

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD

Washington.—Railroad companies engaged in interstate commerce are entitled under the constitution to discharge members of labor organizations in their employ, even if such membership is the only thing that can be laid against them. This decision was given by the supreme court when it declared the act of congress of June 1, 1908, prohibiting railroad companies from discriminating against union men to be repugnant to the constitution. The court held that William Adair, as master mechanic of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad company, had a right to discharge an employee because he was a member of a labor organization just as it was the employee's right to quit such employment because of his membership in such organization.

York, Pa.—Word has been received here from the receivers of the American Silk company in New York that the Monarch mill of the company in this city will be reopened. The mill was closed November 16 because of the financial difficulties which involved the American Silk company. A large shipment of silk will be made to the mill and work will be given the full force of 250 employees. With the reopening of this mill all silk mills in the city will again be in operation.

Washington.—A committee of the National Temple of Labor association, organized to construct a temple for labor organizations, called on Secretary of State Root and Assistant Secretary Bacon to enlist their aid and advice. President Roosevelt, Vice-President Fairbanks, members of the cabinet and supreme court, and public officials generally are being interested in the project. Secretary Root gave the committee a letter of hearty endorsement.

New York.—Acting on instructions from headquarters in this city, Vice President and General Manager Mohler of the Union Pacific railroad at Omaha issued an order cutting down the forces all over the system. More than 8,000 men are thrown out of employment. In his order Vice President Mohler said that the clerical forces in the headquarters would soon be cut, and it is understood that many high-priced men will go.

Pottsville, Pa.—Two more big open hearth furnaces have resumed work, while the 19-inch and 28-inch rolling mill departments of the Eastern Steel company's mills also started up full-handed. Thirty-eight collieries of the Reading Coal and Iron company, employing 30,000 men, have resumed. Bristol, R. I.—Nearly 200 employees at the Herreshoff boat building plant here are back to work on full time, after working for several months on a four and one-half hour basis. With the increase in orders for racing craft to compete at national events next summer the plant resumes the regular nine hours a day schedule.

Washington.—At the session of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor a motion was adopted requesting President Campers to discuss through the columns of the official organ "the question of the numerous detective agencies and their engagement by employers' associations."

New York.—The Charity Organization society report, following an investigation of the condition of unemployed, stated that at least 35,000 homeless men, a majority of whom are classed as tramps, are now in this city.

Pittsburg, Pa.—As a result of a conference between the executive board of the Association of Stogie Makers of America and representatives of the American Federation of Labor for the purpose of recognizing the stogie makers as a craft, it was decided that a referendum vote would be required to effect a merger. The vote has been ordered.

Indianapolis, Ind.—Woman's suffrage was endorsed by the delegates at the convention of the United Mine Workers here. The delegates were addressed by Miss Laura Gregg of Kansas, fraternal delegate from the National Woman Suffrage association.

Waltham, Mass.—Notices announcing that the local cotton mills of the Boston Manufacturing company would resume full time, 58 hours a week, were posted at the mills. The mills have been running 42 hours a week for the past six weeks.

Altoona, Pa.—The 5,000 employees of the Pennsylvania railroad locomotive repair shops, known as the Altoona machine shops, were notified that the shops would be closed for a week. The men have been working 32 hours a week for some time.

Joliet, Ill.—Officials of the Illinois Steel company have announced that the Joliet plant has orders for 2,000 tons of billets a week for the Waukegan wire mills. This, it is said, insures a steady run of the main departments of the local plant for an indefinite period.

Cleveland, O.—Judge Phillips of the common pleas court has decided that the \$100,000 in the treasury of the Amalgamated Window Glass Workers' Association of America, recently ordered dissolved, must remain in the custody of the court pending a final decision.

Washington.—The executive council of the American Federation of Labor, in the case of the controversy in the paper making industry, has decided that the decision heretofore rendered gave jurisdiction to the Papermakers' union of all employees in paper mills, thereby providing for only one organization. The case of the brewery workers, engineers, firemen and teamsters was considered and a decision reached requiring that the representatives again endeavor to reach an agreement.

Baltimore, Md.—Attributing the action to depression in business, resulting in largely decreased railroad earnings, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company announced a reduction of ten per cent in the pay of all officers and employees receiving more than \$166 per month and bringing down to \$150 all monthly salaries between \$150 and \$166 per month. The cut becomes effective February 1. The reduction will apply to all officers from the president down.

