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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."

This language is so plain that he who runs may read. A significant demand in this series of demands is one to the effect that private capital be retired from the operation of railroads and "that there be substituted a tripartite control of the railroad properties by the public, the operat ing managers and the employes." In other words the men who paid for the railroads and own them are to be swept aside and the "public," the "operators" and the "employes" are to take charge. Isn't that Bolshevism or something so near akin to it that there is a distinction without a differ-

We fear that organized labor is treading on dangerous ground. When men come to the pass that they demand to be made the custodians of ployed. other people's property there is dansaid that such a proposal is recog. writer and thousands of spectators. nized as "the most far-reaching proposal placed before the nation."

mind that they are in a minority in this country, and this being the case any talk of throwing wheat on an there is grave doubt whether their open market, Indian corn alumped leaders have the right to map out by tremendously in price, but Wednesthemselves, without the approval or day's advices from Chicago announcassistance of the balance of the world, ed: "An instantaneous upward movea movement which would mean the ment of 1 1-2 cents to 9 1-2 cents a most radical changes in the present bushel was the response of the corn order of affairs ever attempted in the market today to the announcement United States. No class of citizens, that the government would maintain not even the railroad unions, have the guaranteed \$2.26 price of wheat." the moral right to so act as to bring It was confidently predicted in some on a public calamity, and a nation quarters that the placing of wheat on wide strike at this time would cer- an open market, with a government tainly bring on a public calamity.

ing ground down and made to work commodities, but so far the action of long hours for inadequate pay there corn has shown that there is little might be some excuse for a strike that likelihood of such being the case. would involve the whole nation in We take it for granted that the govtrouble, but the railroad employes are ernment had good ground for guarcomparatively well gaid and have anteeing the farmer \$2.26 for his easy work hours; therefore, they wheat, but the outlook is not good for should seek some other way than a a fall in other foodstuffs as long as strike by which to gradually better the guarantee for wheat is continued. their condition. In the meantime If we mistake not, wheat in a measthey can get on fairly well with their ure sets the price of all other foodpresent wages.

They are 'industrious, peaceable, ucts are apt to rule pretty stiff.

shown enmity to what it pleases to believe that if the government simply term "private capital." One thing is ustries, there will be no indusfter a short lapse of time, unas the government takes over everyng in which event Bolshevism uld prevail.

THE SLUMP IN COTTON.

The press dispatches yesterday announced a decided slump in cotton. he price having dropped "approxiby five cents a pound, or \$25 a from the high level toucked about nd of just month." This slamp in October contracts, and we supbut of course it affected spo and put the farmers who sold y in for a loss of several dol-

In the meantime there is being conidered a proposal to "restore wheat 1 did to a free market, with the government

making good the difference between the market price and the \$3.26 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.

Then again we read that Adminis tration officials "feel that one way to reduce the cost of living is to increase production." This right on top of the call on the Southern farmers to reduce cotton acreage, and thus reduce the yield of cotton. Really, "It's all a muddle," and it seems that after all about the best solution of the whole matter would be to let every tub stand on its own bottom. In such event, the good and the bad would be nearer equalized than at present. Wipe out the principle of industrial protection to capital manufacturing, agriculture, labor-putting them all on a level with that hig majority, the "ultimate consumers."

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN WILMINGTON.

The North Carolina Press Associaion 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 over whelming hospitality afforded them by the committee of publishers and leading citizens of Wilmington and Wrightsville occupied their whole

Dr. Jobe Taylor spoke upon paper making, that is paper manufactured for printing and other purposes. The information he imparted was valuable as well as entertaining. Dr. Taylor emphasized the necessity of conserving the forests of the country which supply the basic material for the paper industry.

The members present endorsed the League of Nations unanimously.

The Carolina Shipbuilding Company entertained at symptuous luncheon the honor guest being the secretary of the navy, Josephus Daniels. Four ten-thousand-ton ships are nearing completion in this yard, where several thousand artisans and laborers are em-

Following the luncheon a number ger of their losing their heads and boarded the cutter Seminole for the drifting into a condition, or state Liberty shipbuilding yards to see the which has proved disastrous wherever launching of a concrete ship. This it has been tried, and well may it be was a novel and thrilling sight to the

A CASE OF CONTRADICTIONS.

