

BIG TIME PLANNED FOR FINAL MEETING

Sunday, April 23, will be a day long to be remembered in local labor circles. On that day the State Federation of Labor executive board will hold a meeting in Champaign and in the afternoon a big rousing mass meeting will be held in the new Virginia Theatre with James A. Wilson, president of the Patternmakers of North America, as the principal speaker.

Mr. Wilson is one of the foremost labor leaders in America and a brilliant orator. During the war he served on two labor missions sent to Europe, being chairman of the one sent to Italy in 1918. For many years he has been chairman of the resolution committee of the American Federation of Labor executive council in conventions. He has been president of the Patternmakers continuously for the past 18 years.

The mass meeting committee deemed it necessary to secure the largest theater in the Twin Cities and have arranged to hold this last indoor and biggest meeting for this season in the beautiful new Virginia theatre. This will also give to many the opportunity for the first time to see the decorations of the prettiest theater in the state lighted by daylight.

In the evening it is planned to hold a meeting for unionists only, at which speakers will say some things that could not be said very well to an audience composed of people representing all interests. This meeting will be held at Labor Hall, and will convene at 7:30.

BIG ATTENDANCE OF DELEGATES AT FEDERATION MEET

A largely attended meeting of the Twin City Federation of Labor was held Wednesday night, at which delegates from nearly every union affiliated were present. New delegates were seated from the Sheet Metal Workers' union.

The main theme for discussion was the local conditions in the building trades, several members speaking at length upon the actual situation as well as that confronting the workers throughout the entire country.

Several committees reported. The Labor Day committee reported having secured the fair grounds for the celebration. The attractions this year will far surpass anything attempted in former years. A final report from the various unions regarding the referendum shows over 90 per cent of the entire membership in favor of the celebration as planned.

The Executive Board reported that the Gehrig Cafeteria had been removed from the "we don't patronize" list, and that several other firms were under consideration.

The quarterly report of the secretary-treasurer showed a substantial increase in revenue over the preceding quarter.

The building code committee reported that since it began operations to enforce the observance of the provisions of the building code, violations of the code are becoming a thing of the past. Several violations were reported to the city authorities, and the offenders were compelled to reconstruct the work according to law.

The Labor Temple committee reported little progress, owing to local conditions at the present time, but that later the campaign for a home for organized labor will be renewed with vigor. It was agreed by the delegates present, after hearing the reports of the custodian, that a labor temple owned by organized labor is badly needed.

Several visiting delegates were present from unaffiliated locals, and their presence was a great help in solving some of the knotty problems that came before the meeting.

Taking a Vacation. C. W. Valentine, business agent for the Carpenters' Union, is taking advantage of the present business "depression" and is taking his annual vacation of a couple of weeks, a little earlier than usual.

One million persons have tuberculosis in active form, out of a total population of 105,000,000.

CHEAP-WAGE MANUFACTURER HIGH BIDDER FOR ARMY SHOES

Boston.—That wages is not the main factor in shoe merchandising is again proven by Editor Baine of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Journal, who quotes bids recently made to the government for 20,000 pairs of army officers' dress shoes of four specified types.

On one type of shoe the bids of nine manufacturers were \$4.45, \$8.06, \$5.09, \$5.95, \$5.07, \$5.05, \$7.37, \$5.76 and \$5.75.

Editor Baine calls attention to the wide difference in these bids, the lowest being \$4.45 and the highest \$8.06, the bids, of course, being based on the same army specifications as to materials, workmanship and inspection.

"We do not understand that the difference in these bids is in any way chargeable to varied labor costs," says the labor editor.

"A difference of \$3.61 in price cannot be so accounted for. This difference is more than three times the total labor cost. Moreover the high bidder has been running an anti-union shop for many years, while the low bidder is a first-class concern operating at war peak wages without reduction.

MCCARTHY UNABLE TO SPEAK BECAUSE OF BAD ACCIDENT

D. McCarthy, who was to have spoken at Rialto theatre last Sunday afternoon, was compelled to cancel his engagement at the last moment on account of an accident in which he was badly bruised, and which will lay him up for some time to come. The nature of the accident is unknown, but it has been learned Mr. McCarthy is able to be about by the use of crutches.

The failure of Mr. McCarthy to be here was a disappointment to the large number of people who have been attending these meetings, and especially so to the members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, of which organization he is a member.

