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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1928

RIGHT, BOY, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.

In last Sunday's Charlotte News there was a double column head on the front page reading like this: "TEXTILE MANUFACTURE CLOUDED WITH GLOOM AND UNCERTAINTY."

Then over on another page in the same issue appeared this heading: "MILL STOCKS ARE STRONGER. 25 MILLS SHOW NET ADVANCE OF 24 POINTS DURING THE WEEK."

The article under the first heading was a statement from Secretary Hunter Marshall, Jr. That under the second heading was a dispatch from Gastonia.

One or the other statement is right. And it is equally certain that the other statement is wrong.

If the textile manufacturing business is clouded with gloom and uncertainty, it stands to reason, then, that mill stocks are not advancing in price. Hard-headed business men of Piedmont Carolina are not buying stocks, at an advanced price, in an industry that is clouded with gloom and uncertainty.

No doubt both authors of the statements published in the Sunday News are confident they have the situation well analyzed, yet both cannot be right. One is optimistic; the other pessimistic. Mr. Marshall was especially pessimistic in his statement on the future condition of the industry. He saw one bright light in the situation, however, and that was the thorough understanding and co-operation of the textile workers. They're fine, Mr. Marshall says, in that they ask not the unreasonable of their employers.

Mr. Marshall goes further, and comments on the fact that "the workers and the employers are of the same blood," etc. That may be true, but if it is this same blood is not receiving the same kind of nutrition.

If Mr. Marshall will go with this writer, and talk with some of these workers in whose veins the same blood flows as that which flows through the veins of the employers, and advise them how to best live on \$11 a week he will be doing the workers a great favor.

THE BROCKMANNS.

About one year ago the city was suffering from the big fire that occurred on South Tryon street. At that time The Herald predicted that upon the ruins there would appear more magnificent buildings. This prediction has proven true. Among the business houses that suffered from that fire was Brockmann's Book Store. Business was going nicely for the three Brockmann boys. There are three of them, young, energetic and full of life. They knew not the extent of their own capabilities, for the test had never been put upon them.

The fire came, and they looked upon the pile of ashes, the wreck, ruin and havoc wrought by fire. No moments were spent in idle regret. No troubled furrows were noticeable upon the brows of these boys. They simply went to work, and youth and energy had full play.

This week the people of Charlotte are paying tribute to the worth of these three young men. A handsome new building now stands upon the ruins of a year ago. The building is stocked, completely, and is many times larger than the stock carried before the fire.

There is a great lesson in this for all people. Let not misfortune dampen one's enthusiasm. What the Brockmanns have done, any one can do, providing they have the grit, the determination, the willingness to work, that the Brockmanns have.

Israel Zangwill, coming to America tells us all about everything, says we have here a vulgar country where everything is anything but what it should be. Oh, well, Israel. If that's the way you feel, we're sorry you came and don't stub your toe on the gang plank. Last winter we had shoals of European lecturers and writers and highbrows of various kinds coming over to tell us their secrets, at so much per tell. This year's tide has already set in and another flood seems to be on the way. It we don't entirely succeed in putting ourselves in rapport with the thoughts of our visitors, of course we will find it agreeable to shell out the price of admission tickets—and perhaps that's what they're here for anyway. Who knows?

Congress is in session. The welkin rings. The Congressional Record comes out as of yore. Palaver proceeds piously. It is all interesting. One thing that remains to be seen, as always, is whether congressmen will talk and act now in accordance with their proclamations of campaign days. Immigration will be one of the first big issues to the front. Cheap and foolish employers want immigration. Congress may try tricks with immigration, seeking to tack impossible provisions onto the measure. It will be a very good thing for the American people to keep in close touch with their congressmen during this session, writing personal letters in clear, unmistakable language.

The Revolutionary Internationalism of the British Labor Party.

BY WILLIAM ENGLISH WALLING

PARTIAL and incomplete reports did not reveal the full significance of what took place last summer at the International Socialist Congress at Hamburg.