The other day, before there was guarantee of \$2.26 a bushel, would If the railroad employes were be- result in a tumble in the prices of all

stuffs, and when there is a fixed value As citizens nothing can be brought for wheat of more than double the against the railroad workingmen. pre-war price, other agricultural prod-

neighborly and patriotic, but these vir- It is to be hoped that the necessity tues do not give them the right to dic- will not again arise for the government tate the manner in which the great- to do any price fixing or price guarest industry in the country-the rail- anteeing. This is a big, free country, roads—is to be managed, e pecially where every man and woman has full when the railroad unions represent a opportunity to work to account all very small minority of the population, the advantages offered, and there are One unhealthy feature of the pres- advantages sufficient to give every ent attitude of labor is its plainly man and woman a chance; hence we protects its citizens in their political certain no industry can be run with and social liberties and guarantees to out capital, and if "private capital" each one the right to live unmolested is to have no say in the management under his own vine and fig tree, conditions will adjust themselves. There was a long period during which this country was burdened with a high protective tariff. This tariff worked well for the manufacturers, making them immensely rich, but it was a burden on the great majority until finally it was removed, when conditions became much better for all class-

es. Let's eliminate paternalism, remembering that one of the basic princinles of our government is the greatest good to the greatest number.

MARKETING HOGS.

Heats burying them. Steve Hoover, hogs B. A. Thomas' Hog. Powder over two months ago. Fifty were sick and

state Commerce Committee Wednes- of an injury, against "those responsible for the high migrants for some cost of living," and virtually recommanagement of railroads, and is unreservedly in favor of public ownergreat industry.

Mr. Stone said: "Labor now demands that America become the home come the home of political freedom." He said that American democracy is "controlled by an autocracy in labor." We have always thought that American labor has more rights and privileges than the labor of any other country in the world. Gertainly if the right to strike, to stop business and to disorganize conditions constitute liberty, the laboring men are free citizens. The government of the United States recognizes the right of a laboring man to work or not work, as he sees fit, and this right has been so broadened by the laboring man himself that he prevents other men from working when he goes on a strike.

Mr Stone declares that American democracy is controlled by an autocracy in capital. It is beginning to look gramme of the labor unions democratic? Since it is seeking to force measures and to eliminate "private capital" from participation in the conany rights or consideration.

ions act in exactly an opposite way. lay of money for improvement. What must the public conclude from

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 exigencies of the times have place in the hearts of the older South. that the people of the Bunnlevel secern people, who, looking back through the vista of years, call to mind the would cause the commissioners of heroism, patriotism and fortitude the Harnett to build or improve the road Confederate Veterans displayed in the on their side of the line. The Reaves' Sixties and in the fearful reconstruc- bridge across Little River is a new tion days after the close of the War bridge, and it is nothing but good between the States. As each reunion business to have improved roads (not day dawns, the assembly of the Vet- bad ones) running to it. These are erans is smaller because of comrades progressive times, and that commugone on before. Within a few years uity which fails to grasp the opporthere will be none to answer the call, and the last old soldier shall have route) with an improved highway to been laid to rest. But in thousands of homes throughout the South the within reach is bound to drop behind. deeds of sacrifice and valor of the Confederate soldiers will be treasured and handed own from generation to generation

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

In view of the fact that the government recently calculated that 1,300, 000 allens would leave this country as soon as they can get passage to Europe a good many people are unduly excited, both on account of loss to the ranks of labor and of withdrawal of considerable sums of money. As to the loss in the way of labor, we think the case is overdrawn for the reason that a large part of the foreign labor in this country is more harmful than beneficial, as it is tainted with Socialism and Bolsheviam, and the room of auch citizens is better than their company.

As to the money taken from the stien who leaves these shares with money came here with the express must be at a stand purpose of making "his pile" and returning home to live on it the balance of his days. Such a citizen is of very General Hines of

pays next to an taxes and is a poor Warren E. Stone, grand chief of the citizen generally. We believe that the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engi- departure from this country of 1,300, neers, was before the House Inter 000 aliens would be a benefit instead

day, and he talked a good deal and And new as to immigration: the very pointedly. Mr. Stone is bitter United States will not need any imyears to come, if it shall ever again need any. There mends "a firing squad for the prof are millions of waste land in Amer iteers." He is very decided in his ica awalting developments, it is true demands for a radical change in the but the population is increasing rap idly from the rising generations and in a quarter of a century there will ship and private operation of this be a big demand for land by the young sil-American citizenship.

