THE REVOLT OF LABOR

The railroad firemen have won a point in their controversy with the railroads. They have compelled them to arbitrate the difficulty under the American Arbitration Act. Their victory is somewhat similar to that of the Chinaman sentenced to death by torture who succeeded in getting the executioner to kill him a second time, and thus avoids a lingering death. For arbitration they have found a kind of a hope and a demand. The only point in favor of arbitration, if it is under the American Arbitration Act, is that the award must be made within thirty days, whereas under the usual procedure, workers sometimes have to wait a year until the last heirarchy arbitration board deides to bring in an award. Meanwhile discouragement and disorganization create an atmosphere in which they may and are likely to accept whatever crop is thrown to them. Eight months ago the street car men of Chicago, both surface and elevated, were ready and willing to tie up Chicago with one of the greatest strikes it has ever known. Their difficulties were referred to an arbitration board which has brought in an award yet, nor is it showing any signs of doing so. Meanwhile the workers have lost their strike fever and it will be next to impossible to re- arouse them whatever the board's decision. At least the firemen (who voted to 9 to strike) work on. The rest of their grudges are by the time their American Arbitration board brings in its award.

Of late there has developed a considerable agitation in the Order of Railroad Telegraphers for the adoption of the territorial agreement instead of the intercity agreements. If we are to have agreements at all the territorial agreement is far better than the individual road agreement. Practically all the brotherhoods have adopted the territorial form. By it the workers on all the roads in a certain district (for instance, the eastern district) may be better protected and the common agreements with their employers. Thus at least a portion of the union isolation is avoided. The next step will undoubtedly be for all the districts to make common agreements. Naturally the officers of the G. R. T. are fighting for the better agreement. The Mrs. Partington never die.

The features of the present two weeks in the West Virginia coal strike were the flooding of the districts with trained assassins, better known as the militia, and the arrest of Mother Jones. The sending of the troops needs no comment. The arrest of Mother Jones was made under the pretense that she advised the striking miners to capture the state capitals. Had she advised them to do this in the "civilized" way 10,000 years hence, via the balloon, her advice would have been laudable. But as she advised them to do it in a "lawless" way—by direct action—she must be thrown in the bastile as a dangerous agitator. Mother Jones has been in jail for 20 years. With the present ugly mood to keep her in custody might be very dangerous.

The revolt of the garment workers is still on. In addition to the great New York strike there are 40,000 workers on strike in Philadelphia, Boston, Rochester and Buffalo. In Chicago the bosses have called the strike of striking workers only by refusing to do any of the work assigned to them by granting them the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen. This organization is beginning to realize that it is almost identical to organizing the shop men and other railroad workers are unionized. This mutual dependence upon each other is the factor that forces labor unions to federate, amalgamate, etc., and the one that will eventually compel the railroad brotherhoods to join the A. F. of L. In all probability the Federation of Federations (workers shopmen) will soon be extended to the eastern territory.

The three principal unions of railway workers of Great Britain have been merged into one federation. These unions had adopted a number of sectional unions and had found them wanting. Hence the new federation. A feature of fusion (when some of the American trade unionists would probably profitably note) was that some of the most active in moving for the new federation are also the most active opponents of the principle of the labor board and sassidiously to bring about this very federation.

We offer the following, not because of its intrinsic value—as it has been repeated time and again by rebels—but because of its source: "As soon as I know a strike is lost I recommend that it be called off. I do not believe in keeping men out of work after they have lost a strike. I found that to do so embitter the men against the union. The best thing is to hold their wages and keep the members in the union."—Pres., W. D. Mahon of Street Railway Employers.

At their convention the miners in the Illinois district of the J. M. W. of A., numbering 26,000 members, adopted a resolution condemning war and calling for a general strike of miners in case war is declared by or against the United States. The resolution will be presented for endorsement at the coming U. M. W. of A. convention. This resolution is but one of the many evidences of the new spirit of pacifism and revolt that is permeating the A. F. of L.

A proposition is now being agitated in England to fuse the co-operatives and the trades unions. The former number 2,270,000, the latter 2,225,000 members. Should the fusion be accomplished, the capital brought together would be the greatest of any concern in England. Not to mention the millions of the trades unions, the co-operatives have an aggregate capital of some 500 million. During the past year they did a business of some $880,000,000.

