

# News and Progress 1997

Nýtt innan vísindi í 1997

PhD-theses / Ársins doktarar 1997

Tórður Jóansson

Tórður Jóansson, *English loanwords in Faroese*, PhD-thesis, University of Aberdeen 1996.

(Published by Fannir, ISBN 99918-49-14-9)

Tórður Jóansson, *Ensk lánorð í føroyskum*, doktararitgerð, University of Aberdeen 1996.

## Abstract and salient points

The thesis is an attempt at examining some hundred Faroese words which may be English loanwords considering form, pronunciation, and meaning. In the research efforts have been made to establish approximately when a loanword might have entered Faroese, based upon sound-changes taken place in the two languages over the past centuries. Thus the loanwords have been organised into five groups: Early loans, i.e. before 1600, Old loans, 1600-1800, Modern loans, 1800-1940, Recent loans, 1940-1995, and Other loans. All the loanwords have been discussed, also the indirect ones.

Some attention has been paid to the historical and social background of Faroe, considered as the external circumstances for the adoption of English loanwords in the language; and it is pointed out that close connections and interaction between English and Faroese speakers must have been of greater importance than formerly assumed. The present research into English

## Samandráttur og kjarni

Hendan ritgerð er ein roynd til tess at kanna nøkur hundrað føroysk orð, sum kunnu vera ensk lánorð, meta vit um snið, framburð og týdning. Í granskingini hefur verið roynt at finna fram til á leið, nær eitt lánorð kann vera komið inn í føroyskt, grundað á ljóðbroytingar, sum eru farnar fram í báðum málunum seinastu øldirnar. So statt eru lánorðini skipað í fimm bólkar: Fyrstu lánini, t.e. undan 1600, Gomul lán, 1600-1800, Nýggj lán, 1800-1940, Nýkomin lán 1940-1995 og Onnur lán. Øll lánorðini eru viðgjørd, eisini óbeinleiðis lánini.

Nakað verður gjørt burtur úr søguliga og samfelagsliga baksýninum í Føroyum, mett at vera ytru umstøðurnar til at taka upp ensk lánorð í málið; og dentur verður lagdur á, at sambandið og samskiptið millum enskt- og føroysktmælt fólk má hava havt størri týdning enn hildið hefur verið áður. Granskingin av enskum lánorðum í føroyskum tykist at stuðla slíkari áskoðan.

Í summum førum eru fornenskt og miðenskt hjáljóð varðveitt í føroyskum, sum til

loanwords in Faroese seems to support such an assumption.

In some cases old English vowels have been retained in Faroese, as for instance [o·] or [u·], or the sounds have changed according to the normal sound-changes taken place in the development from Old Norse to Modern Faroese, i.e. into the diphthongs [ɔu] or [ɰu] respectively. Such linguistic considerations have been of the utmost importance in establishing when a likely or possible English loanword may have entered Faroese.

Practically all English loanwords in Faroese have been naturalised, e.g. equipped with an appropriate grammatical form, and they have also been accommodated neatly into the Faroese phonological system. Only the most recent loanwords are unmistakably British or American English.

In conclusion the most important sound-changes in the process of borrowing are summarised, and an historical conclusion questions whether Faroe has ever been so isolated as most scholars have taken for granted.

dømis [o·] ella [u·], ella eru ljóðini broytt samsvarandi vanligu ljóðbroytingunum í menningini frá norrønum til nútíðar føroyskt, t.e. til ávikavist tvíljóðini [ɔu] ella [ɰu]. Slíkar málfrøðiligar metingar hava havt alstóran týðning, tá ið gerast skuldi av, nær eitt sannlíkt ella møguligt enskt lánorð kann vera komið inn í føroyskt.

Allarflestu ensku lánorðini í føroyskum hava fingið heimasnið, t. d. útgjørd við hóskandi mállæruligum sniði, so sum kyni, endingum, o. s. fr., og tey hava eisini lagað seg væl til føroysku ljóðskipanina. Einans tey mest nýkomnu lánorðini hava varðveitt eyðsædda bretskt- ella ameriskt-enska dámin.

Í niðurstøðunum verða týðningarmestu ljóðbroytingarnar, sum eru farnar fram, tá ið lánorðini eru komin inn í føroyskt, drignar saman; og søguliga niðurstøðan setir spurnartekin við, um Føroyar nakrantíð hava verið so avbyrgdar, sum flestu granskarar hava tvíhildið um fyrr.

