

The Union Herald

Endorsed by Organized Labor and Wake County Farmers' Union.

VOL. III.

RALEIGH, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1919.

NO. 16

According to Solicitor Brock, Badin a Heaven; Its Managers Angels

We want to ask the solicitor, who is ex-secretary of the State Democratic Executive Committee, in whose district Badin is situated—

1. If he is not expecting certain influence to land the Badin vote for him in the next election?

2. If the owners of Badin pays its police force?

3. If he knows that Badin, a town of about 5,000 inhabitants, is not incorporated, and that the owners, through their managers, are a law unto themselves?

4. If he said that "the only way to get work out of a North Carolina nigger was with a club"?

5. If he told the white man, who was clubbed with a pick handle and under duress agreed to accept \$100 from the company if he would not sue, and paid \$50 of it, that if he accepted the other \$50 he would prosecute him for compounding a felony?

6. If he has, or is he going to prosecute the man that was the other party to the compromise and paid the \$50, for being a party in compounding this felony?

7. If he knows that prostitutes are kept and furnished by the company for use of the negro laborers?

This is only a beginning, Mr. Solicitor, and from time to time we are going to ask many more. THE END IS FAR FROM BEING IN SIGHT.

Read this gratuitous statement of the solicitor. It is great evidence:

"I learned during my investigation of the matter, NOT AT THE HEARING, WHERE THE EVIDENCE WAS TAKEN, BUT FROM OTHER SOURCES, that Mr. Gobie, during his efforts to organize the union at Badin, and while soliciting members, told certain of the employees who did not care to join that they had better join, because if they didn't they would be driven out of the employment as soon as three-fourths of the employees at Badin should become members of the union." I DO NOT KNOW HOW TRUE THIS IS, BUT IT IS ONLY ONE OF THE VARIOUS PARTICLES OF INFORMATION GIVEN ME."

DID THE BOSSES TELL YOU THIS?

Here is another "bird of fine plumage":

"OF COURSE, IT MAY BE TRUE THAT SOME OF THOSE WHO JOINED HIS UNION WERE DISCHARGED; but if they were, this is no violation of the law in North Carolina, for it is a well settled rule in this jurisdiction that an employer has a right to employ whomsoever he pleases for such time as he sees fit, and for such wages as may be agreed upon between the parties, and he has a perfect right at any time to dismiss the employee for such cause as he may see fit."

Read the solicitor's own statements, and if you reach the conclusion that there has been a fair investigation, you should at once make a liberal donation to the School for Feeble-minded.

Building Trades of Atlanta Secure Forty-four Hour Week

Seven Thousand Building Trades Mechanics Are Benefitted by Agreement With Employing Contractors.

Atlanta, Ga.—Mr. A. McElroy, president of the Building Trades Council of this city, has announced that an agreement has been entered into by the most prominent building contractors and the unions comprising the Building Trades Council of Atlanta by which the workmen, about seven thousand, will hereafter work only forty-four hours per week, also securing a substantial increase in wages. The agreement will be in effect until May 1, 1920.

"We want to see the building campaign which is sweeping Atlanta continue," said Mr. McElroy, "and feel that a definite agreement between contractors and union workmen will be of mutual service."

Mr. McElroy stated that it was expected in the near future other contractors and subcontractors would also come into the agreement, and that the building work would continue under the most harmonious relations.

"We want the public to know," continued Mr. McElroy, "that these 7,000 union workmen are willing to meet their employers more than half

way, and we feel that our action will be accepted by them as a token of our willingness to do everything in our power to help meet the serious building situation which is facing Atlanta."

The following scale of wages was made public by Mr. McElroy as having been agreed upon to continue until May 1, 1920:

Bricklayers, until September, 70 cents per hour; to May 1, 1920, 90 cents per hour.

Carpenters, until August, 60 cents per hour; to May 1, 1920, 75 cents per hour.

Electricians, 75 cents per hour.

Elevator constructors, 80 cents per hour.

Lathers, 75 cents per hour, or 60 cents per yard.

Sheet metal workers, 60 cents to 80 cents per hour.

Painters, 60 cents to 75 cents per hour.

Plasterers, until October, 60 cents per hour; 9 hours per day; to May 1, 1920, 70 cents per hour.

Stemfitters, 75 cents per hour.

Stonecutters, 75 cents per hour.

GOVERNMENT CAN CURB THE BIG PROFITEERS WHEN IT WANTS TO

On May 20th, President Wilson said to the Senate:

"The question which stands to the front of all others in every country is, How are the men and women who do the daily labor of the world to obtain progressive improvement in the conditions of their labor, to be made happier and to be served better by the communities and the industries which their industry sustains and advances?"