It is planned by the B. of L. F. and E. to hold the meeting early next fall.

WAGES DETERMINE LIVING CONDITIONS OF THE WORKERS

(By FRANK MORRISON, secretary American Federation of Labor.)

There are many issues confronting wage earners, but none are more fundamental than Labor's demand for collective bargaining. With this assured the worker has a voice in conditions affecting what he will think, read, eat and wear, how he will educate his children and clothe them and what manner of home he may have.

When collective bargaining is denied, the worker is powerless; his employer regulates his life. This power of the non-union employer is accepted by a Commission representing the Interchurch World Movement that investigated the recent strike of steel workers for collective bargaining. The report says:

"The arbitrary control of the steel corporation extended outside the plants, affecting the workers as citizens and the social institutions in the communities."

In all ages workers have united. They have struggled for liberty and they have overthrown dynasties and kings. Despite these upheavals there was no change in their economic status. They remained inferior, "hewers of wood and drawers of water."

Their working conditions were set by employers, whose power automatically extended to every social phase of their lives.

The modern trade union, as typified by the American Federation of Labor, is the first effective challenge to the world-old theory of serfdom, maintained in various forms, and around this challenge centers all opposition to organized labor.

To continue this status of inferiority and maintain control of their workers, employers talk of their so-called "open" shop and individual bargaining. These are but new names for a mastery over workers that is fought for just as stoutly today as when feudal barons held their serfs to the land.

The modern title that anti-trade union employers have applied to their serf theory fails to hide its purpose and effect.

Men can not be free when they are compelled to bargain single handed with a feudal baron's successor on rates of pay and working conditions.

Philanthropy can not effect the principle involved. There can be no equality between men when an employer is gentle with his power, for if an employer has power to give justice he has the power to withhold it.

His employers are subject to his graces and his whims. There can be no cooperation in industry where an employer is final judge of his workers' physical endurance, wages and the effect of bad working conditions.

The organized workers have set their stand of intelligence, solidarity and determination in an advanced position against this industrial serf theory that mocks every profession of Americanism by these employers.

Huge Tobacco Profits. New York.—The world has a roseate hue for stockholders of the American tobacco company, which announces that record profits were made last year. These profits total \$18,117,236, as against \$14,277,250 the previous year. The immensity of these profits can be appreciated when it is recalled that they are exclusive of all charges, and do not include even interest on bonds or magnificent salaries that "insiders" vote to themselves.

Label League Meets. The regular meeting of the Women's Label League was held Thursday night at Labor Hall. There was a good attendance, and a good meeting was held.

One death in every 10 is due to tuberculosis.

Job work at The Review.

THE "OPEN SHOP" BOOMERANG KING COAL PROPAGANDIST ARMY INFESTS WASHINGTON



The above cartoon, drawn for The Review by J. M. Baer, illustrates the attack by Big Biz and Big Biz's dupes, Little Biz, upon Labor, both organized and unorganized. The weapon aimed at Labor misses its mark, and both Big Biz and Little Biz are injured. So it is with the "open shop" movement, which is nothing more than an attempt to reduce wages. Prosperity of community depends upon the buying power of the workers thereof. When workers are well paid and steadily employed, business is fine; when workers are underpaid and partially employed, business is bad. So if business is bad, it is because labor has been deprived of its buying power. Sounds reasonable—doesn't it? Ask yourself, Little Biz, you ought to know.

SITUATION IN BUILDING LINE IS UNCHANGED

There is very little, if any, change in the building lockout situation in the Twin Cities, the men being still out, without any special disposition on either side to make the first movement towards adjusting matters. It is felt by the union men that it would be useless in the face of "open shop" agitation and weather conditions to attempt to reach a settlement.

Outside men are arriving daily to take the places of the locked-out men, being brought here by advertisements of the Associated Employers, but most of them "blow" as soon as they learn local conditions, so the influx of outsiders is not so great as to cause any special alarm. "Carpenters" arriving from the northern part of the county, upon being offered 40 cents an hour, refused to go to work at that trade, and have left for jobs on the hard roads.

In the meantime, local business men are complaining bitterly about "slow trade." They are beginning to see the cause, and, from what they say, are not so favorably impressed with "open shop" conditions as they were a few weeks ago.

