

SHOOTING BACK TO FACTS ABOUT THE BIG STEEL STRIKE

(Continued from page 1.)

Need mankind that that principle is upheld by trade unionism and that through trade unionism right and justice and the betterment of the human race are gained.

Mr. Gary's idea that it is a moral act to fight organization of labor is repudiated by the opinion of organized society everywhere. His contention that it would be immoral for the steel trust to deal with the unions of steel workers is thrown out of court without ceremony!

There remains the third point raised by the chairman of the steel trust's finance committee. And it seems fitting, though perhaps also ironical, that it should be the chairman of the FINANCE committee who leads the trust's forces and talks about moral principles and debts to the nation!

The judge fears that if the strike were successful it "might and probably would" lead to "an upheaval which might bring upon all of us very grave and serious consequences."

This is clearly an effort to frighten good people by a fanciful picture of disaster. Foolish parents sometimes frighten children that way in order to make them obey. "A bogey man will get you if you don't stop that!"

In making this point, Judge Gary reveals the profound depths of his ignorance, or his complete unwillingness to allow the case to rest upon truth.

The American Federation of Labor stands for certain definite principles. It stands with unflinching firmness for democracy as democracy is understood in America. It is the bitter and implacable foe of anarchy and violent upheaval and disorganization of society and social forces.

Organization stands for order. That is axiomatic. Colonial America, after the defeat of the Red Coats, found organization the first requisite of safety! No security could be had until the forces of liberty and democracy were organized.

In America there are few today who question the superb service to democracy rendered by American labor organized in trade unions. There are few who question the fact that American organized labor stands without a peer in the world as an advocate and effective instrument for the development of democracy, and that it stands as a mighty and intelligent bulwark against destruction and reaction and autocracy.

If America is the scene of "an upheaval" such as Judge Gary conjured up before his hearers (he spoke at the Ritz-Carlton), it will be largely because the constructive helpfulness and intelligence of organized labor is spurned and denied its chance to function by such men as Judge Gary!

It is upon such argument that Judge Gary rests the case of the steel trust. It must be presumed, since they acquiesce, that his associates agree with him.

Judge Gary, after setting forth his position, said to those who heard him:

"You, as members of the general public, must condemn or approve what I have felt called upon to say."

It is fortunate for America that the great body of American industry is not dominated by the thought expressed by the leader of the steel trust forces. It is fortunate that his false concept is fighting a losing battle everywhere. It is fortunate that democracy has made tremendous headway against the autocratic idea expressed by this man who is called "judge."

The best guarantee against the "upheaval" which Judge Gary foresees in the event of union success is the steady progress of the democratic idea expressed by trade unionism and the best concept of Americanism!

A case built upon untruth, misrepresentation and false reasoning is bound to fall before the onslaught of truth and justice.

That is the hope of the world. It is written in the stars that steel will be democratized even as it was written that the autocracy of Germany must give way before the world demand for the common rights of man.

POSTOFFICE EMPLOYEES TO GET MORE MONEY

Senate Committee to Report Favorably on Increasing Postmasters, Clerks and the Rural Carriers.

Washington, Oct. 7.—A substitute bill for the house resolution providing pay increases for postal employees aggregating about \$38,000,000, effective July 1, last, was ordered reported favorably by the senate postoffice committee.

In lieu of the flat raise of \$150 proposed by the house for each employe, the senate committee adopted a plan of graduated increases. For letter carriers, clerks, railway mail employes and third class postmasters, the senate committee proposes raises ranging from \$100 for employes receiving \$1,700 or more, to \$240 for those in the \$1,000 grade. For rural carriers, the Senate

committee proposes raises ranging from \$75 to those with short intermittent routes to \$200 for carriers with long daily routes. Fourth class postmasters, under the senate bill, would be given a flat increase of 10 per cent of their salaries and substitute clerks and carriers a flat rate of 60 cents an hour.

None of the senate increases would be payable to employes receiving a raise of \$300 in salary this year.

CUMMINS' MEASURE SPELLS REVOLUTION.

Washington, D. C.—Pronounced and vigorous opposition has developed against Senator Cummins' bill which contains a provision that would deprive railroad employes of the right to strike. This provision of the bill has been given close and intensive study by the various railroad unions officials who would be directly affected. As a result these officials who represent over 2,000,000 railroad workers, have issued a statement vigorously and mercilessly attacking this provision of the measure and have determined on an intensive campaign to secure its defeat.

The statement is signed by 14 officials and includes the presidents of the four railroad brotherhoods, the acting president of the railway employes' department of the American Federation of Labor and nine presidents of unions whose members are directly employed by the various railroads.

The exact language of the Cummins provision, against which the vigorous protest is being made, follows:

If two or more persons enter into any combination or agreement with the intent substantially to hinder, restrain or prevent the movement of commodities or persons in interstate commerce; or enter into any combination or agreement which substantially hinders, restrains or prevents the movement of commodities, or persons in interstate commerce, such persons so combining and agreeing shall be deemed guilty of a conspiracy, and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500 or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment; provided, that nothing herein shall be taken to deny to any individual the right to quit his employment for any reason.