That is still the foremost question. But the one thing above others that gives it acute emphasis now is the growing cost of living, which outpaces the raises in pay.

What good does a raise in pay produce if raises in prices take it all away?

The workers in most communities are becoming wearied of this circular trail which leaves them at each month's end worse off and more troubled than when that month began.

No sane man wants to live like a jackass on a treadmill, always running, but never getting ahead.

Closest students of economics will tell you that a thousand factors cause this high cost of the necessities of life and will dizzy you with a list of them if you have the patience to listen.

But the average worker is most impressed with the ONE OBVIOUS CAUSE—flagrant profiteering.

He sees a privileged few growing rich fast, and he asks why government does not stop it.

If you tell him that government can't, he will not believe you.

And he is right in not believing you, for much of this criminal profiteering CAN be stopped whenever governments sets its mind to stop it.

The King of Italy has decreed that convicted Italian food profiteers shall lose their goods by confiscation, be fined \$2,000 and spend three months to three years in jail.

Because conditions in Italy are so disturbed that this decree of the King has behind it the threat of utter revolution, profiteering in Italy HAS been checked and prices HAVE come down.

The drop in Italian food prices in many places has exceeded 50 per cent.

In France, where it takes \$17 to buy now what \$5 would have bought early in 1914, action as drastic as that of the King of Italy is expected soon. It is necessary to forestall mob violence.

These, to be sure, are extreme situations, so desperate that government has to move swiftly and radically or be overthrown.

But an example nearer home shows what can be done under American institutions when officials holding public power use it for the people rather than for the interests.

In Boston, on July 9th, F. Monroe Dyer, of New York, president; Ernest A. James, treasurer; John Burns, Jr., manager, and Joshua Paine and Joseph A. Rich, directors of the Bay State Fishing Company, were sentenced to pay fines of \$1,000 each and serve a year in jail, while twelve other men connected with subsidiary or associated firms of fish dealers were given sentences of six months each, with \$500 fines.

These men organized a trust in the marketing of fish, filled its capitalization almost as full of water as the sea, forced low the prices at which they bought fish of the humble men who catch them, and high the prices at which the public had to buy.

They were enabled to perfect this monopoly because the State of Massachusetts had built at great cost and leased to them at low rental a pier which centered the wholesaling of fish in their hands. There was no other place where fishing schooners could clear.

Now, if this had been a milk trust, or a beef trust, the one in collusion with farmers, the other helped by high finance, it might have made great profits and escaped all penalties save an occasional tongue-lashing around election time.

It happened, however, to be a trust with no backing at all save its own greed and with no social standing.

Massachusetts also happened to have an Attorney General who was willing to fight its lawlessness.

First, a legislative committee, prodded by the Hearst newspapers in Boston, probed it, confirming the published reports of its rapacity.

Then this determined Attorney General brought its organizers, directors and associate thieves before a jury. Public opinion did the rest.

The Massachusetts way can be made the national way with scores of big profiteers whenever enough voters join in a real movement to put in office men like those Boston legislators who forced the fish probe and that Attorney General who carried the evidence into court.

Our Government will move as radically as the Government of Italy is moving when the people who want action vote for it and KEEP THEIR EYES ON THEIR OFFICIAL GENTS.

Perhaps that is why the Brotherhoods of Firemen and Engineers, at their annual convention in Denver, have just voted to co-operate with the three other railway brotherhoods in the creation of a National Labor Party.

The workers of America have the power by political action to make profiteering unfashionable. Profiteering will become unfashionable the moment a few big profiteers are landed in jail.

When the workers of America decide to use their power as the workers of England are using similar power, we may expect to see interesting results.—New York Times.

NEW VOCATIONAL SUPERVISOR IN HOME ECONOMICS SECURED.

Miss Edna F. Coith, at present head of the Department of Household Science at Winthrop College, South Carolina, has been elected as State Supervisor of Vocational Home Economics by the State Board for Vocational Education.

Miss Coith is a graduate of the Illinois State Normal School, the Kansas State College at Manhattan, and has had considerable experience in high school teaching, as well as housekeeping on the farm. For three years she was assistant in the Home Economics Department at the Illinois State Normal, where she had charge of practice teaching and the lunch room work of that institution. She has been at Winthrop College since 1917.

According to Mr. T. E. Browne, Director of Vocational Education for the State Board, Miss Coith is one of the most efficient women that could be secured for the important place she will fill, and he feels that she will overcome the serious handicap under which the board has been put previous to this time in not having a trained woman to closely supervise the teaching of domestic science and art in the secondary schools.

Organized Labor Goes After Crooked Wilmington Politicians

Petition for Recall of City Commissioners Signed by 350 More Than the Required Number.

(Special to The Union Herald.)

