

# The Indianapolis Times

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## PRACTICAL WORK DEPOSES TRIALS OF LABOR UNIONS

Leaders Undertake Theories

Designed to Eliminate  
Controversies.

BY MATTHEW WOLL,  
Vice President American Federation  
of Labor.

By United News

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 18.—American labor, as represented by the executive council here, turned from consideration of the trials and assaults by which it has been beset to consider the constructive side of its work.

The council had before it the wage theory investigation begun a year ago and carried forward since then as circumstances would permit. It is the purpose of labor to investigate all the orgies of wage fixing, in order finally to recommend to labor everywhere that theory which is most nearly scientific and just to management, labor and the consumer.

"Of course," he went on, "the average railroad president or executive of large industry will state that he has no objection to any employee purchasing shares of stock of the corporation in which he is employed. But that is not enough. Not only must the employee be permitted to make such investment, but he must be given a cordial welcome, he must be encouraged to do so, he must be taught that it is a duty he owes to his family for its future welfare.

"And most important of all, he must be paid a wage sufficient to enable him to take advantage of such an opportunity."

Waxing fervent, the speaker gave the working men in front of him "the secret of how to establish real co-partnership between capital and labor."

Here it is:

"In determining the wage scale the following elements of cost rightfully enter into the budget of the wage earner who has a family:

"1. Food, shelter and raiment.  
"2. Allowance for reasonable recreation.  
"3. Provision for present and future education of children.  
"4. Sickness and life insurance.  
"5. Savings against a 'rainy day.'

"6. Purchase of a home on time payments.  
"7. Purchase of shares of stock in business enterprises.  
"8. Provisions against old age."

Taking up the question of injunctions, he said:

"Injunctions against strikes are but negative remedies, repressive and irritating in nature and do not accomplish any permanent cure."

Now who was this speaker who thus disapproved of the Administration's injunction against the railway shopmen; who insisted upon the right of workers to a share in the business; who spoke of the danger of a "revolution springing from great holdings of industrial capital?"

Why, none other than Senator Charles E. Townsend of Michigan, sponsor of Truman H. Newberry and old guard regular dyed-in-the-wool.

With a very close primary just ahead of him, he was out after the labor vote—which is very large in Detroit.

We heartily approve of Senator Townsend's words. But how he kept such a great speech in his system so long without bursting is one of the mysteries.

If he is returned to the Senate next November it will be interesting to watch whether he acts in Washington as he talks in Detroit.

### Who's This "Radical?"

UP in the great industrial center, Detroit, a man stood facing a great crowd of workingmen. He was telling them of "the widening chasm between capital and labor."

"Revolutions springing from great holdings of industrial capital," he declared, "may be expected to occur unless the inherent desire in every human being for ownership or part proprietorship is satisfied."

"Of course," he went on, "the average railroad president or executive of large industry will state that he has no objection to any employee purchasing shares of stock of the corporation in which he is employed. But that is not enough. Not only must the employee be permitted to make such investment, but he must be given a cordial welcome, he must be encouraged to do so, he must be taught that it is a duty he owes to his family for its future welfare.

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### Doughnuts in School Books

IT is doubtful whether the advertising of doughnuts and cake materials in the school books for which parents of school children have to pay will bring the results expected by the concerns doing the advertising.

That such advertising has been allowed in art books which Indianapolis children of several grades are obliged to buy is not likely to be popular with parents. Such catch penny methods are a reflection on the character of the school city and upon the sense of propriety of the person or persons in authority who permitted it, to say the least.

If such commercialization of the schools is to be allowed to slip through for the gratification or possibly the financial benefit of any individual or corporation, we may soon expect to see our school children obliged to master textbooks filled with artistic portrayals of wear forever stockings, Dr. Spivins' breakfast dainties and no-work electric washers. And for the extra pages in such textbooks occupied by advertising dear old Papa will have to pay.

### Britannica's Baker Boomerang.

AND so the editors of the Encyclopaedia Britannica stand pat on their "biographical sketch" of former Secretary of War Newton D. Baker. They say they won't change it.

Well and good. We had always prized the Britannica as a work of reference, stuffed with cold, hard facts. Henceforth when we approach those formidable volumes and begin to read up on some question on which we seek enlightenment, the thought will be running through our head like a refrain:

"Is this fact? Or is it just some biased body's personal opinion?"

If the Baker "biography" is allowed to stand in Britannica, we suggest they include also Senator Lodge's stumpery estimate of ex-President Wilson; Hiram Johnson's opinions of Clemenceau; Poincaré's sketch of the Kaiser; De Valera's appreciation of King George; Ingerson's definition of Christianity, and Kipling's idea of America's part in the world war.

We suspect the partisan attack on Baker—for that is all it is—will hurt Britannica worse than it will hurt Baker.

