

Portland Labor Press



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GIVE IT PUBLICITY.

Last Monday the Citizens' Industrial Association met in Indianapolis, Indiana, in its first annual convention. The business transacted on the whole was Parry's address and the passage of a number of resolutions denouncing trades unionism. In fact the convention practically resolved itself into a war machine to be used in a battle against organized wage-workers, with Parry as chief officer of the industrial ordinance.

These captains of commerce have donned their war paint, and from now on will start down the line on a scalp-lifting campaign. Any man who carries a union card is apt to lose a little bunch of hair when they come in contact with Parry's braves. This means that the American Federation of Labor alone will lose 2,000,000 tufts, not counting the great army of organized workmen not affiliated with this body.

This is a good deal of hair and the A. F. of L. can hardly stand such a loss, but the war has just commenced and we may be able to save a few.

The Labor Press publishes the speech and resolutions referred to for no other reason than to give the policy of the Citizens' Industrial Association of America plenty of publicity. This is essential to make the purposes of that organization fully understood, and the Associated Press is doing organized labor invaluable service in giving the proceedings so much space.

Give it publicity. This is the force that tests the fiber of the whole. Let the public know the facts and they will accept the good and reject the bad.

The principles of organized labor have been publicly tested for fifty years. Neither church nor party power has bucked its steady march. If its policy has been despotic and subversive to the rights of a free people the crushing heel of public opinion would have stamped it out before it was one-fifth its age.

But it is hard to understand when and where the trades union came into possession of this arbitrary force. There is no record of its having exceeded its constitutional rights. In fact the courts grant them the right to organize, and the privilege of securing as many members as possible, and places no restrictions upon the amount of wages its members are to receive. The Citizens' Industrial Association is an organization; so is the Citizens' Alliance, the Manufacturers' Association, et al. What a crime therefore that the wage-worker, who needs it the most of all, should unite his strength in this day of organization.

We are informed by Parry that the trades union is un-American. We defy that prating whelp to show one clause in any constitution and by-laws of any labor organization in the United States that conflicts with the spirit of our federal constitution. If there is one we would place our stamp of disapproval upon it as quickly as anyone and wipe it out.

What reasonable grounds has the Citizens' Industrial Association for its attack upon trades unions? They are composed of the best mechanics in the land, men of families, tax payers, and loyal citizens. They are the sons and daughters of the men and women who revolted against the tyranny of King George, who erased the blemish of slavery from our escutcheon, and who endured the dangers and privations of pioneer days. They have elected to preserve their integrity by mutual compact against the greed of unscrupulous employers.

They have no fear of the just man. They have also elected to unite in a general effort to better their conditions. It is a campaign of progress; a graduated improvement of the laity.

We do not say that a man should not be employed who does not belong to a union, but we reserve the right to refuse to work with one who does not, the same right exercised today by those who are endeavoring to deprive us of the same privilege.

Organized labor refuses to work with a non-union man or woman because they enjoy the better conditions established by trades unions without contributing a penny to the support and expense of the movement. No insurance company or beneficiary organization would subscribe benefits to a person unless the latter had contributed to its support. The principle applies as readily to a trades union. A direct benefit has accrued from them to the wage-worker, and the latter do not feel like sharing their honey with those who did not help gather it. This is a natural trait of character that exists in the being of most men. The Parryites attack the boycott when used by organized labor, but are silent as to its demerits when used by the capitalistic class. It is practiced more at the present time by capital than labor, but if the reverse was true we could not shower encomiums upon the principle. We believe there are more humane methods that could be employed in the solution of the labor question.

The Citizens' Industrial Association assails the use of the label, and recommends that manufacturers refuse to stamp it on their goods. There are a number of charitable leagues and societies in the large cities of the East that have declared in favor of the union label as a means of eliminating child labor and the infection of diseases carried by sweat-shop goods. The union label is a sign that the article was made where the parents work under fair conditions, and their children were going to school.

Yes, give the operations of the Citizens' Industrial Association publicity, and it will eventually appear that it is an institution that stands for poor pay and the demoralization of the toilers. Its interest vested in the cry of human liberty is the Dr. Jekyll, and its purpose of re-establishing industrial slavery takes on the shape of Mr. Hyde.

The great mass of toilers owe a prayer to high heaven that all employers and all capitalists are not a Parry.

We do not believe that the expression of the Citizens' Industrial convention will meet with the approval of even the majority of the employers, for it assumes a belligerent attitude that will paralyze the industrial condition of our country.