## Jóannes Dalsgaard

Jóannes Dalsgaard, *Fylking*, PhD-thesis, Fróðskaparsetur Føroya 1996.

(Published by Fylking, ISBN 99918-3-029-4)

Jóannes Dalsgaard, *Fylking*, doktararitgerð, Fróðskaparsetur Føroya 1996.

### Summary

The union, Enighedens, which changed its name to Fylking in 1932, came into being as a result of the social changes which started in the Faroe Islands in the 19th century and accelerated in what we call slupptíðina (the days of the fishing smack). These changes did not bring about economic progress alone. They also caused social problems and a worsening of the standard of living of the ordinary worker. After the outbreak of the First World War, conditions became even worse. This prompted those who suffered from these worsened conditions to retaliate.

The most important events in connection with this were the founding in 1915 of *Enighedens* in Tvøroyri and in 1916 *Havnar Arbeidsmannafelag* (Tórshavn Trade Union).

A significant factor in the founding of *Enighedens* in Tvøroyri was the fact that men there had worked in other countries and knew about trade unions. There were also foreign tradesmen in Tvøroyri and there is little doubt that they played a part in encouraging the forming of a union.

At first there were no general agreements between *Enighedens* and the employers, only wage agreements, which were based on the principle that wages should follow prices in Tvøroyri.

On the whole this principle appears to

### Samandráttur

Fortreytirnar fyri stovnan Enighedens, sum 1. mars 1932 broytti navn til Fylking, vóru tær samfelagsbroytingar, ið byrjaðu í 19. øld og av álvara tóku dik á seg við tí skeiði, ið vit vanliga nevna slupptíðina. Hesar broytingar leiddu ikki bert til búskaparlíga framgongd. Tær elvdu eisini til sosialar trupulleikar og til versnandi lívskor hjá teimum, ið bert høvdu hendurnar at líta á. Tá fyrri heimsbardagi byrjaði í 1914, versnaðu lívskorini uppáftur meir, og henda støða elvdi til móttílk frá nøkrum teirra, ið komu illa fyri av teimum versnandi korunum.

Tær mest týðandi hendingarnar í hesum høpi vóru, at í 1915 var Enighedens á Tvøroyri stovnað og í 1916 Havnar Arbeidsmannafelag.

Ein týðandi fortreyt fyri stovnseting Enighedens var tann, at á Tvøroyri vóru menn, ið høvdu arbeiðt uttanlands og kendu til fakfelagsviðurskifti. Eisini vóru útlendskir handverkarar á staðnum, og tað er tí lítil ivi um, at íblástur at stovna fakfelag eisini er komin frá hesum monnum.

Í byrjanini vóru eingir sáttmálar millum Enighedens og arbeiðsgevararnar, men bert lønaravtalur, ið bygdu á ta meginreglu, at lønirnar skuldu fylgja prísgongdini á Tvøroyri.

Sum heild tykist tað, sum at hendan meginregla hevur verið fylgd til umleið

have been observed until about 1928. From 1928-1933 there were no agreements. From a union point of view this gave a sense of insecurity and some confusion at this time. Until about 1925-26 *Enigheden's* chief aim was to improve wage conditions and gain certain rights. But later the right to own the means of production becomes part of their policy, and a close co-operation is established with the newly formed socialist party. One result of this new movement is the co-operative enterprise *Ísvirkid*.

*Enigheden* has thus both union support and political support, which makes it resemble more closely unions in other Nordic countries. Two important factors in this development are undoubtedly the influence of P.M. Dam and the connection with *Føroya Arbeidarafelag* (Faroese Trade Union).

About 1930 matters other than those connected with pay become an important part of *Enigheden's* union activity. The most important of these is to persuade the employers to accept the general principle of the payment of wages in cash. The right of the worker to payment in cash formed part of all agreements from, and including, the first agreement in 1918. Nevertheless the practice of paying workers in kind continued and appears to become more deep rooted as we approach the thirties.

