work. However, such employers as Mitchell Brothers Company and the Francine Frock Company consider such conditions as a girl's health and happiness mere non-essentials compared to the great necessity of keeping the output of garments high enough to allow them to grow fat and rich.

### "Yellow Dog" Contract in Use

These employers and many others have united in one strenuous fight to conquer and intimidate their employes. Mitchell Brothers Company, for one, forces its employes to sign an agreement that they "will not become a member of any labor union, and will have no dealings, communications, or interviews with the officers, agents, or members of any labor union in relation to said employment. The agreement further states that "if, at any time while the employe is in the employment of Mitchell Brothers Company, said employe desires to join a labor union, said employe agrees to withdraw from said employment, and further agrees that while in said employment, said employe will not make any efforts among other employes of said employer to induce them to affiliate with or join a labor union."

In addition to this liberty-robbing agreement, known as the "yellow dog" contract, the combined employers have lately succeeded in having an injunction of the federal court issued. And while this injunction is, for the present, a temporary one, it is the worst one ever issued against labor, in that it does not

## Chicago Bakers' Local No. 2 Holds Annual Picnic Sept. 1

Bakery and Confectionery Workers' local No. 2, of Chicago, will hold its annual picnic at Harm's Grove, 4201 North Western Avenue, Saturday, September 1. In addition to the usual games for young and old, there will be a prize bowling contest. The first prize will be \$15; second, \$10 and third, \$5. John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, will address the gathering at 7:30 p. m.

Local No. 2 has the reputation of being one of the most militant fighting locals in America. Its activities aroused the labor-baiting, bakery interests, which endeavored to put the local out of business. Activities to bring this about were carried on within and outside the organization. No. 2 has weathered all storms, thus far. All trade unionists should assist this fighting local by refusing to purchase scab bread and demanding only bakery products bearing the union label.

## Washington Labor in Legal Fight

Seattle.—All labor forces in the state of Washington are rallying to the support of the typographical union in its legal fight to maintain the right to strike. President William M. Short, state federation, has sent out an appeal for funds to all affiliated organizations. Short in his statement declares that the recent adverse action of the supreme court at Olympia in ordering the Pacific Typesetting Company's case against the union brought to trial, is a vital issue to all of organized labor. Said he:

The labor movement of our state and nation cannot afford to surrender its inherent and legal right to strike, either secondary or primary. Nor can it permit the establishment of any employer's claim to a property right in our labor power. The state supreme court's decision in this case abridges our right to strike and establishes the claim of an employer to a property right in the labor power of his employes.

## Big Increase in U. S. Steel Steals

New York.—Simultaneous with the announcement that the price of steel products may be increased 15 per cent because of changes in the 12-hour day, the steel trust reports profits that exceed any three months since 1920, when earnings were the largest of any period since the world war. In round numbers, the net profits totaled \$47,000,000, against \$34,000,000 the first quarter of the year, and \$48,000,000 the record quarter of 1920. These profits are after all charges have been met and after \$10,000,000 was set aside for improvements and additions.

## Strongarm Mussolini Hits Labor

The International Labor Office says it has been informed that the ministry of labor and social welfare of Italy has been abolished by a Royal decree. The decree provides that Premier Mussolini, in agreement with the minister of industry and commerce and the minister of finance, shall take the necessary steps for their transfer to other ministries. The various services in question will be placed under the direct control of the Fascist premier until a permanent reorganization scheme is put into operation.

## U. S. Employes to Meet

Washington, D. C.—Officers of the National Federation of Federal Employes have issued the call for the seventh annual convention, to be held in Denver, beginning September 3.

prohibit certain acts in a strike or lockout, but forbids any effort of whatever nature to organize the exploited workers who have signed the "yellow dog" contracts.

The union is fighting the injunction and at the same time is carrying on its education of the workers. It is also broadcasting its complaints in the form of booklets and at its street meetings.

The response of the workers, who have now decided that even jail can not and will not prevent their improving the working conditions in their industry, is wonderful. In the near future we may see one of the greatest struggles in the Chicago labor movement that women have ever put up.

## NAVY RULES SERFS IN VIRGIN ISLAND

Labor Man Pens Protest Against U. S. Imperialism Backed by Big Guns

"We are serfs who work for wages ranging from 10 cents to a dollar a day. Politically we are peons, governed by the U. S. navy."

