

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mob-Coddling by Congressmen

A measure to protect the people was butchered by cowardly Congressmen and saved to whom honor is due for his protection.

\$200,000.00 was to be appropriated for use by the Dept. of Justice in prosecuting offenders against the Sherman Anti-Trust law, which is intended to protect men at work, whether they are working with hands, heads, or both. Protect them from "combinations and conspiracies in restraint of trade." That means combinations of men who conspire to prevent other men from earning a living.

Two or three large oil companies might "combine and conspire" to freeze out a small dealer.

He has a right to conduct a business and earn a living for his family and should have protection from "combinations" which "conspire" to ruin him.

It also applies to "combinations" of workmen who "conspire" to drive other workmen from work.

The great "Labor Trust" has been seized by certain men who now have control.

They force every member to pay fees, which aggregate several hundred thousand dollars a year.

They intend that no man who refuses to pay fees to them shall work.

Whenever independent men or those who form their own union seek to work the big trust, orders are issued on the jobs, to force the independent men or independent union men out of work until they join the big trust and pay fees to the leaders.

One illustration will suffice:

On June 22nd, 1910, the N. Y. Building Trades Council (part of the Labor Trust) declared a strike of all trades on a 12-story building at 35th and 6th avenue, because of the employment of members of an electrical union not members of the trust. Work on the entire building was stopped.

The secretary of the "trust" said that general strike would be ordered on every building where the "obnoxious electricians" are employed.

These electricians belong to a union formed under the arbitration plan some time ago, and kept their jobs. The employers afterward contracted, under pressure, with the big trust, and were told to and did order the independent union to join the Labor Trust. The men refused because they did not like the trust methods of coercion, bullying, slugging and general violence.

This is only one illustration of hundreds of cases where the trust "conspires in restraint of trade."

That is, by combination they conspire to and do stop work, interfere with industry and prevent men from earning a living unless they pay fees to the trust leaders.

There is perhaps never one single day in a year but what the Labor Trust is engaged somewhere in America in "restraining trade," preventing men from working and stopping the flow of industry. No trust in this country breaks the law one-tenth as many times, or takes the bread from men's mouths as frequently as the Labor Trust.

No trust has ever "restrained" such volumes of work or stopped the payment of so much money.

No trust has maimed and killed so many men or blown up and destroyed so much property, and yet the Attorney-General has been held back from prosecutions for some unexplained reason.

What does a workman care about the prosecution of the Oil Trust when the big Labor Trust keeps him out of work every now and then?

Suppose you write Pres. Taft and ask why the Atty-Gen'l does not protect the people against the biggest and most hurtful trust we have.

The authorities forget there are about thirty million workers in this country, and only about 1,700,000 members of the Labor Trust, and that most of them are coerced into membership.

How can the authorities answer to the vast army of 28,000,000 free workers, farmers and householders whose affairs are from time to time interfered with and who have to bear the loss of wages and the general heavy loss of stopped industries, brought about by the leaders of the Labor Trust in their manipulation of men seeking to drive them into fee-paying slavery?

The 28,000,000 workers, not members of the trust, object to being driven from work or having railroad trains stopped with all the far-reaching losses, or the street cars stopped and men and women prevented from getting to and from work, or factories struck, and perhaps destroyed, the weekly pay roll stopped and the sustenance of at least part, and perhaps all, of the community withdrawn.

The great Philadelphia street car strike was forced by the big Labor Trust, not on account of the wages and hours, but to throw out about 4,000 men who had their own union, a respectable one.

These men did not want to pay fees to the trust leaders and be subject to their whims, so they formed their own union for self-protection. Thereupon the big trust called a strike, blew up and burned cars, attacked and slugged and from work, forced their other slaves to quit work, and cost the people of Philadelphia several million dollars and untold suffering and inconvenience solely for the purpose of "showing" them the power of the Labor Trust to "force" people to "mind" and force these independent men to join the trust, "obey" and pay fees to the leaders.

That is a serious state of affairs in this free country and is enough to awaken every American to the necessity of curbing such men in their insane rage for notoriety, power and fee-gathering.

Citizens want industry, commerce and wages to continue without interference from any set of men either employers or employees who seek selfish gain to themselves alone, without regard to how much all the people outside the trust may be inconvenienced and damaged.

The trust leaders, to make stronger their control of members, fight valiantly to be allowed to boycott and conspire to ruin all free citizens, either employers or workmen, who do not pay fees to the trust leaders.

Therefore, when this \$200,000.00 appropriation bill came up they deluged Congress with demands to exempt combinations of labor from prosecution if they broke the law and, starting as it may seem, over a hundred Congressmen voted to so exempt them. In other words, voted to permit one set of men to break the law and dominate the great majority of citizens, while the majority must keep the law and submit to the damage, losses, violence and idleness put upon them by the comparatively small band of trust members.

"Why were these Congressmen cowards?" you ask. Because the trust managers sent word to their local managers in all parts of the country instructing them to fire in letters and telegrams to Congressmen whenever a bill to give the trust more power is introduced.

The great mass of citizens who are to be tyrannized over have no organization to warn them to notify Congressmen of their wishes and so the heavy fire comes from but one side (the Labor Trust side) and thus impresses the members of Congress with the belief that the whole mass of laboring men are crying for exemption from punishment for lawbreaking.

