

## FITZGIBBON ACQUITTED BIG DAY SPOILED ON MURDER CHARGE

### Strike-breaker at Charlotte Given Hearing Tuesday Before a Magistrate

Charlotte, Sept. 3.—After a hearing lasting not more than 30 minutes, Magistrate F. B. Alexander ordered the release from custody of T. J. Fitzgibbon, one of the strikebreakers employed by the Southern Public Utilities Company in the recent trouble in this city, and who was arrested Saturday night charged with the murder of J. Caldwell Houston, Southern Railway engineer who lost his life at the car barn during the riot Monday night.

The hearing was held at 10 o'clock this morning in the magistrate office. Five witnesses were called, all of them State witnesses, and none were cross-examined. They were: E. C. White, James C. Taylor, J. R. Morris, James Dorjan, and Joe Baker. None of them recognized Fitzgibbon as having been among those who were seen with firearms at the car barn.

E. C. White, the first witness, said he did not know J. Caldwell Houston, and stated he was standing between the car barn and the power-house when the first shot was fired, it came from somewhere near the front of the car barn and the crowd ran away from the barn into the street. He said some woman asked why some one did not go and render aid to the two men who were shot, and who were in her house. He went and found one man shot through the hip and one through the shoulder.

James C. Taylor testified that he was standing between the car barn and the power-house when the firing began. He was on the point of going home when the first shot rang out. He thought it came from the front of the barn. He was of the opinion that the first shots were fired over the heads of the people. He fell to the ground to avoid being hit, and when he got up he saw one man lying near and another across the street. He did not know Fitzgibbon. J. R. Morris said he was standing in front of the car barn when John Wilson drove up in a buggy. As he recalled, Wilson shook hands with the chief of police, Walter Orr, and he heard the chief say: "If I had hit your brother, I would tell you." About this time he heard some one in the car barn say: "Stand back or I'll shoot," and a gun went off just a moment afterward. It was in the air, however, he said. He made a distinction between a gun and a pistol.

Morris said that he and Houston Caldwell were standing about five feet apart, and that they both started to run and that a shot seemed to hit Houston in the back of the head, for his hat flew off, but Houston ran on and fell in a ditch near the curbing. Morris said he ran on up the street to the fire station. The same witness testified that he saw Claude Hinson, who was also killed, fall in front of him. Morris also testified that he saw the man who shot Houston, that it was a man standing in front of the car barn with his sleeves rolled up and with a rifle in his hand. He said he had never seen Fitzgibbon before and did not recognize him as being among those at the barn.

Joe Baker, a brother of T. A. Baker, of Villa Heights, who was among the list of injured, said he saw Chief Orr fire his gun into the air. He also testified that his brother was shot in the arm and that he was not armed. He did not recognize Fitzgibbon as among those present at the barn.

F. H. Robbins, who swore out the warrant for the arrest of Fitzgibbon, was not present at the hearing. The failure of Robbins to appear Monday afternoon was one of the reasons for postponement of the hearing until this morning.

Charlotte people are asking if the Greenville strikers and the utilities company could get together, when the differences were exactly the same as those in Charlotte, why could not they get together here? No conditions prevailed in Greenville that did not prevail here. The same company operates both lines. The strike was called in Greenville for the same purpose that it was called here. The situation in detail is the same. The company said in Greenville, as it said here, that its operatives could join any union that they wanted to, but that the company could not negotiate a contract with them as members of some outside organization. That is precisely the attitude taken in Charlotte. The issue of wages and of working hours was the same in both cities.

## IRON MOLDERS' GAIN

Watertown, N. Y.—Striking iron molders employed at the air-brake plant have returned to work. Their rate of \$3.20 for a 10-hour day has been changed to \$4 for eight hours.

## WILMINGTON'S LABOR DAY CELEBRATION AND PARADE POSTPONED UNTIL SATURDAY AFTERNOON

### Strike-breaker at Charlotte Given Hearing Tuesday Before a Magistrate

Wilmington, N. C., Sept. 2.—A steady downpour of rain caused the postponement of Wilmington's Labor Day celebration until Saturday. The parade, a distinct feature of the exercises, will take place at 3 o'clock. Today's rain was a sore disappointment to the various crafts that had gone to no little trouble and expense in preparing their floats, many of which appeared on the streets in spite of the weather, and attracted much attention and favorable comment.

