

The Ontario Argus

G. K. AIKEN, Editor and Publisher

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HOUSES AT LAST.

Ontario is at last stepping forth and showing some confidence in itself. While other towns in this vicinity were being improved by residents erecting homes Ontario, continued to talk about its need, but took no action. Now things are different and the sight of a new house frame will not startle anyone.

Since the start is made the number of houses that will be built will be far more than was originally set, for this is a contagious movement and others are getting the fever to live in homes of their own. It is about time that this epidemic spread. Last Saturday a man, accompanied by his wife and small son came into the Argus office. He was carrying an Argus want ad in his hand which told of two rooms to rent.

"Do you know where these rooms are located?" he asked.

"Yes, but they are already taken," we had to tell him, for the advertiser had just been in the office to say that the ad had secured results.

"What do you people over here want?" countered the would-be renter. "You advertise Ontario and Malheur county as a good place to come to, but when people do come you have no place to put them."

This man must have gone some place else to live, for he has not been seen on the streets since. Thus was another family lost to Ontario.

How many such families have been lost no one knows. We believe that fully fifty or more families would have been here this winter had there been houses to accommodate them. It is therefore high time that Ontario folks show as much faith in their home town as do those outsiders who come over here to make their home.

AWAKE FINALLY.

It takes a great deal to awaken the American people to a realization of danger. Tho the Pacific Northwest has been terrorized for years by the activities of the I. W. W. especially in the lumber regions, the public generally has accepted their work as that of a few fanatics and paid no further attention to them.

But when these dastardly cowards shot four fine American men, men who went forth to defend their country, and who were marching in a peaceful parade, the public awoke to the menace that it has permitted to raise its head in our land.

While many of the I. W. W. members in the Centralia gang are foreigners, the majority were not, at least so far as their nativity and citizenship. Therefore the agitation should not be directed to the riding of the country merely of men of foreign birth. We must get hold of the ignorant flannel-mouthed American agitator as well. We can not deport him but we can put him where he will do no harm.

The public must understand that the I. W. W. is at war with the United States of America as they now constitute themselves into a government, of the people; by the people; for the people. They have committed acts of war, and apparently they want to continue warfare. That being so, they should be accommodated. The means for suppressing them are at hand. The public will support the most rigorous methods to rid the land of its enemies.

IF THE PUBLIC STRUCK.

Suppose the public went on strike? Members of the labor unions probably never have taken into consideration what would happen to them if the public took the same attitude and methods in getting action as is contemplated in strikes and boycotts.

But suppose that the public would be put out of business if the railroad men walked out and said to the union men:

"You refuse to haul goods so that we can continue to do business. You refuse to work and as the result hundreds will starve because you can not agree with your employer. All right, we refuse to sell you what little we have left in stock, until after our other customers have been cared for."

Of course, it may be fantastic to imagine such a situation but it is just as logical as the attitude of the unions who would make the innocent public freeze or starve to force a decision. It could be made to work both ways if the public was as well organized as the unions are.

WHY LAWS ARE NOT OBSERVED

There is a great deal of comment these days about foreigners not observing the laws of the United States, and demands that since they do not conform to our laws they ought to be deported. It all sounds fine and patriotic and all that, but did you ever stop to think how even those who are pledged to enforce the laws violate them?

Take just one sample, the law preventing gambling, punch boards, etc. It may be a foolish law, and punishing the board may be a harmless pastime, and everyone does it and all that, yet, when the authorities order such practices to stop, and then proceed to forget about it, is there any wonder that the people get the idea that to violate any law is all right?

If the merchants of Ontario have the right to permit gambling, and to run punch boards, all well and good. The Argus is perfectly willing that they have that right; but the Argus does object to having officers elected to enforce all the laws constituting themselves as legislators and electing which laws they shall enforce and which they shall ignore. That is what contributes to the disrespect for law for which America is noted. It is just such things that give public sanction to the ignoring of courts by the miners and others.

If a law is a foolish law the quickest way to have it repealed is to enforce it, but while the law is on the statute books at least the men who are elected to enforce the laws should observe them.

STRAIGHT TALK HURTS.

The straight from the shoulder talk which Secretary of Labor William B. Wilson gave the coal operators and the coal miners in Washington last Friday covered the situation exactly. He characterized the demands of the men for a six hour day and 60 per cent increase as preposterous.

He also took the reactionary operators to task for their attitude and voiced the opinion that the public has accepted for some time that it is the victim of the cupidity of men on both sides of the labor problem.

While the public takes heart in the statement of the Secretary it does not get any coal from that source. It is to be noted that the miners, in the majority of the districts, have ignored the federal court injunction. To all intents and purposes therefore the coal miners are a law unto themselves. What does this mean, and where will it lead the American people if that is to be the attitude of other labor unions?

Irrespective of the merits of the miners' contention the order of the Court should be obeyed. If the miners will not observe orders of the court, how can they expect people to believe that they will adhere to their agreement, if they should make one with the operators?

THE ACID TEST.

A disciple of Americanism recently gave this as the acid test to be applied to any proposal of governmental change and we believe it fills the bill to a tee. In substance it was as follows: "We believe in policies that will promote liberty and justice for all."

That is it, liberty and justice for all. Not liberty for one gang to the detriment of another, but liberty and justice for all.

To attain this it may be that there are necessary some changes in our present laws and customs, but if so, there is a way open to attain those ends. We have the greatest instrument for justice in the world, the American ballot box. That is the place to settle political differences. No other place is needed.

When you hear a street corner agitator condemning America and her ways listen to his proposals for bettering conditions and see whether or not they will stand this acid test, of "liberty and justice for all." If they do, they will some day be realized. If they do not, we don't want them, that's all.

TIME FOR ACTION.

The damnable outrage at Centralia, Washington, on Armistice Day should at last awaken the American people to a realization of what a menace is hidden within the ranks of the I. W. W.

The time for temporizing is past. The people want action. This land must be made too hot a place for that brand of cowardly whelps to exist in. Oregon must do its part by immediately backing the American Legion, in its Americanization campaign. Next, steps should be taken to sustain the officers of the law to locate and break up every gang of radicals who would overthrow this American government. And by all means steps must be taken to re-establish the death penalty for murder in this state.

John Lewis' declaration, "We are Americans and we will not fight our government," will go down in history as one of the great statements pronounced by labor leaders. It is to be hoped that the rank and file of the men will follow his example.

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CHURCH ACTIVITIES

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Rev. J. H. Maloney, Pastor.
8:30 a. m., Low Mass.
10:30 a. m., High Mass.
9:30 a. m., Catechism for the boys and girls.
Visitors respectfully invited.

BAPTIST CHURCH
Bible school 10:00.
Morning Worship 11:00.
Gospel Service 8:00.
Prayer Service Wednesday 8:00.

NAZARENE CHURCH
J. M. Wines, Pastor.
10:00 a. m. Sunday School.
11:00 a. m. Preaching.
8:00 p. m. Thursday, Prayer Meeting in the Church.
Everybody urged to attend all services.

10:00, bible school.
11:00, public worship. Sermon subject, "The Bible School."
7:30, worship. Sermon subject, the seventh commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery."
W. E. Cochran, Minister

METHODIST CHURCH
Sunday Services.
10 a. m. Sunday school.
11 a. m. Preaching; "Our Resources."
6:45 p. m. Epworth League.
7:30 p. m. Preaching; "Drifting the Wrong Way."
W. J. LUSCOMBE, Pastor.

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