The Saturday Evening Post writes very sensibly on Emigration and Imof industrial freedom, as it has be- migration, and we reproduce a paragraph from an editorial as follows:

We hope there will be no immigration into the United States, on an extensive scale, for the next five years. We are prepared to face with equanimity whatever emigration actually occurs. By and large, residents of the United States who prefer the situation in Europe to the situation in the United States would better be in Europe. The attractions here are good wages, steady employment, settled order. The present attraction over there appears to consist mainly of more or less revolutionary aspirations. There may be a patriotic motive. But finally, the best economic conditions will attract the best labor. The United States may well rest its case on

There has been much harmful doc trine spread broadcast through this country within the last two or three as if there has come into existence years, and it is an established fact an autocracy of labor, which makes that that harmful doctrine has been its demands, not only of its employ- spread by foreign immigrants. That ers, but of the government, and says it has borne fruit is evidenced by the such and such things must be done terrible state of unrest and bad feelor a great disorganization of business ing prevailing. Let aliens who wish will be brought about by the action to do so emigrate, but do not let forof the labor unions. Is the new pro- eigners who wish to do so immigrate.

A ROAD TO BUNNLEVEL.

There is agitation for the building duct of business, we should say it is of a good road from Kingsbury, in autocratic. We do not believe that Carver's Greek-Township, this county, there is any Bolshevism in the hearts to the Harnett County line. At a of the majority of the workingmen of point called Smoky Tavern, where America, but their methods have be the road to Linden makes a sharp gun to sayor strongly of Bolchevism turn, there is a piece of road which which is avowedly a class system, in runs to Reexest bridge across Little which none but the proletariat has River, and the idea is to improve this stretch and make of it a GOOD road. Mr. Stone says he does not think If the commissioners of Harnett Counany labor union will seek to enforce ty would continue this work, there its demends through a strike. And would be a good highway traversing yet the railroad union men are on Bunnleyel Township and connecting strike right now, and say if their de- with the mad at Reeves' bridge runmands are not met, the whole rail ning to Fayetteville. The stretch in road system of the country will be Cumberland from the Linden road to tied up. Mr. Stone, representing the Reeven bridge is only 2 1-2 to 3 miles unions, talks one way, while the un- in length, which means a small out-

We understand that the commissioners of Cumberland are ready to THE CONFEDERATE VETERANS. Beeves' bridge if the commissioners of Harnett will improve the road run-The Reunion of the Confederate ning through the Bunnlevel section. Veterans of North Carolina is being This is a good farming section and held at Rocky Mount this year, and the people living in it would like to four hundred of the old heroes are come to Fayetteville to do business, in attendance. No repnion was held but under present conditions, in orlast year, on account of conditions der to travel to this city over a good brought about by the great world war. highway, they must make a detour of General James I. Metts of Wilming some distance by way of Linden ton, who is commander-in-chief of the Bunnlevel, until a few years ago, was tributury to Fayetteville, and would be so now if a little bit of road building or road improvement were done, We would suggest that the commissioners of Cumberland build or improve the piece of road to Reeves' crowded the Veterans to the rear, and bridge without waiting for action by the public seems to have lost sight the commissioners of Harnett. If there of them , but they have an abiding should do so, it is more than likely

tion would create a sentiment that tunity to connect (by the shortest the most important business center

Let the commissioners of Cumberland and Harnett get busy and put Bunnlevel on the map.

THE OUTLOOK IS BETTER

The news from Washington today puts a better aspect on the strike tuation. The Repul olican majority in Congress being either afraid 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, My. Wilson has gone to work promptly and taken hold of the right end of the proposi-tion. He says: "The chief obstact to a decision has been created by the man themselves. They have gone out on a strike and repudlated the authority of their officers at the very mut when they were urging action in pagard to their interests, * * * country by emigrants returning to the and until the employee returns to work old Country, it is a safe bet that the and again rengates the subscript of

Immediately following the President's utterance, Railroad Director little benefit to the country; he spends the Labor Union heads as follows:

englose a letter which I have caived from the President relative to the wage matter. It is obvious that it is of the highest importance, not only in the interest of the public, but the interest of the employes themselves that they shall immediately return to work. The situation hav ing been clarified by the definite indication that Congress does not wish to take action in the premises, the Railroad Administration stands ready to take up the wage question on its merits with the tee as soon as the employes return

So it would seem that as soon as he President took hold of the mater the situation was changed, and the strikers, instead of being on the offensive, have been put on the defensive. They have been told firmly that they are in the wrong, and until they return to work nothing will be done. We rather think the workingmen have bungled things in the present strike. They had become heady and opinionated, imagining that they only had to DEMAND this and that, and this and that would be done. And even yet the striking shopmen are heady, for we hear that the executive council of that organization has advised the strikers to disregard news from Washington and remain on strike them unhealthy, undeveloped little the state commission. until their demands for increased specimens of humanity. Unhappily Before determining the question, wages were granted.

