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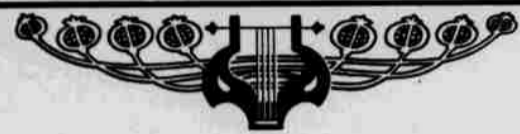
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## UNION LABOR WINS

Bucks Stove and Range Company Abandons Fight.

SHOPS TO BE UNIONIZED.

Controversy of Four Years' Standing Results in a Great Victory For Organized Labor - Contempt Cases Not Affected.

After making strenuous war on organized labor for four years, and invoking the aid of the federal courts in its efforts to overthrow the movement through the writ of injunction and prison sentences against some of the chief officials of the movement, the Bucks Stove and Range company of St. Louis has made a complete surrender to the unions, and declared its purpose to grant their demands in future. The plant of the company, under the agreement which has been reached, will be thoroughly unionized, and all causes of contention will be immediately removed.

The agreement between labor representatives and the company was reached in the Cincinnati office of the International Molders' union a short time ago and was signed by William H. Cribben and Thomas J. Hogan of Chicago, representing the Bucks Stove and Range company and the Stove Founders' National Defense association, and by the officers of the several unions involved.

This battle between employer and employee, which has now passed into history, began in the fall of 1906 in the great stove works of the Bucks Stove and Range company in St. Louis. The metal polishers demanded a nine hour day instead of the ten hour day which they then had. President Van Cleave refused to listen to the polishers, and the stove concern was placed on the "unfair" list in the publications of organized labor throughout the country. President Van Cleave took the matter into the courts on the ground that the American federation's "unfair" list constituted a boycott and secured the decision.

In the meantime Mr. Van Cleave was elected to the presidency of the National Association of Manufacturers, an organization whose chief purpose is resistance to the demands of labor. Then in the Christmas holidays of 1908 came the decision of Judge D. Thew Wright, formerly of Cincinnati, which sentenced Samuel Gompers to jail for one year, John Mitchell, vice president of the federation, for nine months and Frank Morrison, its secretary, for six months. The sentence was pronounced because the federation officials had not heeded the judge's injunction to cease naming the Bucks company in the unfair list. The labor officials immediately appealed to the supreme court, which will render its decision in October.

The appeal from the contempt proceedings, and the jail sentences pending in the supreme court of the United States will not be affected by the agreement, except to the extent that the attorneys for the Bucks Stove and Range company will no longer figure in the case. That has become a government case and its management is in the hands of the attorney general of the United States.

The agreement which has ended this controversy is of the greatest importance to organized labor. The controversy itself, in its nature, the persistency with which it was carried on and the consequences involved, was the most considerable and far reaching the labor movement has ever engaged in. And its adjustment on the terms demanded by the adherents of that movement is the most signal and significant triumph they have ever won. In effect, it proclaims and emphasizes the fact that, after exhausting all its resources in an unbooby crusade against the toilers of the land, and securing many temporary advantages through the aid of a subservient and biased judiciary, the Bucks Stove and Range company, with the National Association of Manufacturers behind it, has been compelled to confess itself beaten and accede to everything it has been fighting against. The outcome is another striking proof that the claims of organized labor are righteous, and that the American people acknowledge they are, when left to consider them apart from personal interests and embittered partisan feelings. Score one, and a large one, for justice, freedom and equal rights!—Minnesota Union Advocate.

### Timely Thoughts.

Hail to labor! Organize and stand together.—Wendell Phillips.

I look to the trade unions as the principal means for benefiting the condition of the working class.—Thorold Rogers, Professor of Political Economy, University of Oxford.

Thank God we have a system of labor where there can be a strike! Whatever the pressure, there is a point where the workman may stop.—President Lincoln in Speech at Hartford, 1860, Referring to the New England Shoe Workers' Great Strike.

No wage earner is doing his full duty if he fails to identify his own interests with those of his fellow workmen. The obvious way to make common cause with them is to join a trade union, and thus secure a position from which to strengthen organized labor and influence it for the better.—Ernest Crosby.

