

## RAILWAY WAGE PACT SEEN AS EPOCHAL EVENT

Capital, Labor Recognize  
Common Interests, Says  
Chicago Economist.

Prof. Harry A. Mills of the University of Chicago has written the following article on the economic significance of the railroad wage conference at the request of the United Press. Professor Mills is chairman of the department of economics at Chicago and himself has acted as an arbitrator of labor disputes.

By PROF. HARRY A. MILLS

University of Chicago Economist

(Written for the United Press)

CHICAGO, Feb. 2.—The agreement between the railway companies and twenty international unions will be regarded as a great historical document in the field of the industrial relations.

The companies and unions have recognized they are in the same boat and have worked together to bail it out so that it will continue to function.

They think they have done a better job than had the matter gone to arbitration. Arbitration is a weak and uncertain substitute for solutions arrived at as in this conference.

Railways and their employees are victims of business depression, disordered finance and increasing an unequal competition from new transportation forms. Reduction in operating costs was necessary. The 10 per cent wage reduction will be helpful in tiding over the depression.

Wage Cut Seen Necessary

Though wage reductions should be avoided when possible, they are necessary at times.

In recognizing this was necessary in this instance, the unions showed real understanding. And the railroad presidents showed an appreciation of the problem presented by unemployed workers.

It is expected the companies and unions will co-operate fully and whole-heartedly in meeting this problem. They no doubt will find it a most difficult matter to work out unless depression gives way to a decided boom in industry, but many things can be done when there is common desire to find a way out.

Agreement Wholesome Sign

Stabilization of employment, division of work, an effort to place those unneeded by the railroads in other industries, and a dismissal wage are some methods to be considered.

The companies and workers' representatives are to continue to face their problem and reason together in the future. It renews confidence in our economic system and in free enterprise.

The public should be glad of the contract of methods and outcome here and those of the soft coal trade a few years back.

Couzens Is Skeptical

By United Press  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—Chairman Couzens of the senate interstate commerce committee believes the 10 per cent wage reduction accepted by railway employees is merely a palliative. He told the United Press the brunt of railway economic reorganization eventually would fall on holders of common stock and junior securities.

Couzens attributes the plight of the roads largely to modern competition by buses, trucks and pipelines. He believes no return ever again will be made on billions of dollars now invested in railway equipment. The senator's committee is engaged with railway problems. His gloomy view is that about \$10,000,000,000 of railway equipment must be wiped off the books.

Couzens expects the railway's next move to be for federal regulation of bus and truck rates.

And he is convinced the public would not stand for bus and truck rates fixed at a high level merely to enable the roads to compete. He foresees the necessity for the roads to abandon about 70,000 stations where automotive competition is surpassing the rails.

FATHER SUES INSANE  
SLAYER FOR \$20,000

Asks Damages for Death of Little  
Girl at Hands of Fiend.

By United Press  
CINCINNATI, Feb. 2.—A suit for \$20,000 damages was filed here Monday by Joseph McLean, father of Marion McLean, 6, against Charles Bischoff, confessed murderer of the child.

The father charged he suffered "mental anguish and nervous shock" during the four days Marion was missing and when her mutilated body was found. He asked recompensation for loss of the child's company and the "pleasure and love" she gave him.

Bischoff is awaiting a decision by five judges who received a report of alienists that he was insane. The alienists recommended he be committed to an asylum.

APPORTION GRID FUND

Charity Game Receipts to Go for  
Food, Fuel, Clothing.

Indiana's share in the big ten charity football games fund will be expended for food, fuel and clothing in neediest districts of the state, it was decided at a conference in Governor Harry G. Leslie's office Monday afternoon.

A special committee appointed to audit the funds attended the conference. Members are:

President Edward C. Elliott of Purdue University; William L. Bryan of Indiana University; E. W. Walker, banker; Lawrence F. Orr, chief examiner of state; State Auditor H. A. Arnett; managing director of the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce; and Dr. John H. Hewitt, state unemployment relief director.

LIQUOR SUSPECTS HELD

Cops Find Three Gallons of Alky  
Under Kitchen Steps.

Two men faced blind tiring charges today after police alleged they confiscated more than three gallons of alcohol in a residence at 437 West Abbott street.

Earl Duncan and Mike Pierce were held by Sergeant John Eisenhut and his squad, when officers said they found the alcohol under kitchen steps.

During the raid, officers said, several "customers" entered the place, admitting they came for booze.

## HOUSING FACTS ARE BLOT ON U. S.

Babbitt's Tile Bath Is Rare Exception, Not the Rule



This is the picture of the typical American home, as painted by enthusiastic boosters in the piping times of prosperity. But—



This picture is far more truthful. It shows what conditions are in reality in thousands upon thousands of American homes.

Contrary to general belief—a belief not entirely uninspired by "Babbitt-hating" literature of the last decade—America is not one great glittering picture of plumbing advertising. In fact, less than half the homes in America measure up to the standard of health and decency.

A graphic picture of housing and sanitary conditions in this country is contained in a series of six articles to be published in this newspaper. These articles are published with the consent of the magazine Fortune, in which this material originally appeared. The first article, Others will follow.

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