With this statement of the workers' status in the Virgin Islands under U. S. rule, Rothschild Francis, organizer Federal Labor union, No. 17,261, and editor of The Emancipator, writes from St. Thomas, V. I., appealing to American labor for help. The appeal, which is addressed to the labor press of the United States, follows:

Right here in these Virgin Islands is a group of human beings that are members of the working class. They, too, can tell tales of oppression, of misrepresentation, and of exploitation that will cause your blood to circulate above normal rapidly, but the purpose of writing this letter is to point out that they are at present without any visible means of support. The men go idle from month to month. Children are undernourished and the economic condition of these islands is something deplorable.

Federal (U. S.) laws have worked havoc upon these islands. They have closed the harbor of St. Thomas from outside commerce and have chased away the intellectual and commercial element from the islands of St. Croix, and have done more things too numerous to mention here.

These islands are directly under the control of the navy department. Thinking natives hold in high regard the personnel of the navy who are sent down here to govern, but they are irreconcilably opposed to the form of government that is neither Danish nor American. We want you to understand that our people are industrial serfs who work for wages ranging from 10 cents to one dollar a day. They live in one-room houses; eat scanty meals; and are forced to move about in a manner unbecoming civilized people at this age.

Politically, we are peons without any form of government patterned on the American conception. Illiterates may vote but women may not. The governor appoints and discharges the judges. The police judge and government attorney are one and the same person and in short, there are sadder things than these.

We want you to publish this letter to your readers. We want you to give us a space in your valuable paper once a month wherein we may voice our grievances. We want you to say a word editorially about a group of people who, like cows, have no status, are forced to accept federal (U. S.) laws, are governed by the navy and at present have no means of eking out a livelihood. Tell the congressmen and senators of your state about the conditions and ask them to say something on our behalf in the coming congress that will give us a civil form of government and grant us opportunities to improve our economic condition.

## U. S. Firms at Russ Fair

New York.—The U. S. government will not be represented at the All-Russian Agricultural and Home Industry Exposition, to be held in Moscow from August 15 to October 1, but big American industrial interests will. The American bureau of the exposition, with offices at 136 Liberty Street, here, announces that among the American firms which are participating in the exposition are the Advance-Rumely Thresher Company, Oliver Chilled Plow Company, Gould manufacturing Company, American Seeding Machine Company, Deere & Company, New Moline Plow Company, Herschel Manufacturing Company, Buckeye Incubator Company, Beall Tool Company, J. H. Jackson Company and others.

## Chinese Schools Increase

San Francisco.—Dr. P. W. Kuo, chairman foreign relations committee, Chinese National Association for the Advancement of Education, here for the national educational convention, says China in the past twelve years has increased public schools over 100 per cent from 500 to 1,242. It has also established 1,296 newspapers and 6,000 branch post-offices, and inaugurated woman suffrage and many other reforms. All this, says Kuo, may be placed to the credit of the present Chinese republic, while the national debt has been kept at less than a billion dollars, with a population of four hundred millions.

# LEVIATHAN CREW IS TARGET OF BRITISH

Foreign Ship Owners Try to Break  
Down U. S. Seamen's

Act

By Victor A. Olander

Secretary, Illinois State Federation of Labor

The arrival of the great steamship "Leviathan" at Southampton recently, on her first voyage to England under the American flag, was the signal for much activity on the part of lawyers representing British shipping interests. A search of the big vessel was to be made, according to announcements of the British port authorities, to discover and place under arrest certain members of the crew on a charge of having "deserted" British vessels in American harbors.

The metropolitan newspapers of the United States, as well as those of Great Britain, echoed the announcement, and during the entire stay of the "Leviathan" at Southampton the shipping world was "on its toes" in anticipation of what might happen in event British authorities undertook to seize the crew of an American vessel for an alleged infraction of British law in American jurisdiction.

The general public, of course, did not understand the full significance of the event and care was evidently taken not to inform the newspapers fully on this point.

Why was the "Leviathan" affair given such great publicity when arrest of seamen in Great Britain on the charge of having deserted British ships while such vessels were in American harbors has been a matter of rather common occurrence during the past three or four years? The answer can be given by any one familiar with competitive conditions of the sea trade. British shipping interests, as well as those of practically every other European country, having been deprived of certain advantages which they formerly held over American shipping under treaties which were abrogated in 1916, now see the day fast approaching when the operating costs of their ships will be equal to those of American vessels.

