

Thursday, July 13, 1911

LOS ANGELES DETECTIVES USE DESPICABLE METHODS

LOS ANGELES, July 8.—It is stated that contempt proceedings will be instituted against Mrs. Ortie McManigal for refusing to answer questions before the grand jury. Mrs. McManigal has been before the grand jury and subjected to such a severe ordeal as to make her testify, that she was taken from the grand jury room in a fainting condition, and Attorneys Darrow, Scott and Davis took her to the elevator to leave the court house. Burns' detectives tried to enter the elevator, but were stopped by Attorney Jos. Scott, who said:

"This woman is in care of a doctor. She is ill. You cannot pester her further now. If you try to enter this elevator, it will be over my body."

A statement has been signed by Clarence Darrow, Job Harriman, Le Compte Davis and Jos. Scott, attorneys for Mrs. McManigal, and the McNamaras, as follows:

"While we recognize that the so-called 'dynamite cases' should be tried in the courts and not in the newspapers, we feel a statement is due the fair-minded citizens of this community from us as attorneys for the defense.

"It is difficult to characterize in temperate language our opinion of the treatment accorded Mrs. McManigal when before the grand jury. Knowing that she was acting under our advice not to testify, for well-known statutory reasons, the District Attorney for the fourth time had her in attendance before the grand jury, and under a subterfuge that he was going to prepare contempt proceedings against her for failing to answer his questions, she was thrust through a side door unawares into the presence of her husband, three or four deputy sheriffs and representatives of Detective Burns.

"Then for an hour and a half she was tortured such a state of mental and bodily extremity that she finally fainted and a physician was called in and had to give her a half hour's medical treatment before she was in a condition to go home. During all of this time she was at the mercy of these men, masquerading as officers of the law, who were without right of any kind whatsoever to detain her. A great deal has been said about the horrors of the 'third degree' administered to men charged with grave offenses, but we did not think it possible that such an attempt would be made in California, upon a woman against whom no charge has been made.

"We want to serve notice in this public way on the District Attorney and his horde of private detectives, that Mrs. McManigal will not set foot in the jury room again, to be subjected to any further indignity and torture, except by direct order of the court, and it will be our business at the first available opportunity to interrogate the grand jury as to whether they were aware of this outrageous proceeding of the District Attorney, and if so, to challenge the qualifications of such grand jury as being unfit to sit dispassionately and calmly without prejudice upon charges affecting the defendants in these cases.

"From one end of the country to the other, from ex-President Roosevelt down, in every shade of public print, the cry is 'a fair trial for these men.' A good deal of it is genuine and sincere, but some of it is hypocritical. We appeal, therefore, to the fairness of the citizens of this community who are desirous of seeing the majesty of the law sustained and vindicated, that they condemn this abuse of the constitutional rights of this unfortunate woman."

JUDGES AND RECALL.

San Francisco Star.

This is the age of judge-made law. And so notorious has it become that in many states public opinion has taken alarm.

It is felt that all real power is being usurped by the courts, for Legislatures are crowded by the courts, for Legislatures are overruled, the will of the people set aside, their public servants ham-strung by judicial decree.

The suspicion prevails everywhere that in very large measure privilege dominates the courts and that corporation influences are paramount in determining vital questions affecting the liberty and property of the citizen.

We have had insane judges on the Superior Bench. There is no way, not even by impeachment proceedings, to retire them.

The Legislatures of all the states have proved that impeachment is no safeguard against the perversion of justice, and judicial scandals, notoriously resulting from having judges on the bench.

There would be no more danger of a judge being recalled for a decision if, any case not involving the constitutional rights or liberties of the people than there would be of the Governor being recalled for signing or vetoing any bill in which those rights were not involved.

None could have more respect for an upright judge than we; but we have seen too much and know too much of judges to be appalled by the fact that a man—sometimes not a man—is a judge!

WHAT HAS HE DONE?

W. G. Eggleston points out in the Klamath Chronicle: "Suppose a land or lot speculator 'cleans up' \$200,000. He has, merely as a speculator, created no wealth, has produced nothing, has employed no labor. He has not created any wealth as a speculator, he has taken from the community \$200,000 that he did not earn. He gets \$200,000 that he did not earn; so the community has earned \$200,000 that it didn't get. Is that a moral transaction?"

SIXTY YEARS AGO.

Edgar Hliff, in a recent issue of the Seattle Union Record, calls attention to the fact that workmen sixty years ago combined and demanded free schools. Many of them were imprisoned and boycotted by the employers for advocating such awful doctrine that the rich should be taxed to educate the children of the poor.

At that time thousands of men, women and children were imprisoned for small debts. In Boston over 2,000 were in prison for debts of less than a dollar. The governor had no power to pardon them out. Only the creditor could do that.