Washington.—Washington newspapers recently had stories stating that the convention of the brotherhood of railroad firemen and engineers, to be held in that city March 20 to 30, will mark an epoch in labor circles, as the brotherhood will unite with the A. F. of L. to combat the political enemies of organized labor. The papers predict direct affiliation with the A. F. of L. within a couple of years.

Washington.—There are about 15 international labor organizations outside the ranks of the A. F. of L. The most important of those not affiliated are some of the big railroad brotherhoods, the bricklayers and masons international, the Western Federation of Miners, and the Knights of Labor.

Washington.—The Townsend bill providing for the appointment by the president of compulsory arbitration commissions to settle disputes between employers and employees was taken up by the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce, a number of amendments being proposed.

Providence, R. I.—According to a statement by Superintendent W. S. Miller the local plant of the American Locomotive works will be shut down for an indefinite period. The force, which in December numbered 1,008, has gradually been reduced to something like 500 hands at present.

Detroit, Mich.—Addressing the opening session of the Licensed Tugmen's Protective association, President D. J. Keefe of the Longshoremen's union declared that his union would not accept a cut in wages, and urged that all marine unions stand together.

Parkersburg, W. Va.—Indictments were returned here by the federal grand jury against the Colonial Trust company, the Baker Contract company and the Sheridan Kirk Contract company for alleged violation of the eight-hour law.

Detroit, Mich.—The large plant of the American Car and Foundry company, which has been shut down for some time, has opened, giving employment to 3,000 men. There are said to be two months' work ahead at the plant.

Kenosha, Wis.—A stir was caused in labor circles here when the Master Builders' association, composed of nearly all the contractors in the city, made a public statement that the association had decided for the open shop.

Cheyenne, Wyo.—Supplementing an order issued by Vice-President Mohler, reducing the work in the Union Pacific shops to five days per week, the order was posted here reducing it still further to three days per week, apparently in pursuance of the policy of retrenchment which Mr. Mohler is quoted as saying would be followed as long as President Roosevelt's attacks on corporations continued.

Lansing, Mich.—Contract labor in the prisons of the state was endorsed by the state constitutional convention by a close vote, after a sharp contest during which labor representatives made a hard fight and threatened the defeat of the new constitution if the contract system was not eliminated. The vote was 47 to 41.

Indianapolis, Ind.—The International Typographical union intends to bring the strike against the New York Methodist Book Concern for the eighth day before the general conference, which meets in Baltimore.

Washington.—The National Glass Bottle Blowers' union has recently purchased \$250,000 U. S. four per cent, 30-year bonds, as part of the investment of its reserve and defense fund.

Seattle, Wash.—About 3,000 unemployed men marched to the mayor's office to ask for work. Most of them are lumbermen who have been driven to the city by the closing down of the mills and camps.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Eng.—A threatened strike in the shipbuilding industry in the Tyne district became a fact when 4,000 men, who had refused the proposed reduction in their wages, did not return to work.

West Brook, Me.—The mills of the Dana Carp company, which have been on short time for a week or so, resumed the full time schedule.

MUSICIANS, NOTICE!
The date of the next meeting of the Musicians' Union is February 16 instead of February 23, as stated on first page—Sunday, February 16.

FIRE IN NEBRASKA TOWN.

Two Burned to Death and Five Injured at South Sioux City.
In a fire of unknown origin at South Sioux City, Neb., the rooming house of Edward Streater was burned to the ground. Two lives were lost and five were injured. The dead: Edward Streater, Moritz Albertson.

The injured are: Dolly Hart, daughter of Streater, leg broken. Unknown Winnebago Indian, both legs broken.

William Lukecock, broken ankle. Edward Skinner, angles injured and internal injuries. August Pasesyladt, legs injured. The injured persons were compelled to jump from the second-story windows. The building was completely destroyed. The bodies of Streater and Albertson were not recovered.

IOWA DECLARES FOR BRYAN.

Radicals Completely Out-Maneuver Conservative Element.
A resolution endorsing William J. Bryan was unanimously adopted by the Iowa democratic state central committee and notice of its adoption sent by wire to Mr. Bryan. This action came only after a whole day of maneuvering, in which the radicals showed themselves completely in the majority over the conservative democrats who have in the past opposed Mr. Bryan.

Tragedy on a Reservation.
Word of a triple tragedy on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation has been received at Deadwood, S. D., by White Eagle, an aged Sioux prisoner. The message stated that the Indian wife of White Eagle had become despondent over his incarceration on a charge of bringing liquor on the reservation and had killed her two grown up daughters and then taken her own life.

