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THE COUNCIL IS IN SESSION

THE COUNCIL ASSEMBLES

Just as we go to the public with this issue, The State and County Council is coming into session on the University campus.

It is the first gathering of the sort in this state and, so far as we know, in the United States. Our hope is that it may develop into a permanent summer school conference of public welfare servants in North Carolina.

As the summer school for teachers disbands, the social welfare servants can assemble when our dormitories and mess hall are in commission. They can all live together at \$1.25 a day and together they can spell out the economic, social, and civic problems of North Carolina—causes, consequences, and remedies.

The Legislature enacts public welfare laws, which is one thing; but the Public Welfare Conference is focussed upon carrying these laws into effect, which is another and far more difficult thing.

The Legislative end of social problems is the kid-glove end; what Uncle Remus calls the hoe-handle end is the hard, heroic job of executives, state and county, and of their volunteer social allies, men and women, in multiplied number, in every county.

of economic helplessness, and, finally, to put into its hands the tools which are its birthright.

"Generally in the world today society's power of excess production is employed to satisfy immediate wants to an abnormal degree, and the wants of the future are in corresponding measure neglected. That is why so many Bolshevik people can subsist without working, and why so many other people can consume goods in the extravagant manner abhorrent to Mr. Jerome K. Jerome. The progeny will pay—tomorrow."

COLLEGE TRAINED MEN

Less than 1 per cent of American men are college graduates. Yet this 1 per cent of college graduates has furnished:

- 55 per cent of our Presidents.
- 36 per cent of the Members of Congress.
- 47 per cent of the Speakers of the House.
- 54 per cent of the Vice-Presidents.
- 62 per cent of the Secretaries of State.
- 50 per cent of the Secretaries of Treasury.
- 67 per cent of the Attorney Generals.
- 69 per cent of the Justices of Supreme Court.

At the present time the President, Vice-President, Speakers of the House, all but two of the Cabinet, 69 out of 96 Senators, 305 out of 435 Representatives and all the Justices of the Supreme Court are college trained men.—Exchange.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

The schools have been very deficient in times past in their treatment of social problems. One of the reasons why the schools have not ventured to enter this field is undoubtedly to be found in the attitude of conservatives and the fear that teachers are under of offending boards of education and others. The time has come when there ought to be very clear and explicit assertion on the part of educational people that they will not be dominated by such criticism as has been presented. The schools of a democracy have a right to discuss democratic and popular matters. If the school people of this county are not aroused to an assertion of their independence in educational matters it is difficult to understand how they can claim in any large way to be leaders of public opinion even for the coming generation.—Charles H. Judd, in School Life.

WAR-TIME STRIKES

Elsewhere in this issue we present a table showing the three-year average of strikes by states from 1916 to 1918 inclusive. The table is based on the June number of The Monthly Labor Review of The Federal Department of Labor.

Strikes in the United States in 1916 numbered 3,678 and involved nearly 1,600,000 workmen; in 1917 the strikes numbered 4,233 and 1,213,000 workmen went out; in 1918 the strikes were 3,181 and the strikers 1,145,000. All told in the three years, nearly four million workmen were out on strikes and a total of nearly 95 thousand days of labor lost; which means sacrificed wages running into billions of dollars with billions more lost in products and profits.

On an average 76 percent of the strikes during these three years were in the great industrial area east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio and the Potomac, 20 percent of them were west of the Mississippi, and only 4 percent in the Southern states east of the Mississippi. More than half of all the strikes occurred in five leading manufacturing states, New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois.

Causes and Settlements

Almost exactly two of every three of the strikes reported upon were strikes about wages, hours, or conditions—singly or in combination. Considerably more than half of all the strikes concerned wages alone.

Strikes for the right to organize and for union recognition were relatively few. Only about one in every six strikes during this period involved this contention and this particular cause of strikes steadily

TRUE AMERICANISM

Henry Van Dyke

What is true Americanism and where does it reside? Not on the tongue nor in the clothes nor among the transient social forms, refined or rude, which mottle the surface of life. True Americanism is this:

To believe that the inalienable rights of man to life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness are given of God.

To believe that any form of power that tramples on these rights is unjust.

To believe that taxation without representation is tyranny; that government must rest upon the consent of the governed, and that the people should choose their own rulers.

To believe that freedom must be safeguarded by law and order, and that the end of freedom is fair play for all.

To believe not in a forced equality of conditions and estates, but in a true equalization of burdens, privileges and opportunities.

To believe that the selfish interests of persons, classes and sections must be subordinate to the welfare of the commonwealth.

To believe that the Union is as much a necessity as liberty is a divine gift.

To believe that a free state should offer an asylum to the oppressed, and be an example of virtue, sobriety, and fair dealing to all nations.

To believe that for the existence and perpetuity of such a state a man should be willing to give his whole service in labor and in life.

ily decreased—18, 15, and 13 percent being the ratios in order during these three years.