Police in New York in 1852 broke up mass meetings of workmen for demanding a ten-hour day and abolition of imprisonment for debt.

The respectable newspapers of that day were determinedly silent on these vital questions. The workmen were assured that they were victims of agitators and demagogues, just as they are now. It was considered a terrible thing for a workman to belong to a union to better his condition. The eleven-hour day was considered concession enough to make to the laborers.

If it had not been for the agitators of those days we would still be sending widows to rot in jail for the debts incurred to obtain food and shelter for their little ones. The rich considered imprisonment for debt as a most admirable system.

POINTED TRUTHS.

Governor Wilson very calmly but pointedly said to the New Jersey Bar Association, recently:

"It is true that the legal profession, as a profession, does not enjoy the confidence of the people. I am surprised, and I must say disappointed, that the legal profession of this country has not undergone the same change and liberalizing that has characterized its progress in other countries.

"The community no longer regards you as legal guides. You have withdrawn from statesmanship and lowered the profession to a strictly business basis.

"The ambush of technicalities you have drawn around the corporations makes it necessary to enact drastic legislation to tear away the shell and get at the heart.

"If you want to restore your profession to the confidence of the people you can do it in a single year by following the method of simplicity. The change can be wrought, but if it is wrought without your support and assistance it will be wrought to your discredit.

"The United States is in a very critical mood in regard to its courts."

T. Fulham has a highly improved berry farm of seven acres near Dayton. Pays a tax of \$29.50. His land values are not to exceed \$350, on which his taxes should not be over \$7 in all. The rest is an annual fine placed on him for having improved and beautified a little spot of earth in Yamhill County. In that same county timber land is assessed for \$10 an acre, and some even for \$3, that is worth ten times that. The taxes paid by workers like Fulham help out the land speculators and timber land speculators a great deal.

In South Australia compulsory arbitration is to take the place of strikes. If it succeeds it will establish chattel slavery again, with white slaves. If a man can't quit when he wants to do so, then he must work when he don't want to, and he must take such pay as his boss gives him, without protest. It is not conceivable that British blood will long submit to any form of chattel slavery, no matter how deftly worded and applied. Can he go to the arbitration court? He can; and the employer will be the court.

Ashland is expecting a clash between the municipal and the trust electric lighting systems. It will be a very easy thing for the city of Ashland to take every customer from the trust by furnishing lights to householders for nothing, making up the revenues by a tax on the land values now greatly under-assessed in that city.

General Organizer C. O. Young, for the labor unions for the district of the Pacific Northwest, has been spending the last week working in Spokane among the local unions, strengthening them and laying foundation for new unions.

A well-paid man is a well-fed man, and that is why it pays to demand and receive good wages. Congressman Redfield tells in Paris of an American carpenter at \$4.50 a day doing more work than four Crenchemen at \$1.90 a day each.

In Tasmania the Typographical Union has succeeded in having a scale fixed for the entire state of \$15 a week. This seems low to the Pacific Coast union men, but it is not when other trades and prices of commodities are compared.

The publisher of the Youths' Companion is guilty of joining a trust to shut down hundreds of cotton mills to reduce the already starvation wages of New England cotton mills paid to women and children.

Boston is both cultured and religious, but the immorality there is frightful. Department stores are hives of vice. The wages paid drive thousands of girls to vice and early graves.

The San Jose (Cal.) Labor Council is conducting an aggressive campaign to raise funds for the erection of a splendid Labor Temple.

The International Iron Molders' Union shows a gross increase in membership for the first quarter of the year of 2015.

Minutes of Central Council

Official proceedings of the Central Labor Council of Portland and Vicinity, July 7, 1911. Vice-President Mackenzie in the chair.

Credentials.

Beer Drivers—V. S. Ritter.
Grain Handlers—J. I. Tucker.
Bartenders—Jack Gillan.
Carpenters, 808—G. Schmidt, Jno. Hentgen, S. P. Rearick, Gus Carlson, S. G. Farquhar.
Painters—D. W. Robinson, O. E. Nordstrom, E. Johnson, D. N. Tatro.
Tailors—A. Seaquist, T. F. Ryan, G. Peterson.
Electrical Workers—Fred L. Bourne, Fred Loh, E. E. Smith.
Bookbinders—Emil Jurgens, Warren Collins.

Carpenters, 50—I. L. White, E. Logan, J. L. Ledwidge, C. J. McDonald, Leve Koltz.
Minutes of previous meeting approved as read.

Communications.

Request from Building Trades to have T. B. Wilcox and all his products placed on the unfair list. Referred to Executive Committee.

Request from Building Trades to have Rothchild Bros. placed on the unfair list, referred to Executive Committee.

Reports of Sections.

Printers have secured an increase in wages on newspaper work.

Reports of Officers.

Monthly report of Financial Secretary received and approved.

Reports of Committees.