"A law such as this would spell the end of labor organizations in America," says the statement. "Is this the intent of the provision? Does Congress, at the behest of the alarmed system, propose to try to break up the organization of labor throughout the country? Is it decided that the time has come to make this final fight? These are the questions that demand an answer and which every working man in the country is asking as he reads the newspapers. In his heart he knows that to enact this law would spell more than death to trade unionism. It would spell the birth of revolution."

"This provision not only would make it illegal to strike with intent to hinder interstate commerce, but also would make it illegal to enter into any combination or agreement

which does hinder interstate commerce. Intent would not have to be proved in the courts. Thus the provision is iron-clad, for any strike on the railroads, of however small proportions, would unquestionably hinder interstate commerce. The provision is carefully written to remove from railway labor the right to strike under any possible circumstances.

"If this provision was enacted into law, it would impose upon railway labor two insupportable conditions, namely, compulsory arbitration and economic servitude.

"The right to strike as a last resort is ingrained in the nature of the American working man; he has inherited it from the declaration of independence, from the constitution of the United States, from every tradition of this free people, from every achievement in the history of our great nation. If he failed to cherish his economic freedom he would no longer be a true American. To attempt to put such a prohibitive law into operation, therefore, would be madness. No leadership in the world could restrain the rank and file of American labor under such an imposition. The human factors called forth would be beyond control."

THE "DEMON" IN THE HOME.

Booze May Be Manufactured for Family Consumption.

(From the New York World.)

By liberalizing the Prohibition Enforcement bill so as to allow home manufacture of cider and light wines for family use, the conference committee of Congress once more accepts the great principle that when it comes to lawmaking, farmers are a privileged class. In the matter of drinkables, however, it is possible that the practice will react upon its authors.

It is conceivable that people who are not fixed to the soil may have homes and devote them to the industry now legalized. Cider may be made in a back tenement as well as in a back lot; and as for wine, once the materials are at hand the ordinary appliances of the kitchen will suffice. The question whether the cider is to become hard or the wine heavy will have to be left to time and the patience of the owner.

In the mountainous districts of the South there are many farmers who secretly market their most profitable crop in jugs. If it is to be lawful for other people to convert apples and grapes into beverages, these manufacturers cannot be forbidden to liquidize their corn. The invigorating streams that gush from the illicit stills of moonshiners are as truly a home product as anything that drips from the cider and wine presses, and when diluted for consumption, as is usual, are little stronger than matured cider.

Thus prohibition, which was to save the home, is to begin its hectic career by making a wigory or distillery of every home that wishes to fortify itself against the operations of an unreasonable restriction upon personal liberty. How many spies, informers and snoopers will be needed to keep these "homes" from merchandising, and what protection will any decent home, once under suspicion, have as against their operations?

ELECTRICAL WORKERS ELECT NEW PRESIDENT.

Next Annual Convention Will Be Held in St. Louis.

New Orleans, La.—James P. Noonan, St. Louis, who has been acting president, was chosen president and H. F. Newman, of this city, was made vice-president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers at the concluding session of the convention of that organization. The other officers were re-elected. St. Louis was selected as the next convention city for 1920.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES ON INCREASE.

Clarksburg, W. Va.—Co-operative stores are springing up in various parts of northern West Virginia. The parent one is located at Grafton, where union railroad men and other stockholders have made the Grafton co-operative store a big success. At Parkersburg railroad men are organizing such a store to be fashioned after the one at Grafton. At Martinsburg, Keyser, Rowlesburg, Tunnelton, Wendell, Simpson and other points, co-operative stores have been established.

TEACHERS GRANTED SALARY RAISE TO AVOID STRIKE.

Through the Chamber of Commerce of Springfield, Ohio, the matter of salaries for teachers in Springfield public schools has been settled. A blanket raise of 20 per cent has been granted and a minimum of \$780 has been fixed for teachers receiving less than \$900. The increase came to prevent a strike.

CO-OPS. WATCH PENNIES.

Danville, Va., Oct. 8.—While the Danville Co-operative Society did a business aggregating over \$52,000 during the last quarter, it is watching every penny and has suspended deliveries. During the shopmen's strike it reduced prices 10 per cent.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, ETC., REQUIRED BY ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUG. 24, 1912.

THE UNION HERALD For October 1, 1919. Name of publication—The Union Herald. Frequency of issue—Weekly. Place of publication—Raleigh, N. C. Publisher—Ed. F. Snakenberg, Chas. Ruffin. Managing Editor—Ed. F. Snakenberg. Manager Adv. Dept.—Chas. Ruffin. Name of owners—Ed. F. Snakenberg, Chas. Ruffin. Names of known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities—None. E. F. SNAKENBERG, Managing Ed. CHAS. RUFFIN, Mgr. Adv. Dept. Raleigh, N. C. Oct. 1, 1919.

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