All will be given the opportunity, however, of viewing the parade Saturday afternoon.

Major Moody, of Raleigh, who was to have been the speaker of the day, addressed a small gathering at the court house about noon. He told them labor was gaining strength in the State, and that the effort that was being made in Charlotte and High Point to drive in a wedge with the object of damaging unionism throughout the State was doomed to failure—that it did not have a chance.

Labor is organizing rapidly in the State, he said, and is keeping right on the heels of the organizers. In fact, the men can't work sufficiently fast to keep ahead of the unions that would form.

He was heard with very close attention, and was frequently interrupted with applause by the crowd.

## CHARLOTTE'S INDUSTRIAL WAR

(Asheville Citizen.)

Charlotte street cars yesterday resumed limited schedule and the city was quiet under martial restraint. The appeal to arms, initiated by the strikers, has ended, but the causes of strife are not removed. The industrial battle between employees and employers supported by the law cost Charlotte five lives and eleven wounded, and yet there is no league or understanding which will prevent a recurrence of another fight in the streets with rifles and machine guns.

The strikers' resort to violence was wrong. The company's refusal to recognize the union was wrong; the company's refusal to submit the controversy to a committee was wrong.

The battle of Charlotte was a rebellion against law and order; it was also civil war or revolution. As revolution it is the same violence which man has always used in battling for his rights against autocracy in government.

And in one form or another this sort of warfare will continue until the workers and employers reach a solution based on the understanding that they have a common interest in the service which each renders to the public.

As long as capital assumes the attitude of arrogant feudalism in dealing with labor there will be friction and disorder which will reduce production of commodities or service, and entails suffering on the innocent. As long as labor resorts to violence it will prejudice its cause in the eyes of many who do not understand the rights for which it is struggling.

## INDUSTRY IS MORE DEADLY THAN GASES AND SHRAPNEL

Wilmington, Del., Sept. 2.—Industry is more deadly than modern war, was one of the points made by O. W. Price, general manager of the National Safety Council, in a speech in this city. He said that during the nineteen months of the war, of the 2,000,000 American soldiers who went overseas, 50,150 were killed or died from battle wounds, while at home in industrial life in the same nineteen months 200,000 were injured and 126,654 men, women and children were killed through accidents. He pointed out that every day day of the nineteen months 230 men, women and children were killed by accident in the United States.

## SUSPENSION OF ALL STRIKES URGED TO AID H. C. I. FIGHT

New York, Sept. 3.—Suspension of all strikes throughout the United States and the declaration of a labor truce on the basis of the status quo for six months or more to enable President Wilson to bring about a reduction in the cost of living is recommended in a report of a committee of the New York state federation of labor just made public here.

## TELEPHONE STRIKE ENDS

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 3.—Telephone operators have adjusted their two-months strike against the Bell Telephone Company. Wages of the strike-breakers were raised when the strike started, and now the company is forced to pay the same rate to the union girls.

## RAILROAD BILL FORBIDS STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS

### Cummins Bill Provides for Private Ownership and Rigid Government Control

Washington, Sept. 2.—The senate today received and discussed for several hours a bill outlining a permanent railroad policy as evolved by a bi-partisan interstate commerce sub-committee.

Paramount among the features of the new measure which will be known as the Cummins' bill, Senator Cummins, Republican, Iowa, having acted as chairman of the sub-committee, are provisions for termination of government control of the railroads, their return to private ownership and operation under rigid federal control and consolidation into regional systems, and prohibition of strikes and lockouts of employees. The measure contains none of the fundamentals of the Plumb plan.

Chairman Cummins, in presenting the bill, explained its provisions at length. He, with Senators Robinson, of Arkansas, and Pomerene, of Ohio, Democratic members of the drafting sub-committee, laid special stress on the proposal to penalize strikes and lockouts, declaring the plan, although novel, was necessary to protect the public. The employees, the three senators explained, are protected under the bill by a provision that their wages shall be fixed by government agencies.

The bill, Senator Cummins told the senate, represents months of consideration by the sub-committee. Its keynote, he asserted, is the plan to terminate government control and, with concentration of the nation's railroads into 20 to 35 regional systems, provide strict government supervision of virtually all railway affairs.