HOBO CONVENTION AT AN END.

Unemployed at St. Louis Adopts Set of Resolutions.
The national convention of the unemployed, which has been in session in St. Louis for a week, closed with a large gathering of the self-styled "hoboes." As a finale all the resolutions prepared during the week were adopted, including those urging that the itinerant unemployed attend church in a body on Sundays, the abolition of vagrancy laws and acts of congress pensioning unemployed and providing for an appropriation of \$15,000,000 so that the unemployed might be hired to deepen the Missouri and Ohio rivers.

ROBBERS ATTACK TRAINMEN.

Masked Men Secure Booty from Crew of Alton Train.
Two masked and armed men boarded a through freight train on the Chicago and Alton railroad in the outskirts of Chicago, robbed the brakeman, conductor and a stockman, and made their escape. The robbers started to climb over the car roofs toward the engine, but were attacked by their victims. In the struggle one of the robbers fell from the moving train and the other leaped after him.

Brewery Manager Insane.
A jury at the probate court, St. Louis, formally declared F. Joseph Traummiller, former manager of the Excelsior Brewery company, to be insane. Joseph U. Lademan, brother of Traummiller's divorced wife, was appointed guardian under \$15,000 bond.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.

A Few of Its Declarations Upon Which It Appeals to All Working People To Organize, Unite, Federate, and Cement the Bonds of Fraternity.

1. The Abolition of all Forms of Involuntary Servitude, except as a punishment for crime.
2. Free Schools, Free Text-Books, and Compulsory education.
3. Unrelenting Protest Against the Issuance and Abuse of Injunction Process in Labor Disputes.
4. A workday of not more than Eight Hours in the twenty-four hour day.
5. A strict recognition of not over Eight Hours per day on all Federal State or Municipal Work and at not less than the prevailing Per Diem.

Homeseekers' Fares

are now in effect to many points in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. Both irrigated and unirrigated land may be bought cheap in all these states. No other part of the world has greater or more valuable opportunities to offer to intelligent and industrious seekers for homes and competence than have the above states.

Every First and Third Tuesday of each month during 1908 these low round-trip tickets will be on sale

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Wage Rate of the class of employment in the vicinity where the work is performed.

6. Release from employment One Day in Seven.
7. The Abolition of the Contract System on Public Work.
8. The Municipal Ownership of Public Utilities.
9. The Abolition of the Sweat Shop System.
10. Sanitary Inspection of Factory, Workshop, Mine, and Home.
11. Liability of Employers, for injury to body or loss of life.
12. The Nationalization of Telegraph and Telephone.
13. The passage of Anti-Child Labor Laws in States where they do not exist and rigid defense of them where they have been enacted into law.
14. Woman Suffrage coequal with Man Suffrage.
15. The Initiative and Referendum and the Imperative Mandate and Right of Recall.
16. Suitable and Plentiful Playgrounds for Children in all cities.
17. Continued agitation for the Public Bath System in all cities.
18. Qualifications in permits to build of all cities and towns that there shall be Bathrooms and Bathroom Attachments in all houses or compartments used for habitation.
19. We favor a system of finance whereby money shall be issued exclusively by the Government, with such regulations and restrictions as will protect it from manipulation by the banking interests for their own private gains.

The above is a partial statement of the demands which organized labor, in the interest of the workers—aye, of all the people of our country—makes upon modern society.

Higher wages, shorter workday, better labor conditions, better homes, better and safer workshops, factories, mills, and mines. In a word, a better, higher, and nobler life.

Conscious of the justice, wisdom and nobility of our cause, the American Federation of Labor appeals to all men and women of labor to join with us in the great movement for its achievement.

More than two million wage-earners who have reaped the advantages of organization and federation appeal to their brothers and sisters of toil to participate in the glorious movement with its attendant benefits.

There are affiliated to the American Federation of Labor 118 International Trades Unions with their 27,600 Local Unions; 36 State Federations; 537 City Central Bodies and 650 Local Trade and Federal Labor Unions having no Internationals.

We have nearly 1,000 volunteer and special organizers as well as the officers of the unions and of the American Federation of Labor itself always willing and anxious to aid their fellow workmen to organize and in every other way better their conditions.

For information all are invited to write to the American Federation of Labor headquarters at Washington, D. C.