## Seamen's Act Bothers Bosses

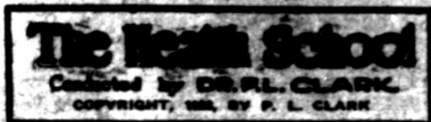
The La Follette Seamen's Act, which congress passed in 1915, and which became effective on foreign vessels in American harbors in 1916, is rapidly equalizing competitive conditions in the sea trade. Foreign ships which formerly had the assistance of the American police in forcibly retaining their crews while in American harbors, must now find means of inducing the crews to remain on board voluntarily. In other words, they must offer as good or better wages and working conditions as can be obtained by the men on other vessels. When the foreign ships fail to do this, the seamen simply quit and seek employment on other ships. This is permitted by the American law known as "The Seamen's Act."

Taking advantage of their rights under this law, the men do quit, and as a result operating costs on foreign ships have reached the American level in the trade to and from ports in the United States. But if seamen in Southampton can obtain higher wages by sailing on vessels engaged in the American trade, why should they consent to man ships bound for South America, Africa or any other place in the world for less wages? Manifestly the economic urge is for them to await a chance of shipping in some vessel in the trade paying the highest wages.

Vessels engaged in other trades are thus compelled to meet these conditions by offering higher wages. The increase is thus gradually spreading over the entire shipping world and raises all towards the American standard. The American ship, therefore, has a fair chance in competition for the sea trade.

## "Leviathan Affair" Is Staged

In a desperate effort to arouse fear of international complications in the minds of the general public of the United States, and at the same time to frighten the crews of British ships by threats of punishment, British



## HAY FEVER—III

IN severe cases three kinds of rest are necessary. 1. Physical rest—that is, to go to bed for a week or so. Second, mental rest; don't worry, and last—physiological rest—or the rest for all your internal organs including the wonderful glandular system of your body.

If continuing in your accustomed occupation is necessary, you will have to make up your mind to stand a considerable amount of lassitude and ill feeling for the first week or two. After that it will not be hard.

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.

If you have hay fever 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 hay fever ceases to trouble. Meantime, rest yourself all you possibly can. Get to bed at seven or eight o'clock, whether you sleep or not.

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

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 enemata 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 and hay fever will be gone.

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 hay fever 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 the little folder, "How to Eat for Health," which contains more information than most three dollar books, but will cost you only twenty-five cents.

ship owners, assisted by so-called Americans owning and operating vessels under the British flag, staged the "Leviathan" affair.

The "Leviathan," be it understood, is not a privately owned ship. The vessel is the property of the United States government; that is, she is owned by the United States Shipping Board. Charges against certain members of her crew were brought by representatives of the Cunard Line, a British company closely allied to the British government by certain naval reserve agreements or regulations, and the White Star Line, consisting of British vessels operated by the International Mercantile Marine Company, an American corporation. The combination was such as to furnish possibilities of rather serious difficulties between the American and British governments were it not for the fact that international law, long established and absolutely essential to the best interests of every nation, provides that every vessel must comply with the national law of the countries whose harbors they visit while in those harbors. In the end, according to press reports, none of the "Leviathan" crew suffered arrest. The ship-owners' bluff failed to work.

On another occasion seamen who had left British vessels in American harbors had been arrested upon their return to their home countries and punished and imprisoned by British courts. One instance of this was the case of a considerable number of the crew of the "Imperator" who, in 1921, were arrested, fined and imprisoned in Southampton on the so-called "desertion" charge.

## Owners Have to Pay

Counselors for the steamship company informed the court at that time that the average cost to the company for recruiting men

# WAR WAGES UNPAID; 8-HOUR DAY INVOLVED

Bethlehem Steel Company Has Not  
Yet Paid 1918 Overtime

Award

Allentown, Pa.—Organized machinists employed by the Bethlehem Steel Company announce that with the opening of the new congress they will renew their fight for wages awarded them by the national war labor board in 1918.

The case originally involved 21,000 employees, of which approximately 7,000 were machinists. With the ending of war work, these employees were laid off by the thousands and the addresses of many of them are unknown. Many of the machinists also dropped out of the machinists' union, but these unionists will carry on the fight not only for the wages involved, but to establish the principle that the government recognize the same rates of pay on government work in contract shops as paid by the government.

