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NEBOTA SOCIETY

NO ROOM HERE FOR SECTIONAL HEATING FRANCHISE

OUSTED FROM OFFICE FOR ONE REASON; IN JAIL FOR ANOTHER

Officers of United Mine Workers Tell Why Howat and Associates Were Removed; Not Square With Cause.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 1.—Alexander Howat, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, District 14, is in jail at Columbus, Kan., for one reason and he was removed from office as president by John L. Lewis, international president, for an entirely different reason, according to an article appearing in the current issue of the United Mine Workers Journal, official publication of the international union. The Journal says:

Only Kick Up Dust. "Some of those men who are in open rebellion against the laws of the union are spreading the word that the autonomy of District 14 was suspended by the international organization and the officers of that district removed from office because those district officials were making a fight against the Kansas industrial court law.

"Nothing could be farther from the truth and, of course, those who make such statements know they are untrue. It is only an attempt on their part to kick up a lot of dust to hide their illegal and indefensible conduct in violating the fundamental laws of the union and the basic provisions of their agreement with the coal operators of that district. There is nothing else to it.

Union Law Breakers. "These district officers were not removed from office because of their fight against the Kansas industrial court law. They were removed because they refused to obey the laws of their own union and the decision of their own international union. They called strikes that were violations of the joint agreement.

"The international union directed them to put the striking miners back at work and then take up the grievances in the regular way, as provided by the joint agreement. They refused to do this, but defied the international officers and international union. Then the international convention, the highest authority in the organization, followed by an overwhelming vote that they should put the striking miners back at work. Still they refused and defied the convention.

"For that reason, and that reason alone, they were removed from office and the autonomy of District 14 was suspended. The Kansas industrial court was not involved in the case in any manner whatever, although some of these men have attempted to hide behind their own shadows and make the people believe that they were being persecuted because they were fighting the Kansas industrial court law.

Never Fought Kansas Law. "The bald fact is that the officers of District 14 never have fought the Kansas industrial court law. They have fought the court, but they have not even up to this hour, made any attack upon the law, or have they made any effort whatever to have the Kansas industrial court law set aside or repealed.

"Throughout all of their dramatics and heroics they have merely denounced and defied the Kansas industrial court and then paraded before the public, with the spotlight shining on beating their breasts and shouting, 'I am a hero.' It was a clear case of playing to the grandstand, all of which was at the expense of the Kansas miners and the good name of the union.

Validity Not Tested. "Sometimes the thought arises that perhaps the officers of District 14 were not as anxious to have the Kansas industrial court law knocked out as they appeared to be from their declarations. As above stated, they never made any effort to have the law wiped out.

"They violated the industrial court law numerous times and had themselves arrested, but in no case did they start any proceedings that could test the constitutionality of the law itself. And when the international union offered to co-operate with and assist Alexander Howat to make a full legal test of the law Howat did not accept the offer of assistance.

"Sincerity of purpose would have prompted him to accept the help of the international union, instead of completely ignoring the offer. Just why he ignored the offer no one except Howat himself knows.

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MINERS' CHIEFS GIVE FACTS IN HOWAT CASE

"Neither Howat nor his associates ever attempted to test validity of Kansas anti-strike law in the courts. They have fought the industrial court, but they have not, even up to this hour, made any attack upon the law creating the court.

"The international union has offered to assist Howat to make a full legal test of the law, but he did not accept the offer of assistance.

"The convention of the United Mine Workers ordered Howat and his associates to live up to their agreement with the mine owners. They refused to abide by the decision of the convention and the law of the international union. For that reason, said that alone, they were removed from office."

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—The latest addition to the anti-union forces is Alfred J. Beveridge, former United States senator from Indiana. The ex-lawmaker has posed as a "liberal" but his speech shows how easy this brand of "liberalism" slips into reaction's camp.

In a speech before the state chamber of commerce he said he denounced "invisible government" 10 years ago, but now another "invisible government" has appeared.

"This new assault of ordered liberty and American institutions is the close and closed corporations of those men who have made themselves masters of labor unions," he said.

In his most flowery style, Beveridge reeled off his citizens alliance speech to the delight of business men who like to hear organized labor and its struggles for improved working conditions listed with organized capitalists, whose goal is profits.

The Canadian board made its award

UNION SMASHERS BRING GRIEF TO GARMENT TRADES

Manufacturers Who Broke Trade Agreements Now Busy Explaining to Public.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—Organized cloak manufacturers have been organized in an effort to smash the International Ladies Garment Workers' union. The bosses broke their contract and would establish piece work, wage reductions and the long work week.

The broken agreement cannot be answered by the employers, who are making strenuous efforts to stem the tide against them. They first attempted to conceal their purpose by claims that their success would mean lower prices for women's cloaks, but the unionists destroyed this alibi by showing the small labor cost in these garments.

The employers talk about "an honest day's work," which is referred to by President Schlesinger of the garment workers as a "commonplace truism that can be applied in every industrial dispute."

"The union will not allow the issue to be sidetracked in such unceremonious manner," said the workers' representative. "The union insists upon the full performance of the existing agreement, not for the enforcement of a mere technical right, but as a matter of vital practical concern.