### THAT REJECTED CLAUSE.

Paves the Way to Attack Labor Organizations as Such.

A form of deceit which is very common with writers and speakers who oppose labor organization has to do with the recent action of the senate in striking out from a trust prosecution bill (p. 603) a house clause intended to protect labor organizations from unlawful persecution by federal officials and at public expense. President Taft insisted that this clause must come out, giving as his reason that labor organizations must not be allowed by law to violate the law, for that would be class legislation.

There is a guilelessness about Mr. Taft, a mental drowsiness, which will tempt considerate persons to attribute his misrepresentation of the labor clause in question to "any old thing" rather than an evil purpose. But the New York Times, the New York Sun, the president of the National Association of Manufacturers—these and their like are not lacking in wakefulness, and they, like President Taft, refer to that clause as if it would have exempted labor organizations from prosecutions for lawlessness.

What it would have exempted them from and all it would have protected them from was not lawlessness on their part, but persecution by an interest owned government for acts not unlawful. Read the rejected clause yourself and see. So definite were the terms of this rejected clause that only three inferences regarding those who oppose it, from the president all along the line, are possible—first, ignorance of the fact that the clause exempted labor organizations only from prosecution for lawful acts; second, malicious indifference to that fact, or third, desire to leave the way open for the federal law department to attack labor organizations merely as labor organizations.—Public.

### FEDERATION PROSPERS.

Secretary Reports Remarkable Growth of the Organization.

Notwithstanding a great many adverse circumstances, the American Federation of Labor has gained 100 per cent in the number of charters issued to new unions since last October, as compared with a like period of the previous year. In Secretary Morrison's report to the executive council is shown 203 charters issued to new organizations for the nine months indicated, while only 111 were issued in the same time last year. Of the new unions, ninety-eight were local unions, sixty-six federal labor unions, fifty-seven city central unions, one international union and one state federation.

From October to June the income of the American Federation of Labor, with the cash on hand, amounted to \$288,644.43, and the expenditures were \$119,926.48, leaving a balance of \$168,717.95. The Western Federation of Miners has made application for a charter, and it is expected that the federation and the United Mine Workers of America, one representing the metal miners and the other the coal miners, will hereafter work together.

### Contract Labor Law Violated.

At a recent meeting at Hull House of the conference of the Socialist and Russian Progressive organizations in Chicago resolutions were adopted asking federal authorities to use their influence in preventing labor agencies from transporting Russian workers to the Hawaiian Islands by means of alleged fraudulent contracts. It also was decided to appeal to the Russian consul in Chicago for assistance. It is charged that Russian men and women have been induced to go to the Hawaiian Islands by promises that they would be paid good wages and given reasonable working conditions and that the promises have not been fulfilled by the labor agencies. Speakers at the meeting asserted that federal officials have ample opportunity to begin prosecution under the contract labor laws of the United States.

### Plumbers to Meet in St. Paul.

The seventeenth biennial convention of the International Plumbers' union will be held in St. Paul in September. A successor will then be elected to John M. Love, who recently resigned as general secretary. Thomas E. Burke, a former organizer of the union, has been acting as secretary since Love's resignation, and he most likely will be a candidate for election to the office. President Alpine, who is seventh vice president of the American Federation of Labor, has had a very successful administration and may have no opposition for re-election.

### Jewelers Want Raise.

The International Jewelry Workers' union convention, held in Boston recently, decided to ask for a wage increase of 25 per cent from all the manufacturers of the country. The increased cost of living and the low wage scale in the industry demands such an increase, it was stated. The convention also stated that the Jewelry Workers' union has been awarded by the American Federation of Labor the jurisdiction over all metal badges, medals, fobs and metal jewelry, and its union label will be recognized for each.

### Canadian Pacific Men Win.

All possibility that the conductors and trainmen of the Canadian Pacific railway would strike was removed when a definite agreement was reached between the company and the men. The standard rate of pay for the territory east of Chicago is recognized by the company. The men have gained about 90 per cent of their demands. The new schedule will be retroactive to May 1.

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