The British Socialist and Labor Party intellectuals and revolutionary pacifists are driving the whole European labor movement to the left. Kautsky, speaking for the German Socialists, reminded to the British (in their own magazine) that hitherto the international had always "recognized the right of every nation to self-determination" and "its right to defend itself against violence." But the British Party first went on record in its own Congress for the international strike against "any war entered into by any government, whatever the ostensible object of the war"—and then, at Hamburg, swung the whole international to its view.

The foundation of the new Socialist and Labor International, reorganized at Hamburg last May and officered and led by the British, were laid to the international pacifist congress held at the Hague in December, 1922, under the auspices of the International Federation of Trade Unions—the Socialists' "economic international." This Congress included also the political Socialist and Labor Parties, the revolutionary non-Socialist pacifists, and even representatives of the Soviets, camouflaged as trade unionists.

The Hague Congress, led by the British intellectuals, endorsed the proposed international insurrection known as the international general strike, as it had already been organized by the International Federation of Trade Unions. Mild criticisms offered by a few British Trade Union leaders like Henderson and the bitter protests of Jouhaux, the French labor union leader, and of Vandervelde of Belgium against using the insurrection strike against defensive war was brushed aside.

The very invitations to the reorganized Socialist and Labor International that followed six months later at Hamburg were based upon the acceptance of this resolution of "The Hague World Peace Conference"—so that all discussion of the revolutionary foundation of this international was outlawed and is outlawed from now on!

From the setting up of an international body to execute these plans for revolution against all governments, it was but a short step for Hamburg to endorse the Socialist and Labor International with an authority higher than that of any government and to declare that "IN CONFLICTS BETWEEN NATIONS THE INTERNATIONAL SHALL BE RECOGNIZED AS THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY" and that every one of its resolutions accepted as a self-imposed limitation on the autonomy of affiliated organizations!"

The British intellectuals have thus achieved more for revolutionary internationalism in the first year of their preponderance than the German Left Wing—restrained by the far greater power of the labor unions in the German government—had been able to achieve in half a century! What they have done is not only to endorse an international revolution under certain contingencies, but to lay down the foundations of an international revolutionary super-State.

WHAT IF IT WERE YOUR WIFE?

Those people who are rejoicing over the coming into North Carolina of the New England manufacturers would do well to take the matter home with them, and study this thing from a close, personal viewpoint.

The chief reason given for the South's advantage over New England in textile manufacturing, is that of "restrictive legislation" in New England.

What is that "restrictive legislation?" It is the 48-hour week for the women and children in the textile industry.

Then the South's great advantage over New England is that the South has no "restrictive legislation" like the 48-hour week for women and children!

In other words, it is because women and children in this Southland of ours can be worked just any old number of hours that gives the South an "advantage" over the New England states!

What an advantage to boast about! Such a source of pride—Great God of the Universe!

Is the South to boast of its "advantages" over New England, simply because the mothers of the South and their offspring can be worked longer hours per week than the New England states will allow their women and children to work?

Ah, you who boast about this thing—take it home with you. Suppose it were YOUR wife, or YOUR mother, in the textile industry, and it was HER labor, the fact that SHE could be worked 55 and 60 hours each week, and longer, and you should read about the South's "advantages" over New England, and that "advantage" existed because YOUR mother or YOUR wife did not have the protection of the "restrictive" legislation that protects the women of New England, would YOU enjoy reading about these "advantages?"

Let capital come to North Carolina—all that will come. But let's tell the truth about the matter. Let's be honest with ourselves and with the world. Let's state plainly that there is no 48-hour law in North Carolina for the women and children in the industries; and that there'll never be one just so long as the cotton mill owners can keep their own stockholders and their own-paid lawyers in the legislature, as they have done in the past. Let's say to the New England manufacturers: "Come on. Sell out up there, where you are hounded with "restrictive laws" that keep you from working the women and children over 48 hours a week. Come on down here, where you can work our women and children 55 to 60 hours a week, and then run right through the dinner hour, too, and make even more than 60 hours a week, if you want to. Come on, you're safe, for we're not going to have that old 48-hour law, for we have our own stockholders and our own paid attorneys in the legislature, and there is no danger of "restrictive legislation" being enacted here!"