Quite simply, the employers did not respect the regulations with regard to the settling of accounts, and it must be admitted that until about 1925-26 *Enigheden* accepted this state of affairs. The employers said that they did not have the means to start a

1928. Frá 1928-1933 var sáttmálaloysi, og tí vóru viðurskiftini eitt sindur ótrygg og ógreið, sæð frá einum fakrættarligum sjónarhorni, í hesum skeiði. Til umleið 1925-26 var aðalmálið hjá *Enigheden* at vinna lønarbatar og ymisk rættindi. Men eftir hetta fer virksemið eisini at snúgvá seg um ognarrættin til vinnutólini, og tætt samstarv verður millum *Enigheden* og tann nýstovnaða javnaðarflokkin. Eitt úrslit av hesi nýggju stevnu er samvinnufyrirøkkan *Ísvirkid*.

Fakliga støðið undir *Enigheden* verður sostatt útbyggt við einum politiskum støði, og *Enigheden* kemur við hesari gongd at líkjast fakfeløggunum í øðrum Norðurlöndum. Tað er einki at ivast í, at sambandið við P.M. Dam hevur stóran týðning fyri hesa gongd, men eisini sambandið við *Føroya Arbeidarafelag* hevur týðning.

Umleið 1930 koma, umframt lønarspurningar, aðrir spurningar at eyðkenna fakliga virksemið hjá *Enigheden*. Tann mest týðandi er málið um at fáa arbeiðsgevararnar at góðkenna meginregluna um kontanta lønarrindan. Rættur verkamanna til kontanta lønarrindan var staðfestur í øllum sáttmálum frá og við fyrsta sáttmálanum í 1918. Kortini helt siðvenjan at løna arbeiðsfólki við vørum sær framvegis á lívi og tóktist bert at grógva alt fastari, sum vit nærkast tríatiárunum.

Arbeiðsgevararnir hildu heilt einfalt ikki ásetingarnar um uppláring, og ásannast má, at til umleið 1925-26 góðtók *Enigheden* hesa støðu. Arbeiðsgevararnir søgdu seg ikki hava gjaldføri til at seta eina kontantlønarskipan í verk. Tað er ikki her kannað, í hvønn mun henda grundgeving veruliga

system of paying wages in cash. To what extent this really was the reason for their opposition to paying wages in cash has not been investigated in this work.

*Arbeidsgevarafelagið* (Employers' Association) approves in 1933 a regulation which will ensure that wages are paid in cash. The system, however, does not work, as the members of *Fylking* still have to collect their pay at the office of the merchant. This ends with the old system by which the workers were paid in kind again becoming common practice in *Tvøroyri* in the autumn of 1933.

This situation gives rise to so much dissatisfaction amongst the members of *Fylking* that they decide to take strong action. After a great deal of discussion in *Fylking*, it was agreed that the union would have to have some means of collecting members' wages from the employers. It is in connection with this that the concept of a special office for paying wages arises. Behind the proposal for a wages office is the anticipation that the law on unemployment insurance and the direction of labour would come into operation in the Faroe Islands. According to the proposals in the law, offices for the direction of labour were to be established throughout the country, and the state, municipal councils and unions were to bear the cost of these offices. In *Fylking* it was therefore regarded as a matter of course that this office would be able to collect members' wages.

But the Faroese parliament delayed the matter, and no unemployment insurance came into operation at that time. In the circumstances *Fylking* decided to set up an of-

var orsøkin til mótstöðu teirra ímóti eini kontantlønarskipan.

*Arbeidsgevarafelagið* góðtekur í 1933 eina áseting, ið skal tryggja, at lønin verður rindað kontant. Men skipanin fæst framvegis ikki at virka, tí limir *Fylkingar* skulu framvegis heinta lønina á skrivstovu keypmansins. Tað endar við, at gamla skipanin við at løna arbeiðsfólki við vørum í roynd og veru aftur verður galdandi á *Tvøroyri*, tá komið er út á heystið 1933.

Henda støða elvir til so stóra misnøgd millum limirnar í *Fylking*, at avgjørt verður at seta hart ímóti hørðum. Eisini verður eftir drúgvar umrøður í *Fylking* komið til, at *Fylking* má útvega sær eitt amboð at krevja lønina hjá limunum inn frá arbeiðsgevarunum. Tað er í hesum høpi, at hugskotið kemur upp um eina løngjaldstovu. Bakstøðið fyri hugskotinum um løngjaldstovu er tað, at roknað varð við, at lóg um arbeiðsloysis-trygging og arbeiðsávísing fór at verða sett í gildi fyri *Føroyar*. Sambært uppskotinum skuldu arbeiðsávísingarskrivstovur setast á stovn kring landið, og ríkið, kommunurnar og fakfeløgini skuldu í felag bera kostnaðin av teimum. Tað var í *Fylking* hildið at vera sjálvsagt, at henda skrivstova á *Tvøroyri* skuldi kunnað kravt lønirnar inn fyri limirnar.