Under the present system the trades union is a fixture, and any attempt to destroy it means war.

The solution to the labor question is for capital to meet and treat with organized labor.

Frank Buchanan, president of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, is in San Francisco looking after the interests of his organization in that city. He will remain on the Coast for more than a month, and may visit Portland before he returns East.

There are few labor leaders, if any, who have had to contend against as fierce an element in the movement as that headed by Sam Parks. Buchanan simply took his life in his hands and fearlessly contested every inch of ground that Parks and his followers attempted to cover. Parks went to Kansas City with \$40,000 to capture the convention, and if he failed, by a pre-arranged plan, Buchanan's life was to pay the forfeit. Buchanan and his friends defied the whole nefarious scheme and routed the enemy. Parks is now in Sing Sing prison, his union has been disbanded, and Buchanan and the true principles of unionism reign supreme. Justice and courage are two essentials that administer to the success of the trades union movement. There are many Parks holding cards in trades unions, and there are also many Buchanans, who are the real captains of the movement. Corruption may exist for a time, until promoters are apprehended. The stability of a trades union depends principally upon the immaculate fiber of its parts, superinduced by business-like transactions.

Elsewhere in this issue appears an article on the "History of the Habeas Corpus," from the pen of Frank Owers, an able lawyer, and district attorney of Teller County, Colorado, which should be carefully read. Mr. Owers has never been considered for or against any class, yet he is known as a just man, and absolutely independent. His official duties are also removed from the seat of the industrial war in the Cripple Creek district, but the authority assumed by Governor Peabody in suspending the writ of habeas corpus and foisting military authority above that of the

civil courts, has aroused the indignation of every liberty-loving citizen in Colorado. Mr. Owers being one of them. He therefore shows in his article that Peabody, and the governor of Idaho, during the Coeur d'Alene trouble, assumed authority not in keeping with the provisions of the federal constitution, and without precedent in the modern form of civilized government.

A writer in the last number of the Iron Age calls attention to the fact that the American capitalists who built manufacturing plants in Russia are being driven out by the oppressive taxation of the government. These capitalists imagined that if they escaped trade unions and the tariff their profits would be enormous. They hired Russian workers and got the latest machinery from this country. What they forgot was the difference between a republic and a despotism. "Russia is engaged in hounding from her vast continent almost the last American enterprise she has so far allowed to remain and flourish," says the correspondent of the Iron Age. The American business men looked prosperous, so the Czar's tax collectors raised the rates higher and higher. A campaign of petty annoyance was begun, which has driven the capitalists out of Russia and back to the United States.

Word has been received from Trinidad, Colorado, that William Fairly and James Mooney, members of the national board of the United Mine Workers of America from Alabama and Missouri respectively, were waylaid one day last week on the road between Majestic and Bowen, dragged from their buggy and beaten by eight men, with stones and six-shooters, and left lying on the road. Mooney was seriously injured and had to be taken to a hospital. No arrests have been made. It is reported that the men were attacked by assassins in the employ of the companies. This is probably the reason that Governor Peabody has not declared that insurrection exists in that section, and that the militia is needed. Peabody's searchlight is not turned in that direction. He is too intensely preoccupied in carrying out the behests of the mine-owners in their campaign of tyranny.

The New York charity organization society has appealed to union labor in that city for co-operation in preventing tuberculosis. The secretary of the society presented the matter at a meeting of the Central Federated Union. His figures, showing the spread of the disease in the tenement districts, caused a sensation among the delegates. He also declared that 10 per cent of the deaths in the United States are due to pulmonary tuberculosis. The trades in the order of their tendency to contract tuberculosis he classified as follows: Marble and stonecutters, cigar-makers, compositors, pressmen, hat and cap makers, book binders, cabinet makers, musicians, glassblowers and barbers. Clean linen, better sanitary conditions and isolation of patients were recommended. A committee of union men was appointed with instructions to cooperate with the charity society.

The alleged tyrannical policy of the labor unions made by the Parryites is not borne out in the recent calamity that befell Baltimore. The Typographical Union of that city addressed a letter to the non-union firm of the Friedenwald Printing Co., expressing regrets at the loss sustained by the firm, and in view of the busy season offered the assistance of the union in any manner it could be useful, waiving the usual refusal of union men doing contract work in union shops for the Friedenwald Company; also stating that members of the Baltimore Union would work in shops with Friedenwald's nonunion men until their difficulties were overcome. Another instance which proves that unions are not nearly so bad as Parry paints them was the Iroquois theater fire in Chicago, when every striking teamster was ordered to work regardless of compensation.

