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Food Supplied Locked-Out Miners

SEATTLE.—(Federated Press)—Five hundred sacks of flour, 50 tons of vegetables, one truckload of candy and ten truckloads of clothing—this is one week's contribution of Seattle unionists to the relief of Washington miners entering the eighth month of their lockout by mine owners for refusing to accept a slash in wages.

Holding firm to the decision of the United Mine Workers to countenance no wage reductions in any field, the Washington miners to the number of 2,500 have steadfastly refused to return to work under any wage cut, no matter how slight, before April, 1922, when the contract, abrogated by the coal operators, expires.

Seventy-five hundred miners and dependants are relying on the relief funds of the International, which now average \$10 a week for each family, and the food relief conducted under the auspices of the Seattle and Tacoma Central Labor councils and the Washington State Grange.

Miner's Evicted

THURBER, Texas.—(Federated Press)

Coal operators in this vicinity have adopted tactics similar to those employed in the West Virginia fields in a vain effort to bring the miners to "terms."

Following the refusal of the miners here to accept a reduction of 33 1-3 per cent in wages from the present wage schedule—which does not expire until March 32, 1922—operators proceeded to evict the miners from company owned houses. The same procedure was reported from Strawn and Lyra. At Thurber, however, the company owns not only the houses but the water system and electric facilities. As a result many of the miners and their families are living in tents, outside the town's limits.

The miners were shut down last April, or operated only two or three days a week in an effort to force abrogation of the agreement with the Mine Workers' Union.

Farmer Labor-Party of Illinois.

AURORA, Ill.—The Farmer-Labor Party of Illinois in convention here voted to call itself the Illinois Branch of

Does Wolvin's Interview Show Gross Mismanagement of the Affairs of the Dominion Steel Corporation.

The present wage agreement between the coal miners of Nova Scotia and the operating coal companies expires in November. A new wage scale will be negotiated in Halifax, the meeting between the representatives and the operators will commence on the tenth day of November next. Under these circumstances, Mr. Roy Wolvin, president of the British Empire Steel Company, and president also of that subsidiary corporation known as the Dominion Steel Corporation, which in turn has the Dominion Coal Company as a sub-subsidiary company, has had himself interviewed in Montreal and an obsequious news agency has spread his views broadcast in the capitalist press of the Dominion. Mr. Wolvin is a solid, stable financial man of the Dominion and we must take his statements with due respect. This is why the Labor Herald will deal with his remarks in a serious manner. The interview, with its big heading, occupied thirty-nine and one-quarter inches of perfectly good white paper in a contemporary capitalist paper. We cannot afford so much space so we will have to content ourselves with giving the gist of it.

Mr. Wolvin stated that the coal mines of Nova Scotia must be closed this winter, unless the miners would agree to take lower wages. He declared that unless the miners accepted lower wages, the steel plants would also probably close down, also intimating that this result would be due to the selfish desire of the miners to continue receiving the present scale.

Mr. Wolvin emphasized the highness of the wages now being paid the coal miners. He declared that the miners were getting from 120 to 200 per cent higher wages than in 1914, whereas the cost of living is only 50 or 60 per cent above that of 1914.

Passing on to world conditions, Mr. Wolvin stated that a world wide depression was on, and that his companies had to meet this competition. He declared that the Dominion Coal Company has no fund from which it can pay wages, and was quite emphatic on the point that unless the United Mine Workers will consider a reduction in wages, and if they insist upon maintaining wages in a falling market, it will be quite impossible for the company to operate its collieries this coming winter, as it will be impossible for the company to mine and store coal during the winter months for next summer's trade at the present rates.

A Serious Situation

If Mr. Wolvin's remarks are true, they show a serious state of affairs, not so much with the coal mining business nor on the part of the miners, but upon the management of the corporation of which Mr. Wolvin is president. His remarks also show a serious state of our affairs from a national and public point of view. We will first take up the question of wages.

The Wages Question

Mr. Wolvin states that the wages are from 120 to 200 per cent above the 1914 level. It must be remembered that wages of the Nova Scotia coal miners increased hardly at all from 1896 to 1916, and when Mr. Wolvin quotes the date of 1914 he is being quite unfair to the miners. We will not quote all the figures of the various rates, but will take the basic wage per day.

In 1896 the miners of Nova Scotia were getting a basic daily rate of \$1.25, a miserably low wage at any time. In 1921 they are getting a basic daily rate of \$3.90, or 215 per cent advance over the 1896 rate.

In 1896 the index number of wholesale prices in the Dominion stood at 90.6. In August 1921 the wholesale index number of the Dominion stood at 238.6, or an advance of 160 per cent. The whole

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IE., Ia.—(Maud Mc-derated Press).—One to West Virginia to dated and fired upon oyed by the "open dition exists in this State of Iowa where ers, and millers with opposing peacefully upon an attempt to

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The miners were shut down last April, or operated only two or three days a week in an effort to force abrogation of the agreement with the Mine Workers' Union.

Farmer Labor-Party of Illinois.

AURORA, ILL.—The Farmer-Labor Party of Illinois in convention here voted to call itself the Illinois Branch of the Farmer-Labor Party of the United States. The number of delegates in attendance from all sections of the State was 243, coal miners predominating.

New planks incorporated in the platform of the party include one for the wider equality of women, better credit facilities for farmers and a State-owned bank similar to that of North Dakota, a party pledge to keep the forces of government off the backs of the labor unions and to enable the workers to make full use of their organized strength

Italy Protests Frame-Up

Rome—Under the leadership of the radical elements a monster demonstration has taken place here against the death sentence imposed upon the two Italians, Sacco and Vanzetti, by a jury in the court of Deathham, Mass. Despite the opposition of the police the demonstrators succeeded in arriving in front of the American Embassy, where many speeches were made deploring the circumstances that the authorities of the big democratic republic failed to intervene to right a judicial error which threatens the reputation of American judges and the traditions of impartiality and justice of the glorious republic.

News arriving from all parts of the country to the Minister of the Interior indicates that the agitation for Sacco and Vanzetti is spreading rapidly, from the big centers to the towns, to the villages, where numerous protest meetings are held every day. Belief in the man's innocence has become profound and general, following the publication of the details of the trial in various parts of the country. From La Notia.

An Italian daily at Rome.

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In 1896 the index number of wholesale prices in the Dominion stood at 90.6. In August 1921 the wholesale index number of the Dominion stood at 238.6, or an advance of 160 per cent. The whole-sale index number is not so high as the wage-number in the proportion of 260 to 315. However, if we reduce this to a percentage basis, we find that the wages of the datal men as compared with the cost of living as shown by the wholesale index number, has increased twenty-one per cent in a quarter of a century. A twenty-one per cent increase of real wages, as distinct from the nominal wages, added to the datal wage of \$1.25 gives us an actual increase of twenty-six and one quarter cents a day.

The above statistics then, give us this conclusion, that the wages of the Nova Scotia miners, based on 1896 prices, means an advance of twenty-one and one quarter cents a day, or one dollar and fifty seven and one half cents for a full working week.

A quarter of a century has passed since 1896. The machining age has vastly increased the productivity of the mines. Capital has doubled, trebled and quadrupled its revenues—even more.

Continued on page 8

Crerar

The Man You Must Not Miss Hearing
The Man with the Toilers' Platform

HON. T. A. CRERAR will address

A MASS MEETING

in Curler's Rink, George St., Sydney

Saturday Night, October 29

at 8 p. m.

Special Train Arrangements at Excursion Rates as follows.
Leaving:

Glace Bay at 6.45 p. m.

Don't miss hearing the Leader of Canada's
Progressive Electors.