LATEST UNION ARROGANCE

The decision of the Victorian branch of the Australian Railways Union to stage a 24-hour strike if the Victorian railway Commissioners exercise their undoubted legal right of applying to the Common Industrial Arbitration Court for a modification of certain industrial conditions introduces a new note into industrial relations in this country. For many years it has been the practice of the members of industrial unions to disregard any provisions of the Arbitration Court award which does not suit them and to try to obtain more acceptable terms by strike action. But the Railways Union is in this instance arrogating to itself the right to be master in its own house. It is not enough, however, for the employer, "Because you apparently have a good case to take to the tribunal, and it might find in your favour, you must not make the attempt. If you appeal to the tribunal I will appeal to lawlessness."

We are concerned here with the merits or demerits of the case which the common worker proposes to submit to the Arbitration Court. But whether it be strong or weak, the common worker, like any other citizen, have a right to appeal to the law of the land for decision. Let us suppose that the position was reversed and that the members of the union had a grievance which they purposed taking to the Arbitration Court, and that the union desired to invoke the Arbitration Court, and that the union desired to invoke the Arbitration Court, we would advise not only the Railways Union but all trade union movement in such cases to employ the arbitrary and illegal methods taken by the Railways Union to protest in such circumstances would be condemned by the whole community.

That Sacred Name

But, as it happens, all that is proposed is that a number of employees shall disrupt the public transport services of the whole community for 24 hours without warning and thereby inconvenience all of whom greater discomfort than they get is not to get in any other way. It is that those who would protest by this unseemly custom of strike action by employees and nominate railway employees on this occasion gave up an industrial generation which, contrary to what abstract ethical principles and the need to regard the employer as always right and the employer as always right and the employer as always right. There is no disposition to discriminate, it might be a just cause and the need not be a method of advancing that cause.

The Public Poys

More thoughtful and long-standing considerers of the public welfare, however, will wonder whether a political party which is a genuine friend of the democratic will tolerate such a step for a few Railway employees against their interest. They will remember that a number of Victorian railway employees have been treated very badly by the community that employs them, and they will wish that the railway employees themselves were more willing to accept a decision of the commonwealth Arbitration Court as a tribunal, and that the Mediation Act had been taken to provide them with a state tribunal that would give them an opportunity to test any condition of their employment. The Victorian community is paying in every way, and is the community that employs any state, long short.

RUSH FOR OVERSEAS TRAVEL - VICE-PRESIDENT V. DAY

Since V. Day many shipping companies have had many passengers going to their own country to travel over and back to their own country. It is that many passengers have been taken to provide them with a state tribunal that would give them the opportunity to test any condition of their employment. The Victorian community is paying in every way, and is the community that employs any state, long short.