It is hardly probable that the anti-injunction and eight-hour bill will be passed at this session of congress. Legislation is being hurried through and members are striving for an early adjournment. The Manufacturers' Association and Business Men's Alliances will be there with large sums of money to defeat the measures. The members who are favorable to such remedial legislation are woefully in the minority. It means that the campaign will have to be fought over again next winter, and perhaps many years to come. The bills, however, will eventually pass.

It has been reported that Governor Peabody has suspended martial law in the Cripple Creek district, only about 50 guards being kept there to aid the civil authorities to preserve the peace. From the best of author-

ity obtainable the peace was never disturbed until Peabody sent in the soldiers. Even then most of the volunteers refused to obey the vicious commands of their officers, who were the tools of the mine-owners, and they had to be mustered out of service. Recruiting officers were sent out in the state, who accepted no man who was not pronounced in his expressions against unions. At the time the military was ordered out of the Cripple Creek district not a company remained that had been mustered in at the beginning.

The Unions affiliated with the United Brotherhood of Leatherworkers have, by referendum vote, postponed their national convention from 1904 to 1906. The last convention was held in Chicago in 1899. The business of the organization is managed by a general executive council, and having a corps of able men acting in this capacity the brotherhood is becoming an international power in the industrial world. Its motto is "conciliation" in all disputes, and local troubles must receive the sanction of the executive council. As a rule a member of the council is placed in the field to direct the movements of the local. This plan has been a matter of great saving to the brotherhood, and many strikes averted and troubles adjusted by conciliation during the past year.

At a recent meeting of the San Francisco Central Labor Union it was declared the sense of the council that it is not proper to legislate for the lengthening of the hours of labor in any branch of employment; also that it is a violation of the true principles of trades unionism for any member of a union, directly or indirectly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, to join any union of any craft chartered by a national or international body other than the American Federation of Labor.

"Is There Any Solution to the Labor Problem," was the theme for an address made by Carroll D. Wright in Buffalo, N. Y., last week. The kernel of his conclusions was that the only and true solution of the problem could be obtained by the "application of the religious idea." In such an event all organizations of offensive and defensive would pass away, and the industrial affairs would operate under the Golden Rule. For this to obtain will delay the solution somewhat.

The expense of maintaining the militia in the Cripple Creek district up to the time they were mustered out has cost the State of Colorado about \$1,000,000. It is not generally known however that the state secured the loan from the mine-owners involved in the strike, giving therefor a 4 per cent interest rate. The operators had some idle money and by investing it in the loan they caught them comin' and goin'. Is it any wonder that the writ of habeas corpus was juggled in the State of Colorado?

NEW LABOR LAWS.

Sixteen Bills Before the Present Congress.

Sixteen distinct labor bills and two joint resolutions are before the present congress, says the St. Louis Labor Compendium. Four of the bills relate to the eight-hour law, passed by the house in each of the last three sessions. The scope of the bills is as follows:

Limiting the hours of daily service of laborers, workmen and mechanics employed on the public works of or work done for the United States or any territory or in the District of Columbia.

Defining a legal day's work. Providing for the adjustment and payment of accounts of laborers and mechanics arising under the eight-hour law.

To limit the meaning of the word "conspiracy" and the use of "restraining orders and injunctions" in certain cases.

Providing for the adjustment and payment of the accounts of letter carriers arising under the eight-hour law.

To provide for the payment of overtime claims of letter carriers excluded from judgment as barred by limitation.

To provide against entering into a contract by any officer of the government of the United States of America for products of convict labor.

To create a national arbitration tribunal and to define the duties and powers thereof.

To provide relief for such employes in United States navy yards as may be disabled by accident while in the performance of duty, and, in the event of fatal casualties, for the relief of surviving dependents.

Giving employes of the government printing office thirty days' leave exclusive of holidays and Sundays.

The two joint resolutions propose entirely new legislation in this country, although common in the older

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European countries and in Australia. The first is for an amendment to the constitution of the United States, whereby congress is given the power to regulate the hours of labor in manufacturing, and resolves, two-thirds of each house concurring therein:

That the congress of the United States do recommend to the several states of the Union the adoption of the following amendment to the constitution of the United States, to-wit:

Article XVI.
The congress shall have power to establish uniform hours of labor in manufacturing throughout the United States.

The other joint resolution directs "that the secretary of commerce and labor be and is hereby requested to report to this body what legislation is required in order to establish an effective system of labor insurance in the United States, and to what extent such a system could be established by federal authority, and to what extent such a system has been established elsewhere, whether under government aid and authority or otherwise, and the effect thereof upon those sought to be benefited thereby."