Men lögtingið freistaði málið, og sum kunnugt varð eingin arbeiðsloysis-trygging sett í gildi um hetta mundið. Undir hesum umstøðum valdi *Fylking* at seta skrivstovuna á stovn, hóast limirnir sjálvir skuldu bera allan kostnaðin av rakstrinum. Eftir eitt stutt, men hart verkfall, har *Fylking* fekk fíggarligan stuðul frá *De Samvirke-ende Fagforbund* í *Danmark*, góðtók *Tvør-*

fice, even though the members would have to bear all the running costs themselves. After a short but bitter strike, during which *Fylking* got financial help from *De Samvirkende Fagforbund* in Denmark, the employers association, *Tvøroyrar Arbeidsgevarafelag* (TAG), acknowledged the wages office. This event changed the fundamental balance of power between workers and employers in Tvøroyri. The law concerning the payment of wages in cash came into effect for the whole of the Faroe Islands on 1st January, 1937.

After the establishment of the wages office, the attitude of the two sides hardened, and there were several serious disagreements between *Fylking* and TAG in January 1935. There were also internal problems in *Fylking*, but these were all resolved and the union emerged from the difficult year of 1935 safe and sound.

The skilled workers agreement of 7th January 1936 is interesting; by this agreement apprentices in Tvøroyri now have regulated conditions. This is by no means the only example of how the employers' association and *Fylking* work together for the common good.

At a meeting in *Fylking* on 14th February 1936, it is decided to try to buy a trawler for the town in order to cut down on unemployment. The parties who co-operate in this effort are initially *Fylking*, *Fiskepigernes Fagforening* (the union of the women who worked with the fish ashore) and one of the employers, Richard B. Thomsen. Richard Thomsen withdrew in March 1936 due to fact that he could not raise money for his share in the project.

oyrar Arbeidsgevarafelag løngjaldstovuna. Henda hending broytti avgerandi maktjavnvágina millum arbeiðsmenn og arbeiðsgevarar á Tvøroyri. Lóg um kontanta lønarrindan kom í gildi fyri allar Føroyar 1. januar 1937.

Eftir at løngjaldstovan varð sett á stovn, harðnar lagið millum partarnar, og fleiri álvarsamar ósemjur vóru millum *Fylking* og *Tvøroyrar Arbeidsgevarafelag* í januar 1935. Eisini innanhýsis í *Fylking* vóru trupulleikar, ið tó allir vórðu greiddir, og felagið kom heilskapað burtur úr tí trupla árinum 1935.

Handverkarasáttmálin frá 7. januar 1936 er áhugaverdur, tí við honum koma lærlingar á Tvøroyri undir skipað viðurskipti. Hetta er eitt av teimum ikki heilt fáu dømunum, har arbeiðsgevarar og *Fylking* samstarvast um eitt mál av felags áhuga.

Á fundi í *Fylking* tann 14. februar 1936 verður gjørt av at roynd at útvega ein trolara til plássið fyri at minka um arbeiðsloysið. Henda roynd byrjar sum eitt samstarv ímillum *Fylking*, *Fiskepigernes Fagforening* og ein av arbeiðsgevarunum, Richard B. Thomsen. Richard Thomsen tók seg fyrst í mars 1936 burtur úr samstarvinum, av tí at hann ikki fekk fígging til sín part av verkætlanini. *Fylking* og *Fiskepigernes Fagforening* hildu fram við ætlanunum um at keypa trolaran.

Samráðingar í mars 1936 millum umboð fyri feløgini og fiskaribankan endaðu við, at fiskaribankin játtaði fígging til trolarakeypið. Føroya Banki játtaði fígging at keypa ognirnar hjá A/S J. Mortensens Eft. ið var farið á húsagang móti 1. veðrætti og treytað av, at feløgini kundu leggja 20.000

*Fylking* and *Fiskepigernes Fagforening* carried on with their plan to buy the trawler.