O Lord God of Justice and Right, arouse our people to a sense of their duty to the women and children in our industries. God forbid that our leading newspapers should any longer camouflage this question.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WONDERFUL RECORD OF BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEERS.

Editor, The Herald:

On Sunday, December 2nd, meetings were held throughout the United States and Canada celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers. On December 1, 1878, eleven locomotive firemen in the service of the Erie Railroad met in Port Jervis, New York, and under the leadership of Joshua A. Leach, started this great organization in his career of service to humanity.

The Brotherhood now has a membership of 118,000, who are enrolled under the banner of "Protection, Charity, Sobriety, and Industry," the motto of the organization since its beginning. Through the beneficiary department there has been paid in death and disability claims to the members and their dependents more than thirty million dollars. The order has in force \$150,000,000 in insurance, and its total assets are \$11,438,037.78. In recent years there has been established a Pension, Accident Indemnity, and Funeral Benefit departments to further aid the membership.

To the locomotive firemen and engine hostlers this great institution has meant reduction of working hours, increase of wages, the dignifying of their toil, and improved conditions of health and home. It has steadfastly advocated a saving wage, because a saving wage means a comfortable home, educated children, self-respect and good citizenship.

Through its National Legislative Department, in conjunction with other organizations of labor, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, has advocated legislation of benefit to all the people. An investigation of such legislation will show an unselfish purpose in view. It will show that in practically all instances public safety, education and health are the controlling idea and purpose of their legislative measures. All bills considered by congress to improve health conditions and the extension of educational opportunities in the public free schools have had their health support. The Federal Safety Appliance Law, that places air brakes and all other safety appliance on railroad trains, was obtained by these organizations after ten years of struggle and sacrifice. Its approval is said to have been the last official act of President Harrison.

In Texas these organizations, through their state legislative departments, have sponsored many laws that merit commendation by the general public. They championed the first Child Labor Law of Texas, enacted in 1903, and introduced by Representative Callan, a union printer. Among those measures receiving their effective support are: Compulsory School Attendance Law; Free Text Book Law; Nine Fifty-four Hour Law for the protection of women workers; Law Requiring Electric Headlights on Locomotives; Law requiring two outlets to mines; Health, Safety and Comfort Law for female employees; Law requiring railroads to maintain signal lights on all main line switches at night, and provide derail switches on all main line sidings; Law creating the State Department of Labor; Law to protect workmen on high buildings from falling great distances and numerous others of like character.

Through the kindness of the editor of this publication the above facts are given publicity as a tribute to the thousands of patriotic men and women who belong to these organizations, and who have performed these unselfish and righteous deeds.

Respectfully, JOSEPH A. MYERS, Commissioner of Labor of Texas. Austin, Texas.

FROM PENS OF OTHERS

DON'T WORRY ABOUT NEW PARTIES. (Labor.)

A great many well-meaning men and women are busily engaged formulating plans for new political parties. We always have manifestations of that kind about twelve months in advance of a presidential contest. Some of the movements die before their names can be inscribed on the ballots in November. Others are more fortunate, but few have any importance bearing on presidential elections.

As a rule, the interests which make a business of controlling government encourage these movements, because they have a tendency to divide the opposition. It is significant, however, that these same interests leave no stone unturned to place their favorite candidates on the ticket of the major parties, THEY WANT RESULTS, and they do not permit sentiment to sway their judgment. LABOR feels that the workers can very well afford, in this instance, to follow the tactics of the opposition.

The workers should not "belong" to any political party. They should judge all parties and all candidates by the principles they advocate and the records they have made.