Executive—Report that Bartenders desire withdrawal of application to place saloon on unfair list. Granted.

Moved that report in regard to the Barber Asphalt Company be accepted as progress. Moved that Mount Hood Railway Company be placed on the unfair list.

Labor Day Committee—Majority of the committee moved that a parade be dispensed with this year. Moved to postpone for one week. Motion to postpone lost. Recommendation concurred in.

Moved that the Labor Day Committee be empowered to secure a place and hold a celebration Labor Day. Amended that the committee submit the names of various places to Council for approval.

E. J. Stack resigns from committee and W. H. Fitzgerald appointed to fill vacancy. Auditorium Committee reported progress.

Unfinished Business.

Moved that communication from Building Trades be taken from Executive Committee. Moved that T. B. Wilcox building and all his products be placed on the unfair list.

New Business.

Committee from Labor Temple Association given the floor to explain the needs of the Labor Temple.

Committee from Carpenters' Union given the floor and informed the Council that Rothchild Bros. have imported two carloads of unfair pool tables, violating former promises not to do so.

Moved that Rothchild Bros. be placed on the unfair list.

Financial Report.

Receipts—
Plumbers.....\$ 4.95
Grainhandlers.....4.25
Butchers, McNamara defense.....10.00
Total.....\$17.40

Expenditures—

Labor Temple Association, hall rent. \$10.00

Unfair List.

Bartenders—All saloons that do not display the Union Bar Card.

Building Trades—Trustee Company of Portland, Fred Hobbisefken, plasterer, Stone & Webster, National Ice Co., Maegly-Tichenor building.

Cigarmakers—United Cigar Stores and all cigars that do not bear the Union Label.
Metal Trades—Portland Artificial Ice Co., Bell, Wildman & Co., Portland Sheet Metal Works, Portland Elevator Co.

Meat Cutters—Frank L. Smith Meat Co.

Bakeries—Royal Bakery & Confectionery Co., New York Bakery.

Molders—Pacific Stove & Range Co., stoves handled by Calef Bros.

Painters—Williams & Blied and all shops that employ non-union men.

Printing Trades—Saturday Evening Post, Independent Printing Co.

Plumbers—J. F. Shea.

Stationary Engineers—Portland, Crystal Ice Co., Liberty Coal & Ice Co., Independent Ice & Coal Co.

Tailors—All custom tailor firms that cannot supply the Union Label.

Brewery Trades Section—Spring Valley Wine Co.

FIRST GUNS FIRING.

The following tax measure is now before the people of Clackamas County for initiative signatures. With title and introduction omitted, its essential sections are:

"Section 1. That all business, labor, trades, occupations, professions, and the right to conduct, work or practice at the same; and all forms of personal property; and all improvements on, in and under all lands shall be and hereby are exempted from taxation for any purpose within Clackamas County, and no tax shall be imposed upon any trade, labor, business, person, occupation or profession under the pretext of a license or the exercise of the police power within said county; but in its application to licenses and permits this is not intended to prevent the raising of revenue from such licenses and permits, and to prevent exacting of fees therefor greater than the cost of issuing the permit or license, and is not intended

to impair the police power of the county, city or state.

"Section 2. All taxes within Clackamas County shall be levied on and collected from the assessed values of all lands, water powers, deposits, natural growths and other natural resources, and on and from the assessed values of public service corporation franchises and rights of way. This act does not affect corporation license fees and inheritance taxes collected directly by the state, nor such lands as are used only for municipal, educational, literary, scientific, religious or charitable purposes, already exempt from taxation by law."

The meaning of this is that the first guns are being fired in the battle for human freedom "that shall never sound retreat" until land monopoly is wiped from all Oregon and every man can rest beneath his own "fig tree and vine" with no tax-gatherer to make him afraid.

It is expected in due time to present this measure in every county in the state.

Like the first petitions in Clackamas for the referendum and initiative in 1890, it may not attract much attention in the public press.

Those petitions are now known to have been the opening guns of the great campaign that lasted for twelve years, the last skirmishes of which are still being fought with the enemies of the people in Oregon on the run.

WHY HE WON OUT.

The platform of the Berkeley, California, socialists was written by J. Stitt Wilson, the newly-seated Mayor. The following two paragraphs from that platform brought him many votes:

"No progressive policy for the socialization of our public utilities, or the extension of any public service, is safe, or indeed possible, unless accompanied by a sound and scientific policy of municipal taxation.

"Taxation of the unearned increment of land values and the socialization of public utilities is the secret of a full city treasury, collected from the city's own socially treated values and providing abundant revenue for every needed municipal enterprise without robbing the poor and the working classes and enriching the rich and the privileged."

The strike of 12,000 workers in the Baldwin Locomotive Works, Philadelphia, arose from the discharge of all men who displayed the union button. It has cost the company divisions and no end of trouble.

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