Wilmington, N. C., July 23.—The petitions which have been in circulation for the past two weeks, in the hands of a committee composed of five representatives of Wilmington Trades Council and five representative citizens, were presented to the city clerk and treasurer at Monday night's session of City Council. The petition is signed by 1,055 of the best citizens, who represent every element, and the committee having checked the names of the signers with the registration books of the recent election, there is very little chance for the erasure of names of petitioners.

The petitions carry about 350 names more than the necessary numbers to assure the recall.

The demagogues who are responsible for the conditions that made the recall necessary are now fighting the air and all sorts of reasons are being advanced by their emissaries that might stall the recall movement.

It is expected that the petitions will be checked up and ready to be acted on at Monday night's session of Council.

As your correspondent sees things, there is no possible chance for the demagogues who betrayed Organized Labor to escape recall.

COLONEL ANSELL TO RESIGN.

(Army and Navy Journal.)

Lieut. Col. Samuel T. Ansell, J. A. G. Dept., U. S. A., former Acting Judge Advocate General of the Army, made the statement on July 14th that he had determined to resign his commission in the army and fight for the reform of the courts-martial system as a civilian. While he would not state what caused his determination to leave the service at this time, it is known that he considered that the disapproval by Secretary Baker of his recommendation that the case of every prisoner serving sentence imposed by G. C. M. be sent to the Clemency Board, of which he is president, was an indication that his work for reform as an officer of the United States Army was at an end.

His resignation, he stated, would be filed some time this week. In April, 1918, during the absence of Major Gen. Enoch H. Crowder, Judge Advocate General, Colonel (then Brigadier General) Ansell became the center of an interdepartmental storm through his refusal to approve death sentences imposed on four privates in the American Expeditionary Force.

Two of the privates were convicted of sleeping on post, and two of having disobeyed lawful orders of their superiors. Colonel Ansell insisted that the trials of these men were incomplete and incompetent, that the Government had failed to prove a case in each instance, that similar offenses were numerous, but had therefore resulted in sentences of three months imprisonment. He

finally declared his belief that the American private could not hope to obtain justice under existing court-martial procedure. The controversy, which Colonel Ansell has maintained with increasing vigor and has carried by address and the printed word to a large and sympathetic following, is not yet ended. It has resulted in the Chamberlain bill, written by Colonel Ansell, which Senator Chamberlain introduced in the Senate. It was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, which has submitted it to Secretary Baker. Mr. Baker asked that he be allowed to delay giving his view of the measure. Largely due to Colonel Ansell's crusade, Mr. Baker requested a committee of the American Bar Association to examine into military judicial procedure and the volume of testimony from army officers and others taken at the hearings in Washington and Chicago have just come to hand at the War Department.

Colonel Ansell, while maintaining the same attitude today as when called before the committee, in effect that the committee could not fairly reach conclusions which would have weight in the matter of reform, believes that his crusade is hopeless if he continues in the army, and that to do more effective fighting he is compelled to resign his commission. He will become a member of a New York law firm which has an office in Washington.

The union label tends to make strikes unnecessary by making compliance with union conditions an advantage to business.

Riot Troubles at Norfolk Have Subsided

Committee of Colored Citizens Gives Assurance of Maintenance of Order

(Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.)

No untoward incident occurred during the past two days to mar the "welcome home" celebration now running its course in the colored section of the city. The regular number of policemen and 25 marines patrolled the streets from Bute to Queen Streets and at other adjacent points, but nothing happened that was out of the ordinary.

The negroes who were injured by flying bullets during the riotous scenes of Monday night are still confined to the hospital, and the indications are that all will recover eventually, although two of them were very badly wounded.

City Manager Ashburner held a conference with the members of the colored welcome home committee Tuesday afternoon. The situation as it affected the turbulence of Monday evening was gone over. The colored committee informed the city manager that it felt certain that peace and order could be maintained for the remainder of the celebration and disclaimed responsibility for what had occurred. The city manager held the committee to be entirely blameless in the matter. The committee pointed out that the trouble started not in any well-laid plan to create disorder, but as the result of the arrest of one man and the latter's appeals to the disorderly element in the crowds.

Soldiers Held Ready. Three companies of soldiers are held in readiness to respond to a call from city officials at any time. The soldiers were not brought into the city, but are under orders to move at a moment's notice.

It has developed that army base officials had some little difficulty Monday with a small number of colored soldiers who had recently reached here from France and who were being held here pending orders to remove them to their point of demobilization. The men in question had made assertions of an insubordinate nature in an attempt to harangue their companions as they

passed through company streets. There were about 2,500 colored soldiers stationed at the base at the time. The colored troops paid no attention to the speech-makers, who were placed in custody for violation of army regulations. All the colored troops at the army base were entrained Tuesday for Mississippi, where they will be discharged, and the incident ended with their departure.