In 1918 the machinists reopened their old eight-hour fight against the Bethlehem Steel Company. The national war labor board held hearings, and sustained the machinists in an award based upon rates paid in government plants. The war department provided \$1,500,000 for these additional wages, and representatives of the national war labor board classified each employe for a certain rate so that his back wages could be quickly adjusted.

Checks for the money were being written in 1921, but everything was overturned by the judge advocate general of the army ruling that congress must approve the claim.

The case was then carried to congress, where it will be reopened at the next session. No one has denied the justness of the machinists' claim, as they were forced to work 10 hours and over on government contracts, while the law calls for eight hours.

to take the place of so-called "deserters" in American harbors was thirty-seven pounds sterling for each man. In that same year the ship owners of Denmark made similar complaints and also enforced the so-called "desertion" laws against Danish seamen upon their return to their country. Instead of becoming frightened in the manner expected by the British and other European ship owners, the seamen continue to assert their rights, and now, when they find it dangerous to return to their home ports, are solving the problem by simply staying away. This causes additional worry to the harassed foreign shipping interests. Their costs are mounting.

Recently the White Star Liner "Pittsburgh" found it necessary to pay a bonus of five pounds—equivalent to about twenty-one dollars—to each man of her crew in order to induce them to remain on board the vessel for their return voyage.

Since the passage of the Seamen's Act by congress in 1915, foreign shipping interests in the United States, represented by a great horde of consular agents throughout the country, have led a great part of the American press to believe that the Seamen's Act places undue burden upon the American merchant marine. Chambers of Commerce, employers' associations and business institutions of all kinds were led to echo the false cry. Now the cat is out of the bag and the truth is being confessed by the foreign interests. And the truth is simply this, that the La Follette Seamen's Act furnishes the only means by which the American merchant marine can be given a fair competitive chance in the seven seas, setting a high standard of liberty for seamen and safety regulations for passengers and crew and making this applicable to all ships in American harbors, regardless of the flag they fly.

Congress, by the passage of the Seamen's Act, did much to solve the merchant marine problem for the United States. If the government officials charged with the enforcement of law will properly apply the act in its full scope, the American flag will soon be seen in every port of the world.



# BULLETIN BOARD

### CHICAGO AND VICINITY

Thomas Polston has been appointed business representative of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union of North America.

Despite a sweeping injunction against organizing and picketing and in spite of strong arm methods by the police, 350 members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers continue their strike here against the C. B. Shane Company. The strike, which was called July 7, followed arbitrary action of the firm in breaking off wage negotiations with the workers. The strikers demand union recognition and removal of the injunction, which was granted by Judge Dennis Sullivan.

About 95 per cent of the strikers

are Lithuanians. The company has been able to get about fifty Lithuanian strikebreakers to take their places.

The average wage in this shop has been around \$2 a day, with insanitary working conditions. The firm has never been a member of the large employers' exchange, which has an agreement with the Amalgamated for most of the Chicago market.

Twenty-eight members of the union have been arrested, many of them beaten by the police and held for several days without being booked for trial.

### MIDDLE WEST

Rock Island, Ill.—Building trades unions in Rock Island are suffering from lack of building operations. The government's housing program during the war provided for thousands of asexual workers here who have now scattered to other points, leaving the supply of homes above the demand. The 12,000 wartime workers at the Rock Island arsenal who lived in Rock Island, Duvergne and Melrose, are now reduced to 2,000.

Granite City, Ill.—A fine example of the company union scheme which the workers are asked to accept in lieu of the genuine labor organization is found in the work of a boss organization attempted here by the Commonwealth Steel Company. The company's moulders and patternmakers have been on strike since June 27 for union recognition and adjustment of a long chain of grievances. Two hundred and fifty moulders and apprentices, eighty pattern makers and thirty-six carpenters are on strike. The men demand the right to take up grievances with the company through representatives of their own choice,

instead of through the so-called Commonwealth Plan.

Rock Island, Ill.—The railroad shopmen in the big Sivilis shops of the Rock Island are entering on the 14th month of their lockout. Hardly a striker has returned to these shops. Many of them have found other work. The Rock Island's locomotives are showing the effects of a year's handling by green strikebreakers.