COUNTRY'S BIGGEST "OPEN SHOP" RAISES PRICE OF PRODUCTS

Judge Gary of the steel trust announces increased prices for steel products. Last May wages were reduced 20 per cent on the ground that price reductions and general prosperity would follow.

It was stated at that time that these wage reductions would mean an annual saving of \$116,311,385 to the trust.

With this snug sum stored away in its strong box, and the public, of course, long ago forgetting the trust's reasons for its wage reduction, prices are now increased.

In defense of his latest price boost, Judge Gary claims that "selling prices have been so low for months that many, if not most, of the manufacturers have been losing substantial sums."

No reference is made to the unorganized, helpless steel mill employees who are working an eight-hour day for less than \$3. Rates for 10-hour men range around \$4, and \$5 is paid for 12-hour men.

The present situation means that the steel trust has "played both ends against the middle." It jolted the public into the belief that lower prices would follow wage cuts. Then it increases prices.

No change is made in the 10 and 12-hour work days, nor in the 24-hour work day when employees change shifts.

"SCRAPS OF PAPER"

Cleveland, Ohio.—The employing commercial printers of this city have broken another wage contract. This time the victims are the short-sighted compositors who took the places of the locked-out printers on May 1, when the employers broke their agreement to put into effect the 44-hour week. The bait which caught the strike-breakers at that time was an individual wage contract calling for wages about \$10 over the regular scale. Now the employers have informed them that their work does not justify the continued payment of these wages and they have lopped off the extra \$10. Contracts of some employers seem to be worth less than the paper upon which they are printed. But the strike-breakers have learned what is meant by the expression "between the devil and the deep blue sea."

GREAT CONSPIRACY AGAINST ORGANIZED WAGE EARNERS

The labor problem in its larger aspect as the problem of poverty is one of the persistent problems of the ages. It originated very early at the dawn of history and has run through the ages like the proverbial red thread. At times it has assumed an acute character and brought society to the verge of utter destruction.

The worst phase it ever took on was when labor was degraded to the status of slavery. In some form or other, labor has always been an object of exploitation, possibly with the exception of the Christian Middle Ages, when it was enthroned in its proper place and when it received high honor and ample protection. At present, the old problem has cropped out with renewed virulence. It bristles with difficulties, as perhaps never before, and is fraught with terrible possibilities of evil.

In recent times the treatment of labor has been one that swings from extreme to extreme. We have seen labor petted and humored and in every way deferred to. If after such an experience it acts as a spoiled child that should not be cause for surprise. But the pendulum already has swung to the other extreme. The blessings so fervently pronounced on labor have changed into equally fervent imprecations; the praises lavishly heaped upon it have turned into severe rebukes and bitter indictments. Just at present, labor is blamed for many things for which, if it is not entirely innocent of them, it shares the responsibility with others. It is taken to task most severely for its unwillingness to aid in the readjustment of the nation's industry by concurring heartily in the reduction of its wages. It is blamed for what is called ill-timed insistence on the closed shop, the labor union and collective bargaining. The sympathies of large sections of the people are being alienated from the cause of labor, as the result of this agitation.

On the strength of this veering of public opinion, capital is beginning a new war on labor and trying to bring it back to a condition of tractability and submission, which in the eyes of many is the only proper place for the workingman.

The worst thing for a child are parents that follow no fixed policy in education, but that allow themselves to be inspired by their moods which change from day to day and even from hour to hour. It is precisely this attitude and policy, full of uncertainty, that generally prevails in the treatment of labor. Such treatment is not wholesome. It creates false expectations and arouses resentment.

Rarely does the public get the truth concerning labor troubles. They are mostly seen as through glasses, out of focus and grotesquely distorted. This, for example, is eminently true in the Virginia mine difficulties. The public has been treated to one side of the question, which of course is unfavorable to labor. The violence of labor has come in for round condemnation. But of the underhanded methods said to have been employed by the operators to break the morale of the strikers and to goad them to unlawful deeds, little has leaked out. We remember how illy the Inter-Church World Commission Steel Strike Report fared. Everything was done to discredit its findings. These are instances that give an idea of how things are manipulated and juggled in order to create impressions unfavorable to the cause of labor. These instances, however, are typical. Labor has always had a hard time get-

ting its side of the question before the public.