Among the new agencies the bill proposes are a railway transportation board, largely to supervise railroad operations, a committee on wages and working conditions and an employees' advisory council. The Interstate Commerce Commission also would be given greatly increased powers and representation on all railroad directors of employees and the government would be required.

## "MOTHER" JONES PREDICTS

At a meeting of steel workers, held at North Clairton, near Pittsburgh, Pa., "Mother" Jones was the principal speaker. In her plea for workers to unite, the veteran trade unionist said: "Kaiser Bill had nothing on the multimillionaire steel barons. His day has come, and their day is coming."

The meeting was not disturbed by public officials, who stopped a meeting Sunday, August 3, last, arrested the organizers and fined them for "disorderly conduct."

Memories of the Homestead strike were recalled when "Mother" Jones attempted to address a mass-meeting of workers at that place. Municipal officials refused to issue a "permit" to hold a meeting in a hall, and "Mother" Jones began speaking on the street from an automobile. Organizer John Brown, who was in the machine, was ordered by the police to "drive on," but Brown refused, and both he and "Mother" Jones were arrested. No charge was placed against them, and they were released on heavy bail. When the accused were arraigned for trial the crowd outside the court-room was so large that the proceedings were postponed, and "Mother" Jones started for Washington to inquire of United States Attorney General Palmer if free speech in western Pennsylvania is a myth.

## WANT STAGE "RESCUED"

New York, Sept. 3.—The Actors' Equity Association, which has tied up the theaters in this city to enforce collective bargaining, is confronted by another organization of actors that has been approved by the managers. Mr. George Cohan, theatrical manager, has been chosen president. Mr. Cohan recently declared that before he would recognize the Actors' Equity Association he would run an elevator. Some infelicitous actor replied that if he did he would have to join the union. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Louis Mann, who had his troubles in maintaining order—and he heard in his several speeches. At the meeting were a large number of the Actors' Equity Association, who performed just like other trade unionists do when a dual organization is being launched to smash their movement. One of the dualists was charged with changing his name and evading army duty during the recent war. Then Mr. Louis Mann made another speech. The dualist pleaded that the "drawnham" be rescued from the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. Mann announced that the new organization would be a "no-strike affair." He said the "union" was founded on "co-operation and fidelity."

## PRESIDENT ISSUES LABOR DAY MESSAGE

### Urges Labor to Have Patience and Co-operate With Government; Praise for Labor Leaders

A Labor Day message from President Wilson, in which he expressed gratification with the manner in which leaders of organized labor had received his plan to meet the wage demand situation, and saying that he hoped the workers would move with the government instead of against it in the solution of this great problem, was read to the members of organized labor throughout the country on last Monday. The message is as follows:

"I am encouraged and gratified by the progress which is being made in controlling the cost of living. The support of the movement is widespread and I confidently look for substantial results, although I must counsel patience as well as vigilance because such will not come instantly or without team work.

"Let me again emphasize my appeal to every citizen of the country to continue to give his personal support in this matter, and to make it as active as possible. Let him not only refrain from doing anything which at the moment will tend to increase the cost of living, but let him do all in his power to increase the production; and further that let him at the same time himself carefully economize in the matter of consumption. By common action in this direction we shall overcome a danger greater than the danger of war. We will hold steady a situation which is fraught with possibilities of hardship and suffering to a large part of our population; we will enable the processes of production to overtake the processes of consumption; and we will speed the restoration of an adequate purchasing power for wages.

"I am particularly gratified at the support which the government policy has received from the representatives of organized labor and I earnestly hope that the workers generally will emphatically endorse the position of their leaders and thereby move with the government instead of against it in the solution of this greatest domestic problem.

"I am calling for as early a date as practicable a conference in which authoritative representatives of labor and of those who direct labor will discuss fundamental means of bettering the whole relationship of capital and labor and putting the whole question of wages upon another footing.

## CHINA OPENS FIRE ON CHILD LABOR

Hong Kong, China, Sept. 2.—For the first time in its history, Hong Kong is attempting to regulate the employment of women and children and to prevent overcrowding in factories. Regulations adopted by the sanitary board of Hong Kong are far behind the standards of Western nations, but are expected to curb the worst evils of child labor and factory overcrowding.