As for lockouts by employers, the number is small—averaging around a hundred a year against 3,700 strikes.

Of the settlements reported, almost exactly a third were dog-falls; that is to say, neither side won, and both sides surrendered something in the settlement. A trifle more than a third of the settlements were clear-cut victories for the strikers, and a trifle less than a third were clear-cut victories for capital.

An Area of Peace

In the nine southern states east of the Mississippi the average of strikes during the war was only 152 a year, against 728 west of the Mississippi, and 2,779 in the North and East. The average per year ranged from 5 in South Carolina, 7 in Mississippi, and 9 in North Carolina, to 24 in Georgia, 28 in Virginia, and 29 in Tennessee. In cotton manufacture, the South's largest industry, there were only seven strikes in 1917-18, six in Georgia and one in South Carolina.

In North Carolina the seven strikes in 1917 were as follows: one each among carpenters, plumbers and steamfitters, freight handlers, railroad laborers, railway clerks, stoneworkers, and moulders. In 1918, there were 12 strikes in the state—five among carpenters, two among moulders, and one each among sheet-metal workers, retail clerks, machinists, stoneworkers, and tobacco workers.

Nearly exactly half the industrial wage earners of North Carolina are in our 550 textile mills, and among these not a single strike occurred during the two years of our active participation in the World War.

Strikes occur in largest numbers under city conditions, where wage earners are densely massed under hard conditions of living, or in enormous numbers in gigantic industries, and especially in areas of mixed nationalities. Thus there were more strikes in the cotton mills of Massachusetts and Rhode Island than in the cotton mills of all the rest of the whole United States; and a full seventh of all the strikes of the nation occurred in New York City and vicinity.

The mill populations of the South are unmixed native white Americans living in small communities as a rule, with am-

ple elbow room in mill villages. They have been satisfied with the increased wages paid, and they have been undisturbed by imported anarchism. It is for these reasons that capital is more and more seeking investment in cotton mill properties in the South.

"The concentration of workers in the great cities of the land is one of the chief reasons for the present unprecedented high cost of living," said Secretary Lane to the President the other day. "Shop and mill workers could produce a considerable part of their own food were factories located in smaller communities with a view to the welfare as well as the convenience of the workers. Most of our people must become producers of food-stuffs, even on a small scale, if the cost of living is to be lowered."

Two things are clear to Secretary Lane; first, that industries and wage-earners fare better in small communities than in and around large cities, and second, that bread-winners must have a chance to own their own homes and produce a considerable share of their food with gardens, pigs, and poultry, as he said to a great convention of Church workers in the West a little while ago.

Advantages in the South

These fundamental conditions we either have or can easily establish in the South. The future of industries in crowded city centers is problematical. What Secretary Lane thinks is indispensable we have in the South, or we easily can have if we will.

1. For the most part we have a large number of small mills and factories rather than a small number of large establishments, which makes possible the comfortable comradeship of mill owners and mill workers in the South. This friendly relationship is well-nigh universal in North Carolina and throughout the Southern States. And there has been very little disturbance of this relationship, except in a few of our larger city centers, and in the oil fields of Louisiana and Texas.

2. By far the larger number of Southern cotton mills are located in our country regions and the operatives live under rural conditions. They have ample garden spaces. Cows, pigs, and poultry have come to be common, under the helpful direction and provision of mill superintendents. Around half of the family pantry supply easily comes from these sources; or it is frequently so in North Carolina.

3. Wage increases and bonuses have nearly doubled the income of our mill and factory workers; not as the result of strikes but as the free offering of mill managements. We know of only one or two exceptions to this statement in the whole South.

4. In LeClaire, a factory village sixteen miles out of St. Louis, all the workmen live in homes of their own, or this was true of all but 9 of the 607 homes when we visited the village in 1922. It

is a stable mill population with never a strike in 30 odd years. The mill owners of the South have a better chance than anywhere else in the world to create a body of responsible, home-owning, mill villagers, to stabilize their workmen and thereby reduce the labor turnover to a minimum.

The Way Out

Our very strong feeling is that labor unrest never can be solved in terms of wages and hours alone. The larger the wage and the shorter the work day, the greater the social unrest among landless, homeless wage-earners, foot-loose and free to rove at a moment's notice. The Standard Oil Company is rapidly developing home-ownership plans for their workmen in two or three centers, and they are wise in this matter, as we see it. The R. J. Reynolds Company is experimenting in this direction, and many other mill and factory owners in the South are seriously considering it.

The safe solution of industrial unrest will lie (1) in a righteous wage—not a minimum or a living wage merely, but a righteous wage; (2) in a reasonable wage week, and (3) in the ownership of homes by bread-winners. Short of this last condition we shall steadily go from bad to worse in this country as in England.