In this particular case the President induced Congress to reconsider the vote and protect the masses from the proposed tyranny.

Don't forget the issue.

The Labor Trust leaders called for exemption from prosecution when they break the law of conspiracy and they thus sought to be free to drive millions of free workmen into fee-paying slavery.

These freemen will not soon forget the effort of their representatives in Congress to force them into the irksome slavery of the big Labor Trust which seeks to dictate first, monthly fees, then when and where they can work, for whom, or what wages and how long.

This kind of "land grabbing" is not resisted by the millions of free men or by thousands of "tied" men now forced into membership in order to get jobs and not be slugged, yet they are ordered on strike from time to time and made to boycott, picket and act as lawbreakers at the behest of the leaders fighting to hold power over them.

"How can the citizen and free man protect himself?"

Write to your Congressman and Senator. (Address them at home now.) Say "Whenever any measure comes up, presented by the Labor Trust leaders and intended to give them more power over us, and restrict our liberties, please protect us by voting it down; analyze each measure carefully and vote only for laws intended to protect the great majority of your constituents in their freedom, uncontrolled by any set of men either of Capital or Labor. It is dangerous to give any combination privilege or power to dictate to other citizens. We will support you if you protect us, but we must put in a representative who will defend the majority of the people if you refuse." Write him, and write him now.

Don't sit in silence and permit your liberties to be taken from you because the big Labor Trust, supported by fees, sits its local managers to continue actively, while the plain everyday citizen says nothing, having no organization.

Experience in the past has shown that the great big factory known as the "common man" may not be so quick as local Labor Trust leaders to write his Congressman for protection, yet he reads and votes; that is why many a candidate who thought he could help push through trust laws of either Capital or Labor, seeking gain or control of the average citizen, has met defeat when he comes up for re-election.

No one hates the common people, but they are neither fools nor children, and they are at least 90% in the majority. Many new and powerful organizations of labor are being established free from the fee-hunting tyranny of the big Labor Trust.

One of these, The Nat'l Trades and Workers' Ass'n, with headquarters at Battle Creek, Mich., recently offered ex-Pres. Roosevelt its Presidency.

The Ass'n had'th mass enough to pay a suitable salary for his great ability and moral worth.

I became so strongly impressed with the honesty of purpose and progressive principles of this labor organization that I considered it worth while offering him \$100,000.00 a year if he would accept.

This organization takes in many of the best skilled workers in various crafts. They are pledged to no strike, no boycott, picketing, coercion or violence of any kind. They present their cause peacefully and with dignity.

If settlements cannot be made, the case goes to a carefully selected board of mediation. When the facts are brought out in friendly conference a settlement is reached in a great majority of cases. If the facts on both sides are given the local press and thus the citizens of the community become entirely conversant with the matter and public opinion steps in.

It's hard for either side to stand for a wrong, with the great weight of public opinion opposed.

Up to the time of the mediation proceeding the men keep at work and the flow of money through the community is continued. If, thereafter, they feel they can do better elsewhere, they have a right to withdraw 5% of the men each day and go to a job better liked; but they make no objection to U. S. employer putting new men in the places they leave. It seldom comes to that.

The practical working of the plan shows the industries go on and the employer holds his time-ripped men to him on any reasonable terms, and they and he are friends working together; whereas if they settled by the club and force, hate would invariably follow, greatly to the detriment of the industry and the men personally.

The Trades and Workers' Ass'n is growing rapidly among some of the best workmen in America.

It marks a new epoch. Let workmen write the Trades and Workers' Ass'n of Battle Creek, Mich., for a constitution and by-laws and study the new peace movement.

Practically all real workers dislike to have their negotiations conducted by strikes, violence, hate and general disharmony, but the noisy ones have gained control of the big Labor Trust and they force the peaceful ones, and by such methods have brought much odium on the name of Labor.

A better day is coming—a day of peace and steady prosperity for the workers—but it will be delayed by cowardly Congressmen if they mistakenly vote to put more power in the hands of the trust leaders and make them immune from prosecution when they boycott, slug, burn and dynamite, using such means to hold workmen in their power to extract monthly fees from them and to force the rest of humanity to "obey" them or take the consequences. It is high time the people were protected by the strong arm of the law.

Reader, if you want to retain your freedom talk plainly to your Congressmen and Legislators. Remember, the high priests of the Labor Trust are always busy bounding Congressmen to pass new laws to protect them in their attacks on workmen and citizens.

Do your duty and compel your representatives to protect you. If they don't respond, see you are at the polls and cast a vote for the man who has first agreed to stand by the majority and give "exemption" and special privilege to no tight and snug combination of either Labor or Capital.

Guard your sacred personal liberty actively and at all times, for the interests which would like to harness you are busy day in and day out.

Permit no set of men to gain power to force you to buy only what they order, hire only those men they name, also to order when you can work, where, for whom, at what wages and how long.

Fail in watchfulness and you will drift into humiliating servility from which it will be difficult to free yourself. This is a time when individual liberty is being attacked.

Guard yours as you would your soul. There's a Reason.

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