The new child-labor regulations provide that no child under 14 shall be employed more than ten hours, excluding meal times, in any one day, except by special permission of the sanitary board; and that the employment of children under 13 in any factories or workshops likely to be injurious to life, limb or health shall be prohibited. Since only two holidays a month are allowed, and no half-holidays are observed in Hong Kong, the weekly hours fixed by the regulations are nearer 70 than the 55 which such legislation would secure in Great Britain.

The regulations aimed at overcrowding provide that there shall be not less than 250 cubic feet of space in each room or subdivision of any factory or workshop for each person employed therein, and not less than 400 cubic feet for each person employed after 6 p. m. Other matters as to factory sanitation can be handled under present powers of the sanitary board.

Practically all shops employing women and children in Hong Kong are already within the provisions of the new regulations, whose purpose is preventive rather than corrective. The sanitary provisions in force are generally much better than those existing in the homes of the employees.

## CARPENTERS RAISE WAGES

St. Louis, Mo.—Organized carpenters and employers have agreed on a new wage scale, although the present contract continues until the first of the year. The new rates provide for an increase of 5 cents an hour, or 37 1/2 cents for carpenters and 98 1/2 cents for foremen.

The daily press announces that 500 carpenters are needed in this city, but officers of the Carpenters' Union would be glad to find employment for members of these unions.

## LABOR'S CELEBRATION BY MOORESVILLE UNION

### Local Union of Textile Workers Has Grand Parade and Picnic, Enjoyed by All

(Special to The Union Herald.)

Mooreville, N. C., Sept. 2.—Mooreville Local Union, No. 1221, gave a basket picnic Labor Day. The parade, headed by a large truck loaded with baskets and boxes of good things to eat, formed on South Main Street near the cotton mills, and marched in the following order: First came the officers of the union, followed by the Mooreville Brass Band dressed in blue denim uniforms (union-made, of course), then the small girls and the grown-up ladies, and then the boys and men. With a large American flag flying from the truck of food, and several others carried all along the line, the parade moved north on Main Street for several squares through the business section of the town and on to Slippery Rock, near Mill No. 1, where great preparations had been made for a big day. Soft drinks were served free from three different stands.

The exercises were opened by Bro. Jas. T. Robertson, acting chairman, who called upon Brother Proctor to lead in prayer. After the beautiful and appropriate invocation by Brother Proctor, Mr. Boyd, superintendent of Mooreville Cotton Mills, was called on for an address, to which he gladly responded, making the principal speech of the day.

Brother Robertson then spoke for a few minutes in behalf of the local, after which the crowd responded to the call to dinner, upon which Rev. Mr. Falls asked the blessing of God. Say, but that was some feed. After everyone had satisfied his appetite and could hold no more, Mr. Harry Deaton, editor of the Mooreville Enterprise, was called on for a speech. He responded by making a short talk on Education, which was much enjoyed by all. Next, the ministers of the town each made short but splendid talks, in the following order: Rev. Mr. Haynie, of the Second Presbyterian Church; Rev. Mr. Connell, of the First Baptist; Rev. Mr. Falls, of the Methodist Episcopal; and Rev. Mr. Hays, of the First Presbyterian. The band rendered some stirring and patriotic selections between the speeches.

Mr. R. C. Smith, of Salisbury, was scheduled to speak here, but unfortunately was called to Indiana on account of the accidental death of a brother. Mr. J. A. Wiggins, of Salisbury, was also on the program for an address, but missed his train, and did not arrive until near the conclusion of the exercises.

The invited guests included the entire office force of the mills—the president, secretary-treasurer, superintendent, overseers and second hands of each department; also all the ministers of Mooreville, together with the family of each.

The attendance was estimated at about 1,500; and was said to be the most enjoyable picnic ever given in this section. Everybody seemed to be happy, and there was no sign of disorder of any kind. This was the first time that Labor Day has been celebrated in Mooreville, and the union people put on a celebration that will long be remembered by those who attended.

Mooreville is one place where strife and discord has not followed the organizing of the mill people, and the happy relations existing between employers and employee are a source of much gratification to all. We hope it may always be that way.

The thanks of the union are due Supt. Boyd for his generous donation of twenty bunches of fine bananas and four crates of lemons for the occasion.