### Conductivity of Crude Tungsten Varies With Certain Conditions

QUESTIONS ANSWERED  
You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to the Indianapolis Times, 401 N. Illinois, Indianapolis, Indiana, 43250. Send a stamp. Medical, legal and love and marriage advice will not be given. Unsigned letters will not be answered, but all personal replies will be confidential and receive personal replies.

EDITOR.—Is crude tungsten a conductor of electricity?

A.—If you mean by tungsten the usual powdered metal, it will carry the electricity, but its resistance will be variable, depending on the contact obtained between particles. Loose material would probably have a very high resistance, but under pressure it should be a fairly good conductor. Tungsten will stand very high temperature, but of course if exposed to the atmosphere, it would probably oxide rather rapidly at 1500 F.

Q.—It is true that immediately after the declaration of war against Germany President Wilson called for 15,000 volunteers for the Regular Army to come forward before June 30, 1917, and that only 8,500 responded to the date specified?

A.—No specific call for volunteers was issued during the World War, though an intensive drive for recruits

—with the view of bringing the Regular

Army up to its full authorized strength was begun immediately following the entrance of the United States into the conflict on April 6, 1917. Because of the abnormal conditions prevailing, it was found to be impracticable to maintain accurate statistics on voluntary recruiting during the period in question. Available statistics show voluntary enlistments (including reenlistments) to the Regular Army during the months of April, May and June, 1917, as follows:

April ..... 34,855  
May ..... 48,194  
June ..... 38,666

In addition to the foregoing, large number of men were enlisted in the National Guard and the Enlisted Reserve Corps. Figures, by months, on those enlistments are not, however, available, the only available figures covering the three months from April to June, inclusive, show that 183,719 men were enlisted in the National Guard and 38,906 in the Enlisted Reserve Corps during those months.

Q.—What are the baptismal names of the Prince of Wales?

A.—Edward Albert Christian George Andrew Patrick David.

# WAGES PROVE CONTENTION OF CANADA'S RAIL WORKERS

By NEA Service

MONTREAL, Sept. 18—Canada may soon have a railway strike of its own. Wages are the sole point of contention.

Unless some agreement is reached between the companies and their employees within the next few days 35,000 to 40,000 men in the car and locomotive shops expect to stop work.

The controversy goes back to last July 16, when the railroads announced wage cuts of five, seven and nine cents an hour for the several grades of work.

Follow U. S. Moves

Having followed the United States lines when the wages were increased, the Canadian companies claimed that they were justified in cutting them when the American rates went down.

The employees didn't see it that way. As a result of their objections the order reducing wages was revoked pending the action of a board of conciliation.

This body, acting under a Federal act governing such disputes, decided that the wage cut was fair and that it should be retroactive to Aug. 15.

Shopmen refused to accept the ruling and sent out notices that a strike will be called at any moment.

Minister Intervenes

The Hon. James Murdoch, minister of labor, intervened and requested the



R. J. TALLEN



HON. JAMES MURDOCK.

companies again to discuss the situation with the men.

"Canada," he said, "deserves in her present difficulties better treatment

from both the men and the companies than she has received so far."

So a new conference was arranged.

R. J. Tallen, president of Division No.

4, Railway Employees Union, American Federation of Labor, is taking the lead for the workers. George Hodge, assistant manager of the Canadian Pacific, represented the employers in hearings before the board of conciliation.

\* \* \*

A BIVALVE

By BERTON BRALEY

THE oyster is a bivalve.

Its ways of living are absurd:

It opens up its shell wide inside;

(Some like it raw—I like it fried.)

THE oyster is a funny beast.

With no ambition, not the least.

It sits and waits its whole life through

For any fate that may ensue.

(I like it in a cocktail, too.)

THE oyster is the quaintest fish.

It hasn't any tail to swim.

It doesn't have any fins and stays,

Immobile during all its days.

(I like roasted various ways.)

THE oyster is a curious reptile.

Closé-mouthed, its secrets all are kept

in the oyster-man, with manners rude.

It opens it up for human food:

(I like it raw, baked, fried or stewed.)

It likes to be buried in sand and fall,

Like it any way at all!

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### THE REFEREE

By ALBERT APPLA.  
FLIGHTS.

Mail will be delivered from New York to San Francisco in twenty-eight hours, promised Paul Henderson, postal official. The fastest bird, named "swift" could not keep up with the

mail plane. The "swift" flies faster than 100 miles an hour, but tires quickly.

It is less than twenty

years since the Wright brothers were first to soar

in an airplane, yet man

already flies faster and

higher than any bird.

Also, more safely, for Henderson

announces that the air mail service

this year has flown 2,000,000 miles

without a fatality.

JUNGLE

The toddle, camel-walk and similar

dances are observed in Chicago by E.

N. Newman. Then he takes a long

trip into central Africa—and finds

the natives dancing the same steps.

This surprises him, but it shouldn't.

The distance from the Congo sav-

age to civilized man is mainly one of

mileage. Civilized veneer is thin.

Sailors say if three men are adrift

long enough in a boat, the weakest

is aged only 26 per cent of the whole.

JUNGLE