Labor Men Discuss The Hindu Question

Dr. Sundar Singh Addresses Them in Toronto--Opposition Develops at Meeting

Dr. Sundar Singh, the Sikh representative, delivered an address before a representative gathering of Toronto labor men in the Temple Building on the question of allowing the Sikhs at present in Canada to bring in their wives. J. W. Bruce introduced him, assuring him he could have as long as he needed to state his case, and a courteous hearing.

Dr. Singh reviewed the maner in which the Sikhs at present in British Columbia came there. They had been there six years, they had money when they landed, and they were allowed in legally.

"These people," he said, "come over here and actually try to cheapen the cost of living. They are farmers, and also work in the forest. They do the work that you and I would not do.

"Our interests are your interests, we should co-operate for economic reasons. The workingmen are exploited in India just as much as you are here. This country is a big one. These men were allowed here and they have bought land. I ask you to give the other fellow a chance.

"The Doukobor, and every other, can bring their wives in. Why should there be a difference shown toward the Sikh?"

Mr. Simpson Replies

"You have emphasized the fact that the men you represent are not entering into industry," said Mr. James Simpson in erply. "Now, Mr. Hutcheson points out through the press that many are engaged in the lumber industry, and when I went through the lumber mills out there very little white labor was employed.

"The Orientals stand as a great barrier to a standard of living such as is desired in Canada. We not only have to fight those who exploit labor, but those who would by immigration lower the standard of living.

"In my opinion the English capitalist who has exploited the Hindoos in India by filling his granaries with grain while the Hindoos starved would be pleased to see Hindoos coming to Canada to save himself from the condemnation that is being heaped on him, and will be, as the truth is learned. It is that element that will encourage you to bring in Hindoos into Canada.

"There is not a single man who is supporting you today who has said you should demand the same wages for work as the white worker."

Dr. Singh: "I tell you our interests and yours are identical. There are exploiters in India. Why not give us a chance? The Sikhs will follow the farming trade in British Columbia, and help to cheapen the cost of living."

"The point is," said J. W. Bruce, "that if the wives of the Sikhs resident in British Columbia are brought in, the children will be domiciled Canadians, and cannot be removed. It is that which tested the constitutionality of the Natal Act. The most inhuman thing that can be done in a country is segregation of any particular portion. There is a racial distinction; a difference of social life and different ideals. To allow them in means a lowering of the standard of living. Plainly it means cheap labor.

"Lift the barrier as you suggest, and it means that you cannot keep the Hindoo race out. They are as much entitled to admission as the Sikhs, although I admit the Sikh is superior to the general Hindu. I am emphatically opposed, because I believe that for the Hindu as well as the white race absolute exclusion is in the interests of both."

WORD "OBEY" MAY BE CUT OUT OF SERVICE

Church of England May Make Drastic Changes in Forms

LONDON, Feb. 19.—As a result of the recent suffragette wedding at which the bride refused to promise to obey her husband, there is a prospect that the word "obey" will be struck out from the Church of England marriage service.

The matter came up at a meeting of the lower house of convocation of the province of Canterbury and a resolution was adopted recommending that the scriptural form of the last exhortation in the marriage ceremony be revised. The Dean of Canterbury objected strongly to altering "an exhortation which contains passages from St Peter and St. Paul, on the grounds that these apostles were wrong."

The dean of Winchester, however, insisted on the recommendation and it was adopted with a slight modification. The house also agreed to revise the following collect in the marriage service, asking for children for the couple. For this collect, the committee proposes to substitute the following words:

"Bestow, we beseech Thee, upon these two persons the heritage and gift of children."

TO MINERS ABROAD

British Coal Workers Appeal for Prevention of Export in Case of Strike

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The British Miners' Federation has decided to appeal to the miners of Europe to boycott all efforts to export coal to the United Kingdom in the event of a coal strike being declared by the federation. No doubt a similar request will be made t othe American miners and an international strike may be inaugurated.

The machine represents the socializing of labor power. This throbbing, continuously pulsing thing is not only a continuous motor, but it is a reservoir of social value and storage of energy for more social value. At the machine, if he rightly understands, every man is baptized into Socialism.

