

THE OBSERVER

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THE DEMANDS OF LABOR.

Persons reading the dispatches in the daily papers just now cannot but be struck with the fact that organized labor, especially organized railroad labor, has dropped the form of petitioning or requesting Congress to do this and that for their relief. For instance: "Organized labor was before the nation today with a DEMAND that private capital be retired from railroad operation." "The proposal, in the words of its authors, marks the steps by which organized labor passes from DEMANDS for wage increase to DEMANDS that the system of profits in industry be overhauled." "We will not return to work until our DEMAND for increased wages has been granted."

making good the difference between the market price and the \$2.26 guaranteed to the farmers." It seems strange that the farmers in one section of this country should be "protected" by the government, while the farmers in another section should be left to the mercy of the gamblers on Wall Street, when the law could easily eliminate the gamblers.

MR. STONE ON THE SITUATION.

Warren E. Stone, grand chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, was before the House Interstate Commerce Committee Wednesday, and he talked a good deal and very pointedly. Mr. Stone is bitter against "those responsible for the high cost of living," and virtually recommends "a firing squad for the profiteers." He is very decided in his demands for a radical change in the management of railroads, and is unreservedly in favor of public ownership and private operation of this great industry.

A ROAD TO BUNLEVEL.

There is agitation for the building of a good road from Kingsbury, in Casper's Creek Township, this county, to the Harnett County line. At a point called Smoky Tavern, where the road to Linden makes a sharp turn, there is a piece of road which runs to Reeves' bridge across Little River, and the idea is to improve this stretch and make of it a GOOD road.

THE CHICAGO TROUBLE.

It seems that trouble in Chicago is not yet ended. Friday 23,000 employees in the stockyard plants went out on strike until the state troops and police guards are removed from the yards. At least the presence of troops is given as the reason for the strike, but it was precipitated by the return to work of 5,000 negro workers. Advice from Chicago, state that the strike on account of the return of the negroes does not imply race hatred, but a determination not to work with non-union men.

FLORIDA TO TACKLE HIGH COST OF LIVING.

Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 7.—Governor Gato today issued a proclamation for a mass meeting to be held in Jacksonville August 14 and 15 for the purpose of seeking to find a means of reducing the high cost of living. The proclamation invites every member of the state government, including notaries public, constables and justices of the peace, all city and town and county officials, all editors and their assistants, all ministers of churches, heads of labor unions and fraternal organizations, to attend as delegates.

CHILD LABOR.

The State Child Labor Welfare Commission has announced its rulings as to the new child labor act of the last Legislature. The pronouncement strikes us as good and couched in excellent temper. Following is one paragraph: "The Commission feels that it should call the attention of parents, public officials, ministers, educators, social workers and thinkers, and public generally to the fact that the Legislature intended this act to be a measure for child welfare and to solicit the aid and co-operation of all in securing the benefit and purpose intended. To this end it is necessary to make every possible effort to prohibit the employment of children who are kept by their parents under their direct personal control in or about places owned and operated by the parents themselves, except in prohibitive hours. The reason for this is, that parents are supposed to control and care for their own children whenever they may be with them."

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN WILMINGTON.

The North Carolina Press Association convened in annual session Thursday, Friday and Saturday, last week, at Wilmington. The attendance was probably largest in the history of the association. While the members were diligent discussing problems peculiar to their estate, diversions incident to the overwhelming hospitality afforded them by the committee of publishers and leading citizens of Wilmington and Wrightsville occupied their whole time.

A CASE OF CONTRADICTIONS.

The other day, before there was any talk of throwing wheat on an open market, Indian corn slumped tremendously in price, but Wednesday's advices from Chicago announced: "An instantaneous upward movement of 1 1/2 cents to 9 1/2 cents a bushel was the response of the corn market today to the announcement that the government would maintain the guaranteed \$2.26 price of wheat."

THE CONFEDERATE VETERANS.

The Reunion of the Confederate Veterans of North Carolina is being held at Rocky Mount this year, and four hundred of the old heroes are in attendance. No reunion was held last year, on account of conditions brought about by the great world war. General James I. Metts of Wilmington, who is commander-in-chief of the North Carolina Veterans, is chairman and master of ceremonies of the convention, while General Julian S. Carr and Hon. Tasker Polk were the principal speakers on the first day.

THE OUTLOOK IS BETTER.

The news from Washington today puts a better aspect on the strike situation. The Republican majority in Congress being either staid to tackle the question or relying more on Mr. Wilson's ability than on their own, have refused to interfere, leaving the matter in the hands of the President. Consequently, Mr. Wilson has gone to work promptly and taken full of the right end of the proposition. He says: "The chief obstacle to a decision has been created by the men themselves. They have gone out on a strike and repudiated the authority of their officers at the very moment when they were urging action in regard to their interests."

STATE WELFARE COMMISSION MAKES MODIFICATIONS IN ACT OF LAST LEGISLATURE—SETS FORTH RULES PRESCRIBED UNDER NEW LAW.

(Charlotte Observer.) Raleigh, Aug. 8.—The state child welfare commission announced this evening its ruling as to provisions of the new child labor act of the last Legislature making few modifications in the stringent provisions laid down in the law. The rules prescribed follow: "No child under 16 years of age shall be employed or permitted to work in any of the places or occupations referred to in section five of this act, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the morning and 6 o'clock in the afternoon, and no person under 18 years of age shall be employed or permitted to work in or about in connection with any quarry or mine."

MARKETING HOGS.

Meats butting them. Steve Hoover, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, writes: "Commenced feeding my herd of about 100 hogs B. A. Thomas Hog Powder one or two months ago. Fitty hogs sick and two dead. Near by herds had cholera. I did not lose one—they are well and growing fast." A. S. Huska.—Adv.