Detroit, Mich.—Wages of platform men employed by the Detroit United Railways have been increased 6 cents an hour. The company has signed an agreement with the union. The company operates suburban lines and in near-by cities. The Detroit municipal street car system was formerly owned by the D. U. R.

### NORTHWEST

Minneapolis.—A training school for co-operative organizers and administrators is to be opened here within the next few weeks, announced the Co-operative Leaguers. A study course of five weeks is to be given in bookkeeping, organizing problems, the theory and practice of co-operation. The sessions of the school are to be held at the Franklin Co-operative Creamery of Minneapolis, under the auspices of the Northern States Co-operative League.

### WAY DOWN EAST

New York.—The 1,600 photo engravers employed by New York newspapers have voted unanimously for a limited arbitration of issues in the negotiations for a new contract with the employers. Representatives of the engravers and the publishers have signed a tentative agreement, renewing the old contract but submitting to an arbitration board these two ques-

tions: "Shall the present minimum wage of \$55 and \$60 per week for day and night workers, respectively, be increased?" "Shall more elastic lunch periods be provided, and under what conditions?" Hours are to remain as at present, 44 hours a week for day work, six days a week, and 40 hours a week for night work, six days. The agreement provides that no wage reduction shall be made.

Newark, N. J.—The Public Service

**NORTH SIDE  
TURNER HALL  
RESTAURANT**

C. APPEL, Manager  
320 NORTH CLARK ST.

**REDIFER'S HALL**

J. W. REDIFER, Owner  
300 WEST WASHINGTON ST.  
PHONE: MAIN 322

Halls of all sizes Rented  
For all occasions, by day, night,  
week, month or year.  
LODS OF SPORT LEASERS.  
REASONABLE RATES.

Patronize The  
**Federation Cigar Stand**

225 WEST WASHINGTON STREET  
Union Made Cigars and Cigarettes  
a specialty  
Box Trade Solicited.  
Phone Main 1341

**NOW READY!  
BOUND VOLUME NO. 9**  
Containing

## THE NEW MAJORITY

for the Period  
January-June  
1923

Sent to you postpaid  
for \$4.25

# UNION LABELS

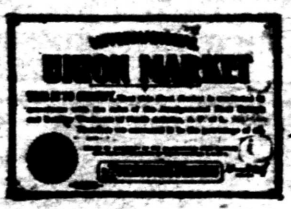
When Engaging Musicians  
For Any and All Occasions  
Ask For This Card

CHICAGO FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS  
No. 2004  
Mr. *John A. Runge*  
CHICAGO  
JAN. 23, 1923  
Send only for the following:  
JAN. FEB. MAR. CHAS. A. RUNGE

CHICAGO PRINTING PRESSMEN'S  
Union No. 3 I.P.P. & A.U.  
DEMAND THE UNION LABEL  
On Your Printing  
Business Office: 543 S. Dearborn St.  
Telephone Webster 6222

CHICAGO TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION  
CHICAGO'S PROGRESSIVE TRADES UNION ORGANIZED 1892  
NUMBER 16  
DEMAND THE UNION LABEL  
On Your Printing  
322 1/2 La Salle St. :: Business 5737

International  
  
DEMAND THE ABOVE LABEL ON EVERY LOAF WHEN YOU BUY BREAD  
It is the only guarantee that the bread you use is made by union labor and under the most stringent rules of hygiene and sanitation.  
Accept no substitute.  
BAKERS' UNION LOCAL NO. 2  
Phone Superior 222

Patronize Only  
MEAT MARKETS  
Displaying This  
HOUSE CARD  


**UNION MEN**  
Patronize  
Union Barber Shops  
Local No. 548  
HAVE YOUR CAR  
Painted by members  
Auto, Carriage and Wagon  
Painters' Local 326  
Office: 183 N. La Salle Street  
Phone Main 6222

Rayway Corporation of New Jersey, which operates or used to operate the trolley cars connecting about 150 cities and towns in northern New Jersey, continues to be completely paralyzed by the strike of its carmen for wage increases and shorter working hours. The corporation, the stock of which has been watered and ruthlessly manipulated for years, declares its financial condition is such that it is unable to raise wages.

New York.—Although wheat has fallen below the dollar mark, the average price of a one-pound loaf of bread in the city of New York continues at 8 cents. That fact has led to an investigation, now under way, by 125 market supervisors following demands by 800 women's organizations to make a survey of the cost of producing bread and the exact prices charged at retail.