As a result of discussions between representatives of the unions and *Fiskeribanken* (Danish Fishery Bank) in March 1936, the bank agreed to finance the purchase of a trawler. Føroya Banki agreed to finance the purchase of the properties of A/S J. Mortensens Eft. in return for a 1st priority mortgage and on condition that the union could raise DKK 20,000. The union borrowed this sum from *Fiskeribanken*.

On the 25th of May this new concern, which was in the course of being established, acquired the trawler *Leivur Øssurson*, and a short time later Mortensen's property was purchased. On the 3rd of June 1936, the business enterprise of the unions was formally established and named *Arbejdernes Trawlerdrift*, a limited liability cooperative. *AT*, as the enterprise came to be called, was the only business which was solely owned by workers.

After some initial problems *AT* became, about 1941, the largest business in Tvøroyri and the second largest in the country. It had a democratic management structure, and is one of the most interesting business undertakings of that time. When the economic crisis hit the Faroes in 1951, *AT* also got into difficulties. The actual reasons for these difficulties are explained in the text. The business was restructured in 1952, but never really recovered again, and in 1954 was consigned to history.

After the Second World War the municipal council embarks on the establishment of fish factories. The first is *Tvøroyrar Ís-*

*kr.* á borðið. Hesa upphædd lántu fakfeløgini frá fiskaríbankanum.

Tann 25. mai 1936 yvirtók nýggja fyrirtøkan undir stovnan trolaran, ið fekk navn-ið Leivur Øssursson, og stutt eftir vórðu ognir Mortensens keyptar. Tann 3. juni 1936 varð fyrirtøkan hjá fakfeløgnum formliga stovnað og fekk navnið Arbejdernes Trawlerdrift a.m.b.a. *AT*, sum fyrirtøkan nevndist, var einasta fyrirtøka í Føroyum, sum arbeiðarar einsamallir áttu.

Eftir byrjanartrupulleikar gjørdist *AT* umleið 1941 størsta fyrirtøka á Tvøroyri og næststørsta vinnulívsfyrirtøka í landinum. Fyrirtøkan hevði ein demokratiskan leiðslu-bygnað, og hon er eitt hitt mest áhugaverda vinnulívsfyribrigdið í tíðarskeiðinum. Tá búskaparliga kreppan rakti Føroyar í 1951, kom *AT* eisini í trupulleikar, og greitt er í tekstinum frá ítøkiligum orsökunum. Fyrirtøkan varð endurreist á vári 1952, men hon kom ongantíð fyri seg aftur og fór endaliga í søguna í 1954.

Eftir annan heimsbardaga tekur kommunan stig til stovnseting av fiskivinnufyrirtøkum. Fyrsta fyrirtøkan er Tvøroyrar Ís- og filétvirki, onnur fyrirtøkan er Tvøroyrar Flakavirki, ið fór undir framleiðslu í 1976. Virkið varð, eftir at vera komið í álvarsamar búskaparligar trupulleikar eins og mong onnur flakavirki, selt til Føroya Fiskavirk-ing í 1993.

Einastu fyrirtøkur, ið fakfeløgini eiga part í á okkara døgum, t.e. í 1996, eru trolararnir Suðringur, sum fakfeløgini og manningin eiga í felag, og trolarin Phoenix, sum fakfeløgini á Tvøroyri eiga.

Tá kolavinnan tók seg upp umleið 1934 og av álvara varð útygd í 1938-39, varð

og filétvirki, the second *Tvøroyrar Flakavirki*, which started production in 1976. After getting into serious economic difficulties, as did many other fileting factories, the factory was sold to *Føroya Fiskavirking* in 1993.

The only business enterprises which are still partly owned by the unions now, i.e. in 1996, are the trawler *Suðringur*, which the unions and crew own in partnership, and the trawler *Phoenix*, which the unions in Tvøroyri own.

When the coal-mining industry started in 1934 and was developed seriously in 1938-39, a special agreement was made between *Fylking* and the mining company *P/F Føroya Kol*. Later there was a special mining section in *Fylking*, but it only existed for a short time. After the occupation in 1940 *Fylking* took over the running of the coal mine at Rangabotni and founded *Arbeidsmanna Kolavirki* (Miners' Coal Company). This company ran the mine until 1943, when the *løgtingið* (Faroese parliament) in reality took over the running of the mine. After the Second World War, Tvøroyri municipal council took over the rights to the mine and rented it to *Arbeidsmanna Kolavirki*. The mine was worked until 1971.