There is a specious argument often used to turn the anger of the consumer against labor. It is charged that the greatest item in the costs of production of any article is the wage paid to the laborer, and that consequently the high prices prevailing at the present time are due to the refusal of labor to agree to a reduction of wages. That seems to clinch the argument and put labor in the wrong. Still in spite of this fact, labor is not absorbing the national wealth; it is not even becoming appreciably richer. But that ought to be the case if the largest share of the prices of the product actually went to labor. It must be forgotten that the resources of nature are given gratis and that the only thing that costs is labor. A small percentage of profit taken from an extensive surface will amount to very much, especially if levied on a commodity which nature offers free of charge. To judge on the basis of an article to claim that the cause of labor is absolutely just and that labor is responsible for none of the evils of the hour that so sorely vex all classes of society. It merely wishes to show that the verdict against labor is based on a one-sided presentation of the case. To judge on the basis of evidence thus sifted, constitutes an essential unfairness. It is under this unfairness that labor chafes and becomes irritated.—The Catholic Standard and Times.

COLORED ATTORNEY TO SPEAK ON "THE SOLUTION OF ECONOMIC QUESTIONS"

Louis Gregory, of Washington, D. C., a colored attorney, will give a lecture on the subject: "The Solution of Economic Questions" at Labor Hall on Wednesday evening, April 19, at 7:30 p. m.

Mr. Gregory, a brilliant colored speaker, has just made a phenomenal tour of the west. He has addressed great audiences, colored and white, schools, churches, clubs with amazing success. Newspapers have written long articles about his addresses. The enthusiasm over his eloquence, his sincerity, his glowing faith in the coming of universal brotherhood, justice, peace is contagious. He speaks upon the Bahal principles for a united world, for the new age when war and poverty shall disappear, education become universal, and all men be as one kindred and one family. The public is invited to this meeting.

C. of L. to Rise Again.

The cost of living is going to rise again according to governmental forecasts; the period of price decline that began more than a year ago is practically ended, in the judgment of the officials of those branches of the government who study economic causes and influences. Rising wholesale prices supply the evidence upon which the officials base their judgment of what the next few months will bring to consumers throughout the entire country. Food, clothing and other necessities will cost more in May and June than now.

Arabs, Kurds and other Moslems, tatar the forehead, chin and breasts of their girl slaves. Thousands of Christian girls captured, enslaved tataroo, during the war have been rescued and cared for by Near East Relief.

NO MINE OWNERS ARE IN JAIL!

Coal mine owners broke their contract with the miners and forced the miners to cease work. The mine owners wanted to force the men to cease work. The mine owners forced the present situation upon the country.

The mine owners are responsible and some mine owners have boasted that they wanted just exactly the condition that has been brought about. The mine owners accept responsibility.

At the time these lines are written NOT A MINE OWNER IS IN JAIL. Not a mine owner has even been brought into court.

Can anyone doubt that if the miners were responsible for the present situation that the courts would have been set in motion at once and that by now every office of the miners' organization would be under complete restraint or behind prison bars?

(By Internat'l Labor News Service.)

Washington, D. C.—Probably as many as three hundred agents of American coal barons are diligently at work in Washington in the effort to see that King Coal doesn't lose his crown in the present fight of finance against the coal miners.

The presence of this tremendous "lobbying capital" became notorious during the Senate Reconstruction Committee Hearings.

With Senator (now Judge) Kenyon presiding, the records of the National Coal Association were subpoenaed and examined. Consternation reigned in the coal camp at the time and fully seventy-five witnesses for the coal in-

terests gave testimony in the effort to buttress the kingdom of coal in the public mind.

By no means all of the coal machine was laid before the public gaze in those hearings, but careful inquiry reveals the fact that today Washington is a hotbed of coal propagandists working in the interests of the mine owners.

In the Reconstruction Committee hearings, it was shown that coal interests had spent nearly a million dollars in three years in various forms of propaganda work. There is every reason to suppose that the amount now being spent is not less than a half million dollars a year and it may be that more is being used.

The country generally is not aware of the enormous amount of propaganda work for big business that is being conducted in Washington. Every powerful interest is represented within an easy street car ride of the capitol and the down-town office buildings and hotels would be seriously depopulated if the lobbyists and "publicity" men were to vacate.

It is not to be supposed that all of the lobbyists and propagandists for King Coal appear openly as such. It is a rule with big business that the most effective and valuable propagandists are never known as such and never appear as such.