## A FIGHT BOUND TO COME

The street car strike in Charlotte is a fore-runner of ceaseless agitation that is going to take place in North Carolina until labor is either 100 per cent organized, and able to enforce its demands, or until capital shows that it can effectively curb the disposition on the part of labor to organize. No matter which side wins there is going to be a war, for neither capital or labor can win out in the impending struggle without a fight. In the case of the street car strike the public suffers the most. In the manufacturing industries it is the striker because the average laborer never has much of a reserve fund accumulated, being dependent entirely upon his weekly or monthly wage for the necessities of life. Strikes are comparatively rare in this section, but not in the North, East or West. In those parts of the country labor has waged a successful fight for recognition for years, but not until recently has organized labor generally centered its activities in the South.—Monroe Journal.

You are not really saving if you are trying to do so at some one else's expense.—Kings' Treasuries.

## LABOR CONFERENCE IS PLANNED BY PRESIDENT

### Will Issue Invitations to Labor Leaders, Financiers, Manufacturers, Farmers

Washington, Sept. 2.—Before leaving Washington tomorrow night on his speech-making tour of the country, President Wilson will issue invitations to labor leaders, financiers, manufacturers and farmers to attend a conference early in October for consideration of the problems of labor and of those who direct labor.

The President, it also was learned, plans to complete all arrangements for the conference before his departure so that the meeting may be held immediately upon his return the last of this month. The first session of the conference probably will be held at the White House.

The entire labor situation and also arrangements for the conference were understood to have been discussed at today's cabinet meeting, the only one possible for the President to attend this month. It was presumed that the plan to invite farmers' representatives, which has been urged by several members of the senate, was agreed upon at the cabinet meeting.

## SIX MONTHS' PAY NOT CHARITY, BUT MERELY PART OF JUSTICE

(New York American.)

One Private Luke O'Toole, of No. 316 Fifteenth Street, Brooklyn, has written to Senator Thomas, of Colorado, a letter which has found its way into the Congressional Record, and in which he says:

"It is not the industrious, everyday worker, intent upon earning his livelihood, who is advocating the 'six months' bonus'; nor is it, on the whole, those who served their country when the need arose who are clamoring for this unjust payment. It is the cheap office-seeker, the petty officeholder who cannot win votes on his merits, the agitator who plays upon the money need of the shiftless ex-service men, and last, but not least, the notorious 'yellow press'.

"It is the Government's duty to take ample care of those who were disabled and the dependents of those who made the supreme sacrifice in this war, but it is not the duty of the Government to maintain a charitable institution for those who are able to work and earn a livelihood. If the passage of this sort of bills was left to a referendum vote of the ex-service men, an overwhelming majority would be found in opposition to them."

Canada has paid a minimum of \$600 for a private with dependents, in the army three years, besides free farms and farm loans up to \$7,500.

Australia, in addition to paying her service men a great deal higher pay than we paid ours, has made equally generous provision to place her returned soldiers on the land and to finance their future.

In neither Canada nor Australia are these grants looked upon as "charity" in any sense, but rather as simple acts of justice to men who have earned it by heroic service.

Mr. O'Toole admits that he found the \$60 handed him by our Government at his discharge from the army a welcome help. But he was fortunate in having a job awaiting him.

If, like many service men, he had had to hunt long for that job, the \$60 would not have carried him far. As a matter of fact, at the prevailing prices, \$60 is not enough to clothe a discharged soldier in the clothes he needs after he has put aside his uniform.

Records of the employment bureaus show that of Greater New York's returned veterans 44 per cent are still unemployed.

The six months' extra pay of \$180 which more than SIX MILLION Americans, through the Hearst newspapers, have petitioned the Congress to vote to each of our honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, and marines would scarcely suffice to re-clothe them and give them a margin of support while readjusting themselves to full self-support.

We wish it were possible to submit the question to a referendum of the veterans themselves. Passage of the Six Months' Pay bill would not compel any unwilling veterans to accept \$180 from a grateful nation.

But it would insure that no veteran need suffer dire want while re-establishing his civic status.

And it would put the United States Government in respect to its practical gratitude in a relationship which would not give so much cause to Canadians and Australians to view it with pity mingled with contempt.

## A GRACIOUS EDITOR

New York, Sept. 3.—The editor of the New York Times graciously declares: "All men, unionists and non-unionists alike, are entitled to full payment for their services according to their worth on an economic basis, and something might be added on account of the disposition to be generous rather than merely fair toward labor."