

Meetings

N. No. 1. Joseph Leck...

ASSEMBLY, K. of L...

OF LEATHER WORKERS...

OF WORKERS, No. 22...

Dak St. Meets 1st...

Room 6, Leader Lane...

OF INTERNATIONAL...

in Lawrenson, 123 River...

and 2nd Thursdays...

BLOWERS' ASSOCIATION...

Joseph Williams, 71...

OF TEAMSTERS, No. 1...

Highers, 62 Kensington...

Highers, No. 188, Frank...

ASSEMBLY, K. of L...

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Highers, 62 Kensington...

"THAT REMARK"

About "What we have we'll hold"

SCOTTISH LAUNDRY CO.

Cor. Dundas & Gladstone Ave.

LABOR WORLD

News and Views of the Ever Advancing Army of Workers

BY EDITOR

Business Agent Veri...

At their last meeting...

THE MUSICAL PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION...

WILLIAM PITT, a Brisbane restaurant...

OF ALL THE ARGUMENTS EVER GIVEN...

THE FLINT, Mich., Bricklayers' and Masons' Union...

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION...

LEAGUE, No. 259, J...

INTERNATIONAL, No. 274...

EMEN, No. 204, Geo...

WORKERS' ASSOCIATION...

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There is talk of a co-operative