Really, there seems to be warring actions in the brotherhood; one faction contends that the men have struck without authority, while another faction advises them to stay on strike until their demands are granted. "A house divided against itself cannot stand." It is possible that the brotherhoods have grown unwieldy and unmanageable, and that the result will be a split up which will prove disastrons to the unions while it is beneficial to the country at large.

THE CHICAGO TROUBLE.

It seems that trouble in Chicago is not yes ended, Friday 33,000 employes in the stockyard plants went out on strike until the state troops troops is given as the reason for the strike, but it was precipitated by the 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. Many of the negroes are non-tiftion. Mr. Stone, one of the labor lead-

ers, says that labor in the past has been controlled by an autocracy of capital, but in this case of refusal to work with non-union men it seems that capital is controlled by an autocappealed to the working classes to think and get like Americans. Is there anything American in refusing to work with men simply because they do not belong to a union? There is great need at this time for two things: the jewel of consistency and the practice of the Golden Rule. In the meantime the scheming of politicians, the greed of profiteers and the unreasonableness of labor are bringing about a deplorable state of affairs.

FLORIDA TO TACKLE HIGH COST OF LIVING

Talishassee, Fla., Aug. 7.—Governor Easts today issued a proclamation for mass meeting to be held in Jackson ville 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. Incldentally, he asks that each church appoint 100 extra delegates to the meeting.

The proclamation sets aside next Sunday as a day of prayer in all churches "for relief from strikes, disagreements, dissatisfaction and the high cost of living and for furtherance of the Jacksonville gathering.

CHILD LABOR.

ast Legislature. The pronouncement is good." 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 officers, ministers, educators, social workers and thinkers, and public generally to the fact that the Legislature inended this act to be a measure for child welfare, and to solicit aid and co-operation of all in securing the benefit and purpose in-To this end it is necessary to make every possible effort ome condition of environment for children while not in school or employed. Such environment must depend upon better home influences, more practical parental thought and pare, and more public co-operation in the way of playgrounds and other wholesome recreation. It is

still True that "an idle brain is the dayll's workshop," and juvenile delinquency arises in nearly all cases from idleness or lack of proper direction of youthful en-

It is encouraging to note in have a true conception of the aims commission to modify the same. and purposes of the child labor bill ment.

that the mill operators are showing age certainly should not be allowed to a willingness, yea an anxiety, to ad-run the dangers of association inhervance the spiritual, moral and physi- ent in employment in public places. cal welfare of the children. This is plainly shown in the community welfare work in practically all of the mill mentioned in section five, for more villages in the State. This community welfare work, it must be borne in mind, is for the benefit of adults and children alike, and has a tendency to develop and quicken in the breasts of the parents and other adults of mill community interest in the welfare of the children. We have heard much of the grind-

ing process in the mill villages, where children of tender age were forced to slave in the mills, thus making public welfare on blanks furnished by years, for such complaint, at least to welfare, may if he deem it necessary some degree, but conditions have been greatly improved, and, so far child by the public health officer or as our observation goes, the mill own- other practising physician. ers and mill managers are as jealous the philanthropists and reformers, and 14 years of age, may be employgraceful, lissome and well developed as those of other communities, and the mill village boys can jump as high run as fast, swim as far as can town, city or country boys.

We are in favor of a child labor bill, because it is a bill framed in the interest of the children, and the children are the hope of the country, but we feel confident that with each comand police guards are removed from ing year it will be easier to enforce the yards. At least the presence of the provisions of a child labor bill. Why do we make such a statement? For the simple reason that mill own ers and operators have broader views ers. Advices from Chicago state that and higher ideals than have heretomission.

PATRIOTIC ACTION.

The Associated Press on Tuesday

Raleigh N C Aug 12.-The State Federation of Labor in convention here today adopted a resolution endorsing the League of Nations Covenant. As originally adopted, the resolution included the words "without reservation." These were eliminated by a vote of the delegates.

Another resolution seeking endorsement of the national suffragist movement was deferred for consideration until the night session, and the suffragists of the community were extended an invitation to attend the meeting to hear any discussion that may

This action as to the League of Naions by the State Federation of Labor stamps that body as patriotic and alive to duty to their country and the recently freed peoples of rope. The kindly feeling exhibited for the suffragists likewise showed in recent sessions.