Unite Industrially and Politically

The strike now in progress in Lawrence, Mass., is but another chapter in the process of civilization We must be thankful for the fact that the news of the actual happenings got before the people and that through that the great mass of people who know nothing of organized labor are learning that there are two sides to every industrial dispute. Their cool judgment will aid us in securing legislation that will stop the brutal acts of hired recruited into the militia for the purpose of being used against strikers. We remember the time of the A. R. U. strike the different regiments of the state militia of Illinois were recruited in two weeks to their full number, and that it was the new recruits and not the regular members who were sent to the front to shoot down innocent men and women on the streets as they are now doing in Lawrence. The butchery in the name of law should be stopped. It should be so that neither the state militia nor the regular army could be called into active use only in the case of rioting of such a nature that the regular peace officers cannot handle it, and if it is left o organized labor to solve the problem there will be no rioting during the strike periods. Hired agitators are placed in the ranks who commit the overt acts for which the men who went on strike are held responsible. The private detectives advise the breaking of laws; the private detective advises, by inflammatory talk, disregard of property and human rights, and then the private detective turns state's evidence against the members of the union who foolishly fall into the trap. For the private detective must make good or lose his job.—Exchange.

The above in a labor journal is the expression of an editor who condemns the brutality that is usually perpetrated in every conflict between masters and slaves. The crimes that have been committed in the name of law at Lawrence, Mass., have aroused his indignation and in his journal he has filed his protest against the outrages that have been inflicted on men and women, struggling for conditions that will make it possible for them to live.

This editor does not seem to realize that almost every law that graces the statute books has been enacted in the interest of a class of privilege. The great mass of the people have been blind to the fact that a class struggle is raging throughout every nation on earth, and that the comparatively few who are clothed with economic power have been able to enact legislation that holds the many in subjugation.

The vast majority of the people labor under the delusion that because they are equipped with ballots and have been permitted to cast their votes for candidates for legislative bodies, that they have a voice in the enactment of laws which they are commanded to respect. But the majority of the people have been duped by the cunning political ingenuity of the hirelings of a master class and the slave class have been using their political power to clothe with authority representatives of capitalism, who through the enactment of laws, have placed property above the liberty and happiness of humanity.

The militia was created and has been supported to maintain privilege on the throne of authority, and if the laboring people yearn to escape the outrages of which this editor now complains they must unite industrially and politically, and overthrow a system that demands armed might to support it.—The Miners' Magazine.

TENDENCY OF UNIONISM

In the consideration of unionism the tendency of its well-wishers should be to point out its common errors and misconceptions and to bring forward principles for its guidance, to throw as much light on its actions and the ideas, right or wrong, which should or may be the basis of its action. While one would like to get down to a discussion of practical unionism, it is very difficult to do so until the great fundamental errors in the credennce of its members have been made plain.

Upon the success of the union in accomplishing its real object depends the value of its success to its members. And the measure of this success depends upon the intelligence used in the attempt.

Union men are as much men and members of the working class as if they did not belong the union. What men as a whole are striving for is the real object of the union, whether they are aware of that fact or not. Men's endeavors consist in getting those things useful or necessary to them, which well not provided for them by nature. Their equipment towards these things from nature were mind and muscle. It is a well-known fact that ingenuity saves labor. On the other hand, to what extent men neglect the use of the mind they can and will make up for it by excessive use of the muscles. The great error of humanity from the beginning was the undervaluation of their mental equipment. As a result the attainment of the necessaries and comforts of life have come to be accompanied by hard labor.

The object then of human endeavors is the getting of those things, and the escaping, as much as may be, the drudgery of production. This is the object of the reason for the union.

That is not to say that its members are fully alive to the fact. It is a peculiar thing in connection with humanity that to what extent it loses sight of its real aim, it takes up other notions that are detrimental to it. The human head must be filled with ideas, right or wrong, or it will collapse.

Many of men's ideas are obtained from their surroundings unadulterated with simple common sense, and clung to with a tenacity worthy of a better cause. One of these is that since a portion of humanity has settled down to the part of production, with all its drudgery, and another portion to the part of accumulation without it, that such is the natural and proper construction of society.

Union men, to a very large extent, hold in with this belief, in spite of the fact that the division is against them in every way. First, the interests of the masters, very plainly consists in getting as much work out of them as possible, and in giving as little as possible for it. Second, there are so many of the servant persuasion that they are a drug on the market and a nuisance to both themselves and their masters. The consequence is that their positions as servants are insecure. Under slavery dependent persons know exactly on whom they were dependent. The masters on their part recognized the fact and their own responsibility toward them. We, on the contrary, are dependent upon masters to the extent that no slave ever desired to be, and further upon those we don't know, and who don't know we are dependent upon them, or that we are alive in fact, and as far as that goes, would just as soon we were dead. This is the wildest state of dependence it is possible to imagine.