Instead of wasting time organizing new parties they should bestir themselves and endeavor to control the parties already in existence.

As LABOR has repeatedly pointed out, the primary is the instrument through which this result can be achieved. The American workers are fortunate in having that great weapon of democracy.

In other countries political parties are the private possessions of comparatively limited groups. The state does not attempt to interfere in their control.

THIS IS THE ONLY COUNTRY WHERE LAWS HAVE BEEN ENACTED GIVING THE VOTERS THE RIGHT TO NAME THE CANDIDATES OF ALL PARTIES. Naturally, the politicians do not like the system, but that is only another reason why the people, and especially the workers, should take advantage of it.

It may be that in 1924 both old parties will select reactionaries as their standard bearers. IN THAT EVENT A GREAT NEW PARTY WILL BE ORGANIZED OVER NIGHT.

In the judgment of LABOR, however this is not the time to organize that party. The workers should concentrate their efforts on plans to put forward candidates on one, or both, of the old party tickets in all states which have genuine primary laws. If they fail in the primaries they will have plenty of time to consider their party action.

That these suggestions are sound was amply demonstrated in last fall's political contest, when the workers achieved unprecedented successes by ignoring partisan appeals and voting for progressives without regard to party affiliations.

The tactics which won in 1922 will be equally successful in 1924 if the workers will only insist that they "belong" to no party, but that they are prepared to assist in making all parties "belong" to the people.

The Case of Craig; Little Autocrats Are No More American Than A Big Autocrat on a Throne

CHARLES CRAIG, New York City comptroller, was sentenced to sixty days in jail for contempt of court. Craig had said things that the judge construed as contempt. The supreme court has upheld the conviction.

President Coolidge may pardon Craig, but that doesn't wipe out what the courts have done.

Craig is a high official with many friends and these friends are making an issue of the case. Many wage earners have been less fortunate. But if contempt of court can be walloped, let it not matter who does the walloping.

Contempt, in most cases, is what a judge calls any remark that he doesn't like. In contempt cases the judge proceeds to call before him the accused person, to try him forthwith and to pronounce sentence.

There is nothing like it. The judge is

the complainant, the prosecutor, the jury and the judge. He is the whole works. The judge who sentenced Craig might call the publication of these words contempt. It has been done. But there is in America a freedom of speech and of the press that somehow has got to be upheld.

The Craig case has kicked up resentment in high circles. It ought to be re-settled. We have no czars in America and we can't afford to have judges who act like czars and do the things that czars do—and for which czars have been thrown in the discard.

A pardon for Craig will help Craig and it will to some extent rebuke the court. But what we need is a thorough revision of the whole law governing contempt. We need something that will put little judges in their proper places, that will prevent the upgrowth of little tyrants, that will know the real difference between America and Russia.

VICTORY FOR PRINTERS HERE

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 5.—Generally prosperous conditions in the printing industry throughout the United States and Canada have contributed to a reduction in the number of union printers drawing strike benefits in the strike for the 44-hour working week in commercial printing shops, according to a statement issued by Charles P. Howard, acting president of the International Typographical Union.

The strike has been proceeding for thirty months and 1,845 members drew benefits in the last month, a decrease of 111 from the preceding month. Shops located in 66 cities are still affected by the strike. The sum of \$16,228,922.81 has been collected for purposes of the strike since May 20, 1921.

In the past month strike rolls have been discontinued in a number of jurisdictions by order of the executive council, the union statement said. "It must be recognized that no organization has ever attempted the payment of such high benefits for such a long period. Generally speaking business conditions are good and those removed from the strike rolls should have but little difficulty in finding employment in the industry. In all but a few jurisdictions there is a smaller number of members unemployed than is usually the case."

No Need To Fuss About It

If you bought a car that had been used, and it was purchased from some one who had not told you the whole truth about it, and the thing will not run for love nor money nor with gasoline or kerosene, there's nothing to gain by losing your temper and fussing about it.

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