COMMUNISTS AID PRINTER BOSSES

Boston "Reds" Give Aid, Comfort and Support to Enemies of Printing Trades.

BOSTON, Dec. 1.—The Typographical union is circulating an answer to the local typothetae, which has printed an attack on officers of the Boston Typographical union and the International Typographical union.

The effect of the award was to sustain the proposed reduction in the case of employees receiving \$125 or a sliding-scale reduction in the case of other employees on the following basis: Employees receiving \$80 per month, \$5; employees receiving \$81 to \$95 per month, \$7.50; employees receiving \$96 to \$125 per month, \$10.

ROCKEFELLER'S "UNION" MEETS PREDICTED FATE

DENVER, Dec. 1.—The 1914 miners' strike in southern Colorado was followed by a company "union," approved by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and hailed by President Welborn of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company as industrial democracy.

The company has reduced wages 30 per cent, in violation of an award by the government's bituminous coal commission, and in violation of the state industrial law which provides that 30 days' notice must be given before wages are reduced or workers strike.

COMMON PEOPLE MUST SHOULDER BURDEN OF WAR

Big Business Has Won Long-Waged Fight for Repeal of Excess Profits Tax.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Big Business has won its fight for repeal of the excess profits tax, and after this year the merry game of gouging will be clear velvet without contributions to the treasury department.

ONLY MAKE \$200 PROFIT ON MILK

Washington Investigation Shows Up Profiteering Among Milk Distributors.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Pity the poor milk dealer—not the little fellow with one or two cows, but the concern that deals in this commodity by the carload.

STOPPED WORK TO KILL RAT; INJURED AND WAS REFUSED COMPENSATION

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 1.—The state workmen's compensation commission reports a queer compensation case, wherein a worker engaged in moving a house chased a rat from under the building.

COAL INDUSTRY SICK; REFUSES TO FACE FACTS

Want to Reduce Wages But Refuse to Permit Government to Examine Books.

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—The coal industry is sick and refuses to let the doctor make an examination, said John Brophy in an address before the public ownership league.

Supreme Court Swats Juggling

Declares Rockefeller and Dupont Must Pay Millions Into U. S. Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Stock dividends are taxable when there is a reorganization and this stock extends to the new company, rules the United States supreme court.

Wages Before Profits in Canadian Rail Award

The Board of Arbitration appointed to hear the dispute between the Canadian National Railways and certain of its employees respecting a reduction of wages has rendered an award that is interesting in that it takes the position that cost of living shall have first consideration in the adjustment of wages, and that when reductions are made they shall bear due relation to the amount that will remain for each class of workers.

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CITY CAN BUILD ITS OWN PLANT AND GIVE HEAT TO ALL AT COST

Private Company Must Not Be Granted Right to Pick Cream of Business and Neglect Other Sections of City.

CITY FULLY ABLE TO BUILD HEATING PLANT

The city of Duluth is abundantly able to finance and build public heating systems that will supply the needs of every dwelling and business block at cost.

Heating pipes are only laid beneath the surface of the ground. There is no serious problem of construction involved. It is more simple than gas and water construction.

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CITY CAN BUILD ITS OWN PLANT AND GIVE HEAT TO ALL AT COST

The city commissioners are advised to go slow in granting a franchise to certain private parties for a central heating plant. They will undoubtedly give the matter careful consideration before taking any action, which of course in any event will be finally passed upon by the people.

We Need a Plant. Duluth needs a public heating plant as much as it needs anything in the world. No item in the cost of living except food approaches that of the cost of fuel. Even cordwood, once the poor man's boon, is now on the luxury list. Fuel for heating is used in nearly every home for the greater part of nine months a year.

Cannot Hit Rents. A city can do much to influence rent through taxation and we have not reached the time yet when it would be regarded as good city business to build homes. In some foreign cities that is being done by the municipality. In America we are learning how to build homes, not only through the medium of co-operative building and loan associations.

Heating at Cost. When it comes to heating, it is like light and air and water. In Duluth we have farmed out the privilege of serving the people with but one of such necessities of comfort and life. We give the people water and gas at cost. We permit a private company to make a profit in supplying us with electric light, and as that company has been very fair with the people it has continued to do business without interruption in spite of the fact that the sentiment here is in favor of municipal ownership.

It Would Be Folly. Would it not be folly to grant to private parties a franchise to supply the central portion of the city; to take the cream of the business, and to permit the rest of the folks in other sections to look on with envy while they are being denied such a luxury?

Will Not Reduce Rents. Is one foolish enough to believe that the granting of the franchise would result in reducing office rents in the public buildings down town? In the upper section of the district it would result in increasing rent. We know it is necessary to employ a man to take care of the furnace. His services would not be necessary when heat is to be supplied by a private company. The landlord would soon find it out and he would only exact that much more in rent that is if we are to judge by his habit.

The installation of a public heating system in Duluth, one that would extend from Lakeside to New Duluth, is no physical or financial problem. It would pay for itself in twenty-five years. It is not necessary to lay steam pipes as deep in the ground as water and gas pipes. There will be very

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