CONVENTIONS IN 1908.

Where and When Trades Union Gatherings Will Be Held.

- Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.
- May 11, New York City, Actors' National Protective Union of America.
- May 11, St. Louis, Mo., American Federation of Musicians.
- May 11, —, United Brotherhood of Papermakers of America.
- May —, Detroit, Mich., International Tin Plate Workers' Protective Association of America.
- May —, York, Pa., National Print Cutters' Association of America.
- June 1, St. Paul, Minn., Brotherhood of Boiler-makers and Iron Shipbuilders of America.
- June 1, Detroit, Mich., International Association of Steam and Hot Water Fitters and Helpers of America.
- June —, Washington, D. C., International Union of Journeymen Horse-shoers.
- June, Mobile, Ala., International Printing Pressmen's Union.
- June 1, Columbus, Ohio, Chainmakers' National Union of the United States of America.
- June 1, St. Louis, Mo., International Association of Marble Workers.
- June 8, —, International Ceramic Mosaic and Encaustic Tile Layers and Helpers' Union.
- June 8, Cincinnati, Ohio, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders.
- June 8, —, International Brotherhood of Tip Printers.
- June 8, Milwaukee, Wis., The Commercial Telegraphers' Union of the United States and Canada.
- April 6, Toronto, Canada, International Association of Fur Workers of the United States and Canada.
- May 3, Brockton, Mass., International Union of Cutting Die and Cutter Makers.
- May 5, Youngstown, Ohio, Amalgamated.
- July 4, —, Amalgamated Leather Workers' Union of America.
- July —, Atlantic City, N. J., National Brotherhood of Operative Longshoremen's Association.
- July 6, Buffalo, N. Y., International Jewelry Workers' Union.
- July 6, Cincinnati, Ohio, Brush-makers' International Union.
- July 7, Baltimore, Md., Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada.
- July 7, Buffalo, N. Y., Amalgamated Window Glass Workers of America.
- July 13, Toronto, Canada, International Piano and Organ Workers, Union of America.
- July 13, Indianapolis, Ind., Lithographers' International Protective Association.
- July 13, Minneapolis, Minn., Theatrical Stage Employees' International Alliance.
- July 18, Holyoke, Mass., American Wire Weavers' Protective Association.
- July 20, New York City, International Steel and Copper Plate Printers' Union.
- August 3, Buffalo, N. Y., National

Association of Heat, Frost, General Insulators and Asbestos Workers.

- August 4, Detroit, Mich., International Glove Workers' Union of America.
- August 6, Detroit, Mich., International Brotherhood of Teamsters.
- August 10, Detroit, Mich., International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen.
- August 10, Boston, Mass., International Typographical Union.
- August 10, Boston, Mass., International Stereotypers and Electrotypers' Union.
- August 11, Indianapolis, Ind., Shirt Waist and Laundry Workers' International Union.
- August 24, Milwaukee, Wis., United Garment Workers of America.
- September 1, —, Table Knife Grinders' National Union.
- September 2, Milwaukee, Wis., American Brotherhood of Cement Workers.
- September 7, Denver, Colo., International Association of Machinists.
- September 8, New York City, International Photo Engravers' Union of North America.
- September 10, Boston, Mass., Spinners' International Union.
- September 14, Montreal, Canada, Journeymen Stonecutters' Association of North America.
- September 14, Philadelphia, Pa., International Union of Steam Engineers.
- September 14, Philadelphia, Pa., International Brick, Tile and Terra Cotta Workers' Alliance.
- September 15, Salt Lake City, Utah, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.
- September 17, New York City, Pocket Knife Blade Grinders and Finishers' National Union.
- September 21, Indianapolis, Ind., United Association of Plumbers, Gas-fitters, Steamfitters and Steamfitters' Helpers of United States and Canada.
- September 21, Indianapolis, Ind., International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers.
- October 5, Washington, D. C., Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union.
- October 5, St. Louis, Mo., International Union of Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers.
- October 20, Cohoes, N. Y., United Textile Workers of America.
- November 9, Denver, Colo., American Federation of Labor.
- November 10, Bangor, Pa., International Union of Slate Workers.
- November 12, Vinalhaven, Me., Lobster Fishermen's International Protective Association.
- December 7, New Orleans, La., International Brotherhood of Maintenance-of-Way Employes.
- December 7, Brooklyn, N. Y., National Alliance of Bill Posters and Billers of America.

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