The first index-linked agreements were made in 1940. This system affected all agreements until indexing was abolished by legislation in 1990. After 1947 *Føroya Arbeidarafelag* took over more and more of the work of the local unions, and the last agreement between *Fylking* and *Tvøroyrar Arbeidsgevarafelag* was made in 1951. After this the role of *Fylking* in connection with the making of agreements was merely

sersáttmáli gjørdur millum *Fylking* og námsfelagið *P/F Føroya Kol*. Seinni varð serstøk koladeild í *Fylking*, men hon virkaði bert stutt skeið, tí eftir hersetingina í 1940 yvirtók *Fylking* raksturin av kolanáminum í Rangabotni og setti á stovn *Arbeidsmanna Kolavirki*. Henda fyrirtøka rak námið til 1943, tá løgtingið í roynd og veru yvirtók raksturin. Eftir annan heimsbardaga yvirtók *Tvøroyrar kommuna námsrættindini* og leigaði *Arbeidsmanna Kolavirki* námið, har virksemi var til 1971.

Í 1940 vórðu fyrri fyrstu ferð gjørdir sáttmálar við prístalsjavning. Henda skipan kom at ávirka alla avtaluskipanina, til prístalsviðgerðin varð tikin av við lóg í 1990. Eftir 1947 yvirtók *Føroya Arbeidarafelag* alt fleiri uppgávar frá lokalfeløgnum, og seinasti sáttmáli millum *Fylking* og *Tvøroyrar Arbeidsgevarafelag* varð gjørdur í 1951. Eftir hetta verður leiklutur *Fylkingar* í sáttmálahøpi bert at koma við uppskotum til FA um sáttmála- og lønarbroyingar og at greiða spurningar, ið taka seg upp millum arbeiðsmenn og arbeiðsgevararnar á plássinum. Skipanin við løngjaldstovuni er enn í gildi.

At enda kann verða víst á nøkur eyðkenni við virksemi *Fylkingar* og á tann týdning, ið felagið hefur havt, ikki bert fyrri arbeiðandi fólkið, men fyrri Tvøroyri sum heild.

Tað ber til at vísa á fyra aðaleyðkenni við virksemi *Fylkingar* hesi árin, ið felagið hefur verið til. Hesi eyðkenni snúgva seg um lønarviðurskifti, um rættindi sum heild, um ognarrættin til framleiðslutólini og um arbeiðspláss.

Tað er at kalla sjálvsagt, at *Fylking* frá

to make suggestions to *FA* on changes in agreements and wages, and to settle questions that arise between workers and employers locally. The payment of wages is still made through a wages office.

Finally we should look at some of the ways in which *Fylking* has made its mark, and the importance of the union, not only for the workers, but for the whole of Tvøroyri.

There are four main ways in which *Fylking* has made its mark in the 75 years of its existence; they concern wage conditions, rights in general, the right to the ownership of the means of production, and jobs.

It goes without saying that from the very beginning *Fylking* endeavoured to secure for its members as large a part as possible of the proceeds deriving from whatever work was available in Tvøroyri. But it is worth noticing that in its activities *Fylking* stresses the rights of members both with regard to employers and to society as a whole. This policy is seen for example in the question of giving notice, meal breaks and the length of the working day. But this policy was most noticeable in the question of payment of wages in cash, which in principle was a question of the personal freedom of members.

The question of the right to own the means of production was taken up in earnest by *Fylking* with the ownership of *Ísvirkið* and *AT*, and it is still on their agenda, even although the economic possibility of carrying out such policies is limited. This is in line with *Fylking's* endeavours over the years to pressure the authorities at times in order to get work programmes

fyrsta degi royndi at tryggja limunum so stóran part sum gjørligt av ágóðanum av tí arbeiði, ið var til taks á Tvøroyri.

Tað er áhugavert, at Fylking í sínum virkseimi eisini leggur stóran dent á rættindi limanna móttvegis arbeiðsgevarunum og samfelagnum sum heild. Hesin politikkur sýnir seg eitt nú í spurningum um uppsagnir, um mattíðir og um arbeiðsdagin. Men týðuligast kemur hesin politikkur til sjóndar í spurninginum um kontanta lønarrindan, sum meginregluliga var ein spurningur um persónliga frælsi limanna.