And what is the laborer's righteous share of the wealth he helps to produce? That question is the riddle of the Sphinx. No mathematician will ever figure out the fraction, no court or parliament is ever likely to determine it. It is a problem that never can be solved by the law of the land; it can be solved by the law of Christian love alone. Which is to say, it cannot be solved in terms of right; it must be solved in terms of duty—in the divine impulse to share in generous, overflowing measure with those whose labor helps to create the wealth of the world. It is a contention that never will be settled by a fierce struggle for rights, and if after twenty centuries of Christianity we have found no better way out than in bloody battles for human rights, then the future is dark indeed in this and every other land.

After long centuries of pagan hair splitting we have no body of indisputable wage doctrine that is ever likely to be fixed in civil codes. The way out lies in the Golden Rule alone.

We lay emphasis upon home-ownership for wage-earners because it means stable responsible citizenship, sturdy, up-standing, self-respecting manhood, pride in craftsmanship, the impulse to industry, and thrift, the increasing possession of bank accounts and shares of stock, directorships in industries and safety in democratic participation in corporation and cooperative enterprise.

How else shall we have a sobering sense of responsibility and accountability in the world of industrial production and distribution? Industrial representation without the sobering sense of ownership is but a toy for grown up children to play with.—E. C. B.

STRIKES: THREE-YEAR AVERAGES

Covering the Years 1916, 1917, and 1918
 Based on the Monthly Labor Review, June 1919
 U. S. Department of Labor
 Department of Rural Social Science
 University of North Carolina

East Mississippi River North		Louisiana.....	22
Connecticut.....	172	Minnesota.....	39
Delaware.....	14	Missouri.....	102
Illinois.....	220	Montana.....	36
Indiana.....	68	Nebraska.....	20
Maine.....	35	Nevada.....	3
Maryland.....	57	New Mexico.....	2
Massachusetts.....	351	North Dakota.....	2
Michigan.....	62	Oklahoma.....	25
New Hampshire.....	19	Oregon.....	33
New Jersey.....	256	South Dakota.....	2
New York.....	639	Texas.....	40
Ohio.....	243	Utah.....	12
Pennsylvania.....	450	Washington.....	158
Rhode Island.....	9	Wyoming.....	2
Vermont.....	7	Total.....	728
West Virginia.....	51	East Mississippi River South	
Wisconsin.....	56	Alabama.....	15
Total.....	2779	Florida.....	14
West Mississippi River		Georgia.....	24
Arizona.....	10	Kentucky.....	21
Arkansas.....	20	Mississippi.....	7
California.....	83	North Carolina.....	9
Colorado.....	31	South Carolina.....	5
Idaho.....	16	Tennessee.....	29
Iowa.....	42	Virginia.....	28
Kansas.....	29	Total.....	152

IS THE WORLD GONE CRAZY?

The world is on the verge of a collapse of credit, says Sir George Paish, the eminent British economist. With some 300 billions of dollars of capital wealth and economic goods destroyed by four years of war, there is critical necessity in every nation of the world for everybody, rich or poor, to produce all he can, to buy what he needs and no more, to save all he can, and to invest the last penny of his savings in producing enterprises, material and spiritual.

How else, pray, can life and business be restored to normality, and the world safely settled down once more into peace and prosperity?

England looks like Bedlam itself to Jerome K. Jerome. Paris has gone dippy with fantastic extravagance. And the same thing is reported by observers in Vienna and Berlin and Petrograd.

Waste, waste everywhere, by rich and poor alike—wicked, wanton waste, while Bolshevism moves with steady step westward. The world has gone mad—mad as a hatter and is spending money like a drunken sailor. It is so in America and every other country on the globe.

Mad as a Hatter

"Prosperity has increased; there is no doubt of it," says Jerome. "Our luxury trades have trebled their dividends. Our theatres are crammed. Outside the doors of our restaurants well-dressed men and women wait in queues. Christie's sales-rooms are thronged with millionaires. Pictures for which the artist may have received £50 sell for £10,000. The difficulty seems to be how to get rid of money. Customers for thousand-guinea motor cars put down their names and wait in patience. As railway fares increase the traveling mania grows. The cost of living is doubled, and everybody is having the time of his life.

"How is it all done! A large percentage of Europe's wealth has been utterly destroyed. Its land laid waste. Its energies sapped. Its future mortgaged up to the hilt. Ten millions of its most efficient workers lie dead in their graves. Another ten million, maimed and useless, live, a burden to their country. The world's trade is disorganized, its currency debased. Above the ruin and destruction, against the shadow of universal bankruptcy, prosperity, blatant and loud-voiced, proclaims its victory balls and its jazz dances. How is it done?"

The N. Y. Tribune Explains

"The explanation is simple when you face it. The world is consuming the birthright of the new generation. The human race is not providing for its own increase. A nation, or society entire, is but a very large family. To increase, live dynamically and multiply, it must have a large power of excess production. The excess is required for the progeny—to give it birth, to feed, clothe, house, rear and educate it through a long period