"It must not be understood," said an army official, "that there was really anything serious in the incident. The bulk of the colored troops are orderly men and well-trained soldiers. Those who attempted to deliver fiery speeches were preaching strange doctrines, that they had absorbed in France, and that the speakers themselves understood only in a vague and misty sort of way. That is all there was to it."

MATTHEW WOLL IS ELECTED AMERICAN ALLIANCE DIRECTOR

(Special to The Union Herald.)

New York, July 22.—Matthew Woll, president of the International Photo Engravers' Union, and vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, has been elected by the executive council to be director of the American Alliance for Labor and Democracy, to succeed Robert Maisel. Mr. Maisel was compelled to resign because of broken health, the result of overwork during the past two years. Chester M. Wright was chosen assistant director.

The Executive Council has filled by appointment three vacancies in the Executive Council, and appointed eight new members, in compliance with the laws of the organization.

Politics is just like a hen when she cackles, you cannot tell whether she has been laying or lying.

The union label commands the respect and protection of the courts and the state.

Norfolk Telephone Operators Demand Increased Pay

Strike Which Took Place Last Monday Not Yet Settled—Strikers Look to Government for Relief.

Norfolk, July 23.—That the strike of 500 operators and electrical workers of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company in Norfolk, which was begun Monday morning, is virtually a race with time, in which the strikers are endeavoring to obtain the intercession of the Postoffice Department before the return of telephones to private ownership August 1st, was announced last night by L. C. Major, business manager for local unions Nos. 621 and 81-A, of which the strikers are members. Mr. Major told a representative of the Virginian-Pilot last night, that Inspector Webb, of the Postoffice Department, was in the city Monday and Tuesday investigating the strike and its cause and merits, and has returned to Washington to report on the situation to the Federal authorities. The strikers, he said, hope the investigation will result in a recommendation for the increase in wages demanded by the workers.

According to Mr. Major, Inspector Webb came to Norfolk at the instance of Assistant Postmaster General Koons. Mr. Major's disclosure brings out the fact that the strike has established a triangle, in which Mr. Major declares considerable "passing of the buck" between the company and Washington is resorted to. He pointed out that the triangle consists of the strikers, the company, and the Federal authorities, but that one corner of the triangle will be lost when the Federal authorities release control on August 1st. The question of wages then will be a matter altogether between the strikers and the company.

The second day of the strike passed quietly, with a demonstration similar to the one staged Monday afternoon repeated yesterday afternoon in front of the company's Plume Street office.

Major's Statement.

"Quite a number of the men shipped in here," Mr. Major stated, after being interviewed by the strikers have pledged themselves to return to the places they came from.

"In a great many cities," said Mr. Major, "where the increased rates have been fixed, the companies have allowed the employees a small advance in pay. However, this has not been done in this district. The increases wherever given seem to have been awarded to avert a nation-wide strike on June 16, which was postponed by Mr. Burleson, who agreed to recognize the privilege of collective bargaining.

He took issue with a statement

made by Mr. Bonney Monday that operators are receiving a maximum wage of \$15.50 a week.

"They are only getting \$13.50," declared Mr. Major.

Company's Statement.

The first official statement of the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company was given out in Baltimore to a representative of the Virginian-Pilot by M. H. Buehler, vice-president and general manager. Mr. Buehler's statement is as follows:

"Last fall our Norfolk employees made a request for a flat 20 per cent increase in compensation. After several conferences an increase of approximately 10 per cent was granted. This increase was made effective the latter part of December, 1918, and is still in effect.

"About a month ago the demands of last fall were renewed with a request for a conference on the subject. This conference was held in Norfolk on July 7, at which time I personally met with a committee of twelve of our Norfolk employees, six being young women and six men.

"It was pointed out that during the past two or three years the expenses of the company had increased so rapidly that the increased revenue from the new rates would not earn its interest charges by \$150,000 per annum, and in addition would earn nothing toward a dividend on its capital stock.

MOONEY SHOULD HAVE NEW TRIAL

Densmore Say Former Trial Was Nothing More Than Makeshift.

Washington, July 23.—Thomas J. Mooney did not receive full justice in his trial at San Francisco for alleged connection with the preparedness day bomb explosion, according to a report of John B. Densmore, former special agent of the Department of Justice, who investigated the case for the government. The report dated November 1, 1918, was submitted to the House today in response to a resolution.

"The plain truth is," the report said, "that there is nothing about the case to produce a feeling of confidence that the dignity and majesty of the law have been upheld.

"There is nowhere anything resembling justice, the effort being a patch-work makeshift and often of desperate expediency.

He took issue with a statement