Spurningurin um ognarrættin til vinnutólini kom av álvara á skrána hjá Fylking við Ísvirkinum og við *AT*, og hesin spurningur er framvegis á skránni, hóast fíggarligu møguleikarnir at inna hesa hugsjón í verki eru avmarkaðir. Hetta hongur so alt aftur saman við, at Fylking øll árin so av og á roynir at ávirka landsmyndugleikarnar at seta arbeiði í gongd fyri at tryggja limirnar ímóti vinnuloyssi.

Skulu vit meta um tann týðning, Fylking hevur havt fyri samfelagið á Tvøroyri hesi árin síðan 1915, kunnu vit hóskandi taka støði í endamálsorðingini í lóg felagsins frá 1915. Tað var at røkja áhugamál arbeiðaranna og at tryggja eina sømiliga løn. Hetta er ein spurningur, sum hin einstaki limurin best sjálvur kann døma um, tí talan er um at røkka einum máli, sum flytur seg undan alla tíðina. Spyrja vit hinvegin, hvussu støðan hjá tí arbeiðandi fólkinum í Føroyum hevði verið, um hvørki Fylking ella onnur fakfeløg vóru til, so munnu vit øll vera samd um svarið.

Søgan um Fylking og fakfelagsrørsluna í Føroyum er ein partur av søguni um menn-

started to safeguard its members from unemployment.

In assessing the importance of *Fylking* in the community of Tvøroyri in the years since 1915, we might take the aim of the union as a starting point. The aim was to take care of the interests of workers and to ensure a decent wage. This is a question about which the individual member best can judge because it is a goal that moves farther away all the time. On the other hand if we ask what workers' conditions would have been like in the Faroe Islands, if neither *Fylking* nor other unions had been formed, we would undoubtedly all agree on the answer.

The story of *Fylking* and the trade union movement in the Faroe Islands is a part of a bigger story: The story of social development in the western world since the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century and the political revolution towards democracy as we know it today. It is the story of the division of the enormous wealth created by the new production methods which came with the Industrial Revolution.

The basic principle of the trade unions has always been, and still is, that the wealth of society must be used for the benefit of the whole of society and form a basis for security and for good living standards for all.

The development of the trade union movement in *Tvøroyri* and in the Faroes has, in the main, been the same as in countries around us. The same story as in other places: A hard, long and difficult struggle, often at a high price for the workers. But the outcome in the Faroes is a modern wel-

ingina í samfeløgnum í vesturheiminum síðan ídnaðarkollveltingina í 18. øld og tær politisku kollveltingarnar fram móti tí fólkaræði, vit kenna í dag. Henda søgan snýr seg um býtið av tí veldiga ríkidømi, ið skaptist av teimum nýggju framleiðsluháttunum eftir ídnaðarkollveltingina.

Grundsjónarmiðið hjá fakfelagsrørsluni hevur altíð verið og er framvegis tað, at samfelagsins ríkidømi skal koma øllum limum samfelagsins til góðar og leggja grund undir trygg og góð livikor hjá øllum.

Gongdin á Tvøroyri og í Føroyum hevur meginregluliga verið tann sama, sum í londunum uttan um okkum. Og søgan hin sama sum aðrastaðni: Eitt hart, drúgt og tógvið stríð, ið ofta hevur kostað arbeiðarunum nógv. Men úrslitið er eitt nútímans vælfærðarsamfelag í Føroyum bygt á hugmyndina um vælfærð og sosialan tryggleika.

Uttan at arbeiðsfólk tóku seg saman í *Fylking* á Tvøroyri og so við og við í fakfeløg um alt landið og sjálv tóku sær um reiggj at føra hetta stríð fyrri at gera dreymin til veruleika, hevði samfelagið ikki verið tað, sum tað nú er. Hesi fólk skaptu okkara samfelag.

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fare society built on the concepts of welfare and social security.

If the workers had not united in *Fylking* in *Tvøroyri*, gradually formed unions all over the country, disciplined themselves to carry on the struggle to realize their dreams, our society would not have been what it is today. These people made our society.