C. B. Dowd, dynamiting conspirator (?), was released on bail from Fort Leavenworth federal prison, is helping the metal workers in Rochester in their general strike. One worker, by his own account, is made to extend the strike locally, as far as possible, in all the metal trades.

In the Akron strike of 15,000 rubber workers the I. W. W. and A. F. of L. are co-operating. Is this the calm before the storm? The second part of the party of the first part is using an ox on its wires.

Scores of girls at Wellesley College have gone on strike for the right to entertain their male friends.

Demands by Boston & Maine station employees for a wage increase have been granted.

SOCIETY NOTES

The McIntyre faction of electrical workers on strike in Chicago have been injunctioned by the Postal Telegraph Co. The parties of the second part insist that the party of the first part is using an ox on its wires.

A fresh first, second and third coated job of varnish can be highly decorated in an approved architectural manner by the judicious distribution of dry aluminum bronze powder in the air currents that waft to and fro.

Kew Gardens Pavilion went up in smoke. A suffragette remarked, "Perfectly lovely," as she and her partner lammed the judge with a varied assortment of law books.

A discharged waiter picked up a dead dog. West back at noon and another as he was leaving it on the counter, "Here's another! Two bits more, please!" Weimies!... The New York gangsters are using Maxim silencers to silence their opponents.

A fink shop job of washing woodwork or decorated walls can be soaked from the top down and washed up. This is calculated to give the boss the stomach ache.

Toronto medical college students got sore at a butcher. They hung a slice on his meat hook over night. Prospective customers cut off that hook.

Lloyd George's house went skyward. It suffered from suffragists. Mrs. Pankhurst says, "I'm to blame," in a George-a-fool to the nation.

Engine cylinders are expensive articles. A clogged lubricator means a cut cylinder. Dirt in the oil can means a clogged lubricator.

A little too much brown japan driers in that door stain and the owner will lose his locks.

J. A. JONES.

The Hon. Wm. Jno. Montague Armstrong, son of Baron Armstrong the great English ship builder, has declared himself a Syndicalist. The Hon. Mr. name is a kid, being not yet 21 years old. Unless he is made of very superior caliber, when he becomes older and realizes the relations of general strikes to profit and loss, he will get rid of his Syndicalist notions.

THE WORKERS' UNIVERSITY.

Books and Pamphlets For Sale by the Syndicalist Publishing Association.

A Physician in the House, Dr. J. H. Greer...$2.00
Ancient Society, Lewis H. Morgan...$1.50
What Is Property? P. Frouhll...$1.50
Flowers of the Mind, the best poems...1.00
Life of All Nations, with history of the
Anarchist Internationals, written by
Love's Coming of Age, Edward Carpenter...1.00
The Revolt in the Promised Land, Arthur Baker...1.00
The Physical Basis of Mind and Matter, F. H. Bradley...1.00
Thoughts of a Fool...1.00
Modern Science and Anarchism, Kropotkin...1.25
A Peaceful Society, John Dewey and Its
What the Young Need to Know, E. C. Walker...1.00
The State, Its Historic Role, Kropotkin...1.00
Syndicalism, Ford and Foster...1.00
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Direct Action vs. Legislation, J. B. Smith...1.00
Patterson, Emma Goldman...1.00
What I Believe, Emma Goldman...1.00
Basis of Trade Unionism, Pouget...1.00

HENDERSON BAY ROUTE—Steamer Tyndale leaves Commercial Dock, Tacoma, for all points on the Henderson Bay, including Homer, week days at 2:30 p.m., returning next morning. Sunday at 8 a.m., returning same day.

NORTH BAY ROUTE—Steamer Tyra leaves Daily Dock, Tacoma, for all points on the North Bay every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5 a.m., returning next morning.

COMMUNITIC-LIBRARY—Meets every Thursday from 8 to 10 o'clock; every Sunday evenings from 10 to 12 o'clock, English and Esperanto. Books in any language free. 711 Fourth street, Trenton.

FOR SALE—Cheap—In Home Colony: as acre with four-room house, chicken house, bearing trees; good view. Apply M. Rasmick Home, Lakebay, Wash.

"WHY?" A magazine of the Revolution, 1423 S. Washington street, Tacoma, Wash. Monthly, 60c a year.