Can the upholding of it on the part of the union result in the accomplishing of that which we said is their real object? When in history did any condition of dependence result in the happiness of the dependents?

The union can make some real progress when it right about faces with regard to its own interests. It cannot act right in accordance with wrong principles. Knowledge is increasing. Many at present believe that no man can serve two masters—themselves and those whose interests are opposed to their own. In order that their position may be secure society as a whole and its ideas should be reorganized. But it is not necessary that we should wait until then. The trouble so far as we are concerned can be nullified whenever we arrive at the right opinion with regard to it. We can turn back or go farther and fare worse.—Gow.

STUNG

Walter F. Harris, Bergen, Alta.

Stranger: Good morning, Uncle Fatpocket. Mr. Rakeoff, the real estate agent, told me you had some property for sale."

U. F.: Ah! You're in the market, sir, are you?

S.: Well, yes. I'm inspecting some of the likely property around here.

U. F. Well, now, stranger, between you and me and in strict confidence, dont you know, you couldn't make a better investment than to buy my estate. Exploitia. I don't want to sell it, really, but Rakeoff did me a good turn once, and I'd like to put a little business in this way. It's a good paying investment right along.

S.: What's it worth?

U. F.: Well, really, sir, I left it to Rakeoff to fix the price to the buyer. You'd better talk it over with him. He expects his commission, you know and the—ahem! laborer is worthy of his hire.

S.: Well, name your price. I'll make it right with the agent, if I buy.

U. F.: Um—well, I ought to get $125,000. The tenants are all first-class payers and the rents are fine.

S.: What does the rent roll amount to?

U. F.: I haven't the figures handy, but it must total at least $8,000 a year altogether.

S.: Isn't $125,00 rather stiff for such a small dividend? Consider the risk!

U. F.: No, sir! I cleared $8,110 last year. The tenants are all steady conservative working people, who don't fool with strikes, and lock—ahem!—strikes and all this Socialist foolishness. I'd be willing to GUARANTEE $8,000 at least. They are all good payers.

S.: Well, shall we say $100,000? I suppose you'd be prepared to certify to at least $8,000 annual rent-roll.

U. F.: I'll SWEAR that last year's rent-roll came to $8,110, and I'll not take a CENT less than $10,000!

Stranger: Thank you! I can swear you myself, as I am a commissioner to administer oaths. Also I'm the Income Tax Commissioner. You returned your income from the Exploitia property last year at $4,900. I'll make the necessary correction and send you the statement of account. Good morning!

Uncle Fatpocket: ——!!!!! ***—

THE UNDER DOG

Beneath this stone there lies at rest a man who always did his best. The gods ordained that he should move along a lowly, humble groove. For him there was no wealth or fame, he bore no proud ancestral name, no palace doors for him swung wide, but in his hut he lived and died. His years were many and his toil brought riches from the stubborn soil, but all that wealth to them was brought who owned the land whereon he wrought. He fashioned lumber and the boards made shelter for the languid lords. He fed the cows and herded swine that other men might nobly dine. From break of dawn till close of day he toiled along his weary way, and took his earnings in his hand to fatten those who owned the land. His feet were seamed with bramble scars that others might have motor cars. This strip of ground is his reward; 'twas given by his overlord. It's six feet long and two feet wide, and here they brought him when he died. To labor hard for 50 years endure the burdens and the tears; to have no grateful hours of rest; to toil and bend and do your best to grind and moil and delve and save, and at the last to get—a grave! Poor souls, that in the darkness grope and weave and spin and have no hope."—Ex.

SKELETON OF MAN WHO LIVED 100,000 YEARS AGO IS DISCOVERED

LONDON, Feb. 20.—A human skeleton which scientists now declare to be the oldest yet discovered, dating back probably 100,000 years, has been found near Ipswich, England. It is declared to be much older than the "Galley Hill man" and to reveal every indication of being a much superior type, mentally and physically, to either the "Galley Hill man" or the Neanderthal variety, the latter of which had many simian characteristics.

The strange fact is this man who walked the earth a thousand centuries ago when the polar regions were inhabitable and the mammoth was still common in Europe, was of essentially a modern type. The thigh bones, and bones of the forearm and hands are absolutely the same as in the modern Englishman. The leg bones are of peculiar form, differing from moderns. This Ipswich man was 5 feet 10 in. in height. The skull was small in proportion and was flattened and elongated in the rear, but indicated a high order of intelligence. The discovery was made by workmen excavating in a brick yard.