Schenectady, N. Y.—Jitney drivers are ignoring an injunction issued against them at the request of the local street car company, whose platform men are on strike.

Hartford, Conn.—Organized car-

penters, painters, plumbers and steam fitters have secured wage increases.

**SUNNY SOUTH.**

Chattanooga, Tenn.—A strike at the United Hosiery mills has ended with substantial wage increases to supplant the speeding up system that was intended to satisfy higher wage demands of these workers.

New Orleans.—Organized carpenters in this city are winning their strike for improved conditions. They are being resisted by the general contractors' association.

New Orleans.—With a population of 400,000 New Orleans has 7,911 children between the ages of 10 and 16 years employed at gainful operations, according to figures of the U. S. census bureau. Eleven hundred and eighty-one women over the age of 65 are compelled to work for a bare existence. The cotton mills and bag factories are the chief offenders.

**OUT WEST**

Casper, Wyo.—Meat cutters and butchers have organized and affiliated with the regular trade-union movement. Blacksmiths have done likewise.

**PACIFIC SLOPE**

San Francisco.—Union boilermakers on strike here have expressed their willingness to arbitrate the issues at stake, and have stated they would accept W. H. George, of the union-busting Industrial Association as arbitrator. Even under such conditions the shipyards refuse to arbitrate. In all the yards where the men have struck, men employed as strikebreakers in 1919 have walked out with the others. Boilermakers' Union No. 6 has taken in 100 nonunion strikers, and many more have applied for membership.

Spokane.—The first labor bank in this part of the northwest opened here Aug. 1. It is operated by sixteen railroad unions. George O. Barnhart is president.

Portland, Ore.—In a plea for a reduction of middlemen's costs, C. E. Spence, state market agent, says that writers too often measure production by the buying demand, not the natural demand. Said he:

If a natural demand for fruits and vegetables could be filled in this or any other state, there would be such a consumption of grown products that all agricultural sections would prosper.

Oakland, Calif.—Machinists employed by the Scandia-Pacific Gas Engine company are on strike to enforce a higher wage scale.

San Francisco.—Liberal and radical women of this vicinity have formed the Northern California Amnesty committee, with Claire Shipman as chairman. Its object is to secure unconditional amnesty for all remaining political prisoners in federal penitentiaries. The committee is circulating a petition to that effect, which has already received the signatures of hundreds of local sympathizers. Headquarters of the committee is the Tun-

not Book Shop, 445 Stockton Street, San Francisco.

**CANADA**

London, Ontario.—Organized stereotypers employed on local newspapers have raised wages \$4 a week.

Vancouver, British Columbia.—The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada will hold its annual convention in this city beginning September 16. The congress is the legislative mouthpiece of the Dominion organized wage workers.

**FOREIGN**

Berlin.—After holding out for 14 weeks, the miners in the Saar Valley, which is now under the control of an Entente Commission, have gone to work again. They have had to accept an unfavorable compromise, and are to receive an advance of 5 francs per shift for some of the workers, and 3 1/2 francs for the rest, instead of the flat increase of 7 francs per shift asked for.

Elberfeld, Germany.—Unemployment benefits must no longer be paid to persons out of work in the Ruhr valley, according to an order issued by the Belgian military command in the occupied area. This is a new attempt to starve the Germans there into submission. The authorities, both governmental and trade union, have decided to pay no attention to this order, which they regard as inhumane and contrary to all law and justice. Arrests will probably follow as a result.

Vienna.—There are now 1,049,994 men and women organized in the General Federation of Trade Unions of Austria. Of this number, 232,712 are women.

Hamburg, Germany.—In connection with a strike among the workers on fishing smacks operating in the North Sea, the public has learned something of the scandalous conditions prevailing in the fishing industry. It has developed, for instance, that the owners of these fishing vessels during March put half of the fleet out of commission, merely in order to keep up the price of fish.

Sydney, New South Wales.—Investigations conducted by medical men show that 80 per cent of the men employed underground in the silver-lead mines at Broken Hill for 20 years suffer from lung deterioration to an alarming extent, due to the deposit of lead dust in the air passages of the lungs. The medical name of the disease is "plumbosis." The skin becomes unhealthy looking, dries, and assumes a lead-like appearance. The blood vessels gradually decay—due to a thickening in the muscular coats of the arteries. The heart in turn becomes affected, so that difficulty is experienced in the valves and main arteries. In course of time the disease attacks the stomach and kidneys.