Of course the workingmen, like all other human beings, are liable to err, trolling sections of the child labor law and we honestly believe that they are to be administered under the rules, wrong in their strike movement and their clamor for tripartite control of the railroads, but generally speaking they are all-American in their impulses and acts, and can almost always be depended on to do the right thing in the end. And after all there is some excuse for he visionary ideas and proneness to extremes on the part of the workingmen at present. The slogan of "World-wide democracy" is right and proper per se, but in the hurly burly and excitement of war times, it has been somewhat distorted, and the step from democracy to sovietism has been easy. Bearing The State Child Labor Welfare in mind this fact, it so much the more Commission has announced its rulings behooves the workingman to "prove as to the new child labor act of the all things and hold fast to that which mitted to work, at night in any of the

CHILD LABOR

STATE WELFARE COMMISSION MAKES MODIFICATIONS IN ACT OF LAST LEGISLATURE-SETS FORTH RULES PRESCRIBED UN-DER NEW LAW.

(Charlotte Observer.) Raleigh, Aug. 8.-The state child welfare commission announced this evening its ruling as to provisions of

No child of any age under 16 years shall be permitted to work in any of the occupations mentioned in section five, before 6 o'clock in the morning or after 9 o'clock at night. This ruling is made mandatory by section six, above that the Commission seems to an the law gives no discretion to the

No girl under 14 years of age shall and of the issues involved in both the be permitted to work in any of the proper regard for and care of the chil- occupations mentioned in section five. dren and in their neglect or mistreat- the reason for this is that, if the wamanhood of the state is to be properly It is likewise encouraging to feel conserved in the future girls of tender

No child under 14 years of age shall be employed in any of the occupations than eight hours in any one day.

Boys between 12 and 14 years of age may be employed in the enumerated occupations when the public school is not in session, when it is shown to the county superintendent of public welfare that the proposed employment is not to the injury of the health or morals of the child. But in no case shall such employment be legal until a certificate has been issued by the county superintendent of

we fear there was ground, in former the county superintendent of public require a physical examination of the

During the time that the public of the welfare of the children as are school is in session, boys between 12 The forms of the mill village Camp ed on Saturday and out of school Fire girls and other maidens are as hours on the same conditions as above provided that such employment does not interfere with their school work where school officials have provided for what is known as continuation schools and where arrangement has been made to make the outside employment a unit of the school work. Boys, of this age, may be in specific cases allowed to be occupied in employment during school hours for a imited time, at the discretion of the

superintendent of the school. Employments Not Prohibited,

"It is to be noted that the law-does not prohibit the employment of children in occupations other than these enumerated in section 5, such as farmfore prevailed, while there is fast ing and domestic employment. It is coming a realization of the fact that assumed, also, that it does not affect it actually pays in dollars and cents children who are kept by their parto uphold the efforts of such organiza- ents under their direct personal contions as the State Child Welfare Com- trol 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.

General Purposes.

"The commission feels that it should call the attention of parents. public officers, ministers, educators, social workers and thinkers, and the 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 provide wholesome condition of environ ment for children while not in school or employed, such environment must depend upon better home influences. more parental thought and care, and more public co-operation in the way of playgrounds and other wholesome recreation. It is still true that an a idle brain is the devils workshop and good spirit and was in sharp contrast juvenile delinquency arises in nearly to the spirit shown by our legislators all cases from idleness or lack of proper direction of youthful energy.

"The commission quotes the conurging publication therewith, as fol-

Section 5-"No child under the age of 14 years shall be employed or permitted to work in or about or in connection with any mill, factory, cannery, work shop, manufacturing establishment, laundry, bakery, mercantile establishment, office, hotel, restaurant, barber shop, bootblack stand public stable, garage, place of amusement, brick yard, lumber yard or any messenger or delivery service, except in cases and under regulations prescribed by the commission hereinafter created."

"Section 6-No person under 16 years of age shall be employed or perplaces or occupations referred to in section five of this act, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the afternoon and 6 o'clock in the morning, and no person under 16 years of age shall be employed or permitted to work in or about or in connection with any quarry or mine."

Syndey, Australia-"It would be crass stupidity on the part of the British people to relinquish any sea power they possess," recently declared Acting Naval Minister Poynton. "Situated as Britain is with all the the new child labor act of the last trade routes converging on one point legislature making few modifications -London-it is absolutely necessary in the stringent provisions laid down that she should have sufficient ships in the law. The rules prescribed fol- in her fleet to keep those trade routes open."