President Pro Tem. William Frye of the senate; Senator L. E. McComas, chairman of the senate committee on education and labor; Speaker Cannon of the house, and Congressman John J. Gardner, chairman of the house committee on labor, are all pledged to aid the eight-hour and anti-injunction bills, and have declared themselves generally favorable to necessary labor laws.

STRIKE AT PALO ALTO.

Professors of Stanford Organize a Citizens' Alliance.

The unions of Palo Alto are in the midst of a strike that has already assumed a serious aspect, says the San Jose Union Label.

The trouble is the direct outgrowth of several violations of an agreement with the Building Trades Council, committed by the J. F. Parkinson Company. This company had bound themselves in a solemn contract with the Building Trades Council to employ none but union men, and to live up to union rules generally.

After exhausting every honorable effort to adjust the difficulty through their business agent, Wm. Harper, the Building Trades Council declared the J. F. Parkinson Company unfair, and every man loyally went out, completely closing the place up. The occasion of the strike was seized upon as an opportunity and excuse to organize a branch of the Citizens' Alliance, with J. F. Parkinson as temporary president.

Among those who have become conspicuous as members of the newly formed Citizens' Alliance are the following: Professors Sanford, Show, Angell, Haskins, Wing and Murray, of Stanford University; Reverends Alden and Baldwin, and also the following, J. F. Parkinson, J. McGilvary, architect, Walker, Downing & Son, J. W. Weller, D. L. Sloan, Marshall Black, Messrs. Lakin, Hettinger, Mosier and Bean. It will be noticed that in this group the school professors, preachers and doctors are quite prominent; men whose acquaintance with laborers and manual labor is limited, and whose knowledge of the worker's life is based more on mere theory, than on actual observation and experience.

It is apparent from the lessons learned during the last six months that the real purpose of the Palo Alto bosses was to engage the unions in battle and combat them, with the object of disrupting the labor organizations; in fact, parties overheard a statement of J. F. Parkinson to the effect that he would break (with the assistance of his friends) every union in Palo Alto.

The executive committee of the Building Trades Council have officially set forth the position of that body, which in substance is as follows: The differences consist of two propositions: First, that the J. F. Parkinson Company employed non-union men in the erection of a building in violation of an agreement with the Building Trades Council. Second, that the J. F. Parkinson Company employed a tinner after he had made application in regular form to the union and had made arrangements to pay his initiation by weekly installments, and then this company attempted to keep this man out of the union by making him a fictitious stockholder.

In contrast to the above evidence, showing a lack of money, this tinner made a demand for a master's card, urging the claim that he held \$500 of stock in the J. F. Parkinson Company. It does not seem plausible to those on the union side that a man who had to ask to pay his initiation weekly, could suddenly raise \$500 to purchase stock in the concern employing him.

While Mr. Parkinson has succeeded in securing a few supporters from professional and business men, there is a strong sentiment against his high-handed and arrogant methods of doing business, among the people of Palo Alto.

The Citizens' Alliance, bloated with the first impulses of organization, proceeded to carry out its program; a few days of conflict, however, served to show these gentlemen composing this organization the seriousness of their task, and by the first of this week they already showed signs of weakness. On Monday the Alliance selected as an executive committee Professor Frank Angell, Sloan, G. W. Mosier, contractor, D. Sloan, seed grower, Mr. Lakin, capitalist, J. W. Wells, contractor, Professor Sanford, Stanford University, and instructed this committee to meet with the representatives of the Building Trades Council, and see if an amicable settlement could be arranged.

Pending this meeting the strike will be continued as effectively as possible. It is to be hoped that an early settlement will be reached, but in any case the unions are prepared to show their opponents the folly of their attitude, and the injury to the community resulting from the same.

An Editor's Opinion of the Royal Gorge.

Edyth Tozier Weathered, in describing a recent trip over the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, says in "The Exposition."

"At last the goal of the ambition of years has been reached—marvelous, wonderful, grand and inspiring Royal Gorge is on either hand. The only disappointing thing is you only have one pair of eyes, while the train darts in and out of the tremendous chasm. If any who have never seen it are wondering how it looks, just go and see. Thousands have tried to describe it, yet every attempt falls short of giving the subject justice."

If you contemplate a trip East, write W. C. McBride, 124 Third street, Portland, Ore., for booklets picturing Colorado's famous scenery, and any other information you may desire.