Do you want to know how cheap men are? Then hang out a sign "Men wanted," on any street in any city, and see the swarm of ragged, hungry men who will gather around it like jackals to a feast, offering themselves to do any work, no matter how vile, dangerous or dishonest—only asking for enough to keep them from starving. Could any slave-owner have secured services so cheap? Could he have put out such a sign and filled his cotton field? Did the black man have to hire for masters? No! Able-bodied slaves were sought and bought at a prices besides the cost of house, food, clothing and care of family. Even babies were estimated at $100 each, and cost and care of raising. Is it so today with white babies? Are they cared for? Were ever slaves babies murdered because mothers could not keep them? Oh, wage-earners of America, can you not see that your condition is worse than chattel-slavery, that there must be something wrong with the system that forces you to be worse than slaves? Learn even now that your only hope lies in organization, agitation and education. —P. L. S., in the Clarion.

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GROWING SUBSTITUTION OF OIL FOR COAL

For just about a year the oil trade has been developing under this new conviction of a sufficient oil supply, which has especially affected the consumer. The tendency to substitute oil for coal in many industrial establishments is growing rapidly. It is further encouraged by the possibilities of still greater economies by burning oil in internal combustion engines. Its advantages long known in the manufacture of fine glass are being heeded. It has been adopted by the Navy and its use increases on the railroads. Oil is being taken seriously.

During the year stocks in general have declined except in California. In the Apalachian field and in the Mid-Continent field they remained stationary. In Illinois there are about 21,000,000 barrels storage, compared with 27,000,000 in 1910. The stock on the Pacific coast is estimated at 40,000,000 barrels, compared with only 33,000,000 barrels at the close of 1910. In neither year is account taken of such producers' stored oil as has not been sold or even carefully measured but is chiefly contained in open reservoirs.

General Rise in Prices

In the Appalachian field the pipeline price of $1.30 a barrel has prevailed steadily throughout the year, at the end of which the price of oil of Pennsylvania grade was raised from $1.30 to $1.35 a barrel. This is the first advance in price since March, 1907. In Illinois the changes have been as follows: At the beginning of 1911, 60 cents a barrel was paid for light oil and 52 cents for heavy oil. Light oil was raised on May 2 to 63 cents, and on June 14 to 65 cents. The heavy oil was raised to 55 cents on May 2.

The MidContinent field began the year with oil at 42 cents a barrel and on January 2 the price was raised to 44 cents. On May 2 this was changed to 46 cents, on June 14 to 48 cents, and on September 15 to 50 cents.

In California the prices were held at 30 to 65 cents according to quality, with higher prices for oils nearer the Los Angeles market.

THE INDUSTRIAL UNREST IN ENGLAND

Report still reach us from all over the country of strikes and rumors of strikes. The carpenters and joiners with a membership of 67,000, have given notices in twenty-nine towns in pursuance of their demands for improved conditions. The railwaymen are dissatisfied and restless; a meeting of two branches of the A. S. R. S. at Sheffield, on Sunday condemned the recent settlement, and a mass meeting at Stratford urged common action with the miners and weavers. Out of the brave refusal of the London men to return to a 53 hours' week in the ship-building industry, it is probable that the national movement for an eight-hour day will shortly take practical form. In London the employees at one of the largest boot factories—Franklin's, of Commercial Road—have decreased their hours from 54 to 52½ per week, and thus brought themselves into line with their comrades at Northampton and Leicester. Their short, sharp strike also secured a minimum wage of 30s. weekly.—Manchester Labor Leader.

The Rev. E. R. Walker is leaving England with several of his parishioners to take up farming in British Columbia. He says that Lloyd George is taxing people out of existence and they must get out. Not so, dear parson, not so. All Lloyd George is doing is to take a little bit of the unearned wealth away from parasite gentlemen for the sake of the useful many. But, dear parson, you being but the hangeron of the capitalist parasites, think that when the plunderers are made disgorge a little, the very heavens are falling. Come on over to British Columbia and try and get work. The experience may do you good. You will probably join the Vancouver hunger marchers, and if you have the gift of gab and are a man, you will be orating from a Socialist soapbox within a year, and having your head dashed in by the Vancouver police bulls.

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