Stockholm.—The Swedish Federation of Labor now embraces 33 unions, with 3,999 locals and 300,221 members, of whom 274,520 are men and 27,501 women.

Sydney, New South Wales.—In all Australian states, excepting New South Wales, railway telegraphers are working from 36 to 40 hours weekly. In New South Wales the hours are 48 per week. An effort is being made to bring New South Wales into line with the other Australian states in this matter.

**TRADE UNIONISTS**  
READ  
**THE NEW MAJORITY**  
Owned and Controlled  
by  
**Organized Labor**  
All Unions affiliated with the  
**CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR**  
are part owners of this newspaper.  
It is the duty of every trades unionist to subscribe for his own newspaper.  
If you are not a subscriber, fill in the form below and mail today. If you are a subscriber, get one of your friends to subscribe.  
— Subscription form —  
I enclose \$..... for 1 year's  
subscription to The New Majority.  
Name .....  
Address .....  
Mail to  
**THE NEW MAJORITY**  
166 W. Washington Street  
Chicago, Illinois.  
Special Subscription Drive—Rates  
\$2 for one year. \$1 for 6 months.

**UNION LABEL**  
**RAINCOATS \$3.75**  
Gabardine-weave cloth, Maroon tinted rubber lining, made in our own factory.  
Our manufacturing capacity is 7,500 coats per week.  
**SALESMEN WANTED.**  
Write immediately  
**Eastern Raincoat Co.**  
913-921 W. Roosevelt Rd.  
Chicago



**UNION MADE**  
**CLOWN CIGARETTES**

For anything in the Floral line see  
**VANDERPOEL**  
The Florist  
4022 FIFTH AVENUE  
Telephone, Kedzie 0426  
Res. Phone, Kedzie 1230  
UNION LABEL ON ALL DESIGNS

**Foods That Feed the Nerves and Tissues**  
Foods that are natural; not chemically adulterated. Whole wheat bread that is a real staff of life. Foods that are fully endorsed by Dr. F. C. Clark  
**THE HEALTHIER NATURAL FOODS CO.**  
2731 N. Clark St. and 23 E. Van Buren St.

**UNION DIRECTORY**

**LAUNDRY AND DYE HOUSE DRIVERS**  
Local No. 712, I. B. of T.  
Regular Meetings First and Third Tuesdays  
**DYE HOUSE DRIVERS**  
Fourth Thursday  
**STEWARDS**  
Fourth Friday Of Each Month  
Office and Meeting Place  
220 SOUTH ASHLAND BLVD.  
Unless Otherwise Notified  
**JOHN G. CLAY, SEC.-TREAS.**  
Office Phone West 7381

**SIGN, SCENE & PICTORIAL PAINTERS**  
NO. 830  
Meet every 2nd and 4th Monday at  
**20 WEST RANDOLPH ST.**

**Elevator Operators and Starters**  
Local Union No. 147,  
I. B. of E. W.  
Meet every first and third Tuesday at room 412 in Masonic Temple.  
**JAMES J. McANDREWS, Secretary**

**Painters' District Council No. 14**  
Meets Every Thursday at 8 P. M.  
**1446 W. Adams St.**  
Telephone Haymarket 8454

**Chas. Dold P. Vitacca**  
UNION MADE  
**Pianos & Talking Machines**  
with the  
**UNION LABEL**  
**ART PIANO CO.**  
1424 Milwaukee Ave.

**E. W. RIECK**  
**LUNCH ROOMS**  
SEVEN PLACES  
62 W. Van Buren Street  
169 N. Clark Street  
66 W. Washington Street  
42 W. Harrison Street  
118 N. Clark Street  
167 N. State Street  
294 S. Halsted Street

**CO-CI-MA**  
Messrs  
**CO-OPERATIVE CIGAR MAKERS**  
The Cigar for You  
1448 W. MADISON ST.  
Phone Monroe 2774

**Amalgamated Trust & Savings Bank**  
371 West Jackson Boulevard  
CHICAGO, ILL.  
**A CLEARING HOUSE BANK**  
organized by and for Labor.  
Deposit your savings in this safe conservative institution  
Open all day Tuesday until 8:00 P. M.  
Saturday until 5:00 P. M.  
and other days until 3:00 P. M.