Not all who are engaged in supporting the efforts of the National Coal Association appear as agents of that organization.

For the present the agents of King Coal are fighting an uphill battle, with the case of the miners so strong and clear. But the public can have no idea of what devices may be in the process of construction by the coal interests and the only safe course is to be on guard against all coal owners' pronouncements and movements.

The fact is that big business has such a large and ramifying machine for propaganda and lobbying purposes that it is difficult to know when and where statements and activities are disinterested.

BUILDING TRADES WAGES DO NOT DECLINE IN THE FACE OF A SHORTAGE OF LABOR

"Labor costs in the construction field probably are as low as they will be at any time this year. The construction industry has gone through an abnormal depression during which the demand for building trades labor in some localities has absorbed the available supply of efficient labor and demands are being made on the ranks

of the second-class craftsmen. A labor shortage in the building field is just around the corner and wages do not go down in the face of a labor shortage.

"The period when conditions automatically pressed down on the wage scale has, for the time being, gone by, and it is quite a safe prediction to say that the average level of wages in the building trades will remain substantially as it now is for the balance of the year."

The above, taken from The American Contractor, organ of the Contractors' Association, is an admission that the present demand in the Twin Cities for a reduction of wages in the building industry is entirely unrealistic, and is simply a desire of those who wish to dictate to both labor and capital the conditions of employment in this community.

UNIONIST SUGGESTS MANUFACTURERS REDUCE DIVIDENDS

(By A. F. of L. News Service) Manchester, N. H.—Let the five trustees who control 3,700 stockholders of the Amoskeag company reduce dividends in order to meet competition they talk about, rather than cut workers' wages, suggested James Starr, vice president of the United Textile Workers of America.

"Twelve years ago Amoskeag paid 12 per cent on a share of stock," said the unionist. "Eleven years ago they called in this stock and gave five shares for one—two shares preferred paying 4 1/2 per cent and three shares common stock at 3 per cent.

"During some of the war years they had three dividend periods per year, as follows: Four per cent, 5 per cent, 6 per cent, cash dividend on common stock, making a 36 per cent dividend on common and 9 per cent on preferred, increasing from 12 per cent to 45 per cent in 12 years and all during this period contending with southern competition.

"The workers have helped to make the profits in the textile industry, and they should not now be called upon to bear the brunt of the return upon so-called normalcy. According to a financial statement of the Amoskeag company made on May 28, 1921, their profit and loss surplus was \$40,455,399, which would indicate that southern competition was quite a profitable affair after all."

Raymond, the small son of J. F. Sanders, 1211 W. Park street, Urbana, is ill with diphtheria. Mr. Sanders is in the Burnham hospital recovering from an operation, performed last Wednesday.

ELECTRICIANS TO HAVE DISPLAY AT E. E. SHOW

Electrical Workers Union No. 601, will have a display at the Electrical show at the University next week for simplicity will be a pleasing relief from the usual run of electrical displays, which have always been of a mystifying nature, and leaves the spectator bewildered as to the why and the wherefore of the apparatus. The local union display will make everything clear, and will show, among other things, the most up-to-date methods of electrical construction.

An especially beautiful piece of art work will be an electric fish bowl, which is sure to be a pleasant surprise for those in attendance.

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEMEN TO HOLD SPECIAL MEETING

At Labor Hall on Saturday evening, April 22, there will be a special meeting of the B. of L. F. & E. at Labor Hall, at which C. W. Maier, a special representative of the international organization will speak.

This meeting will be open to the friends of organized labor, and the ladies are especially invited to attend. Mr. Maier has an important message to deliver, and the meeting will no doubt be well attended by railroad men and their friends.

More than \$60,000,000 has been expended by the Near East Relief in the last six years in caring for the innocent victims of Moslem fanaticism and racial misunderstandings. It is a conflict in the Near East between Mohammedans and Christianity.

LINCOLN SAID:

I am glad that a system of labor prevails under which laborers can strike when they want to, where they are not obliged to work under all circumstances and are not tied down to work whether you pay them for it or not. I like a system which lets a man "quit" when he wants to, and I wish it might prevail everywhere. I want a man to have a chance to better his condition; that is the true system. I am not ashamed to confess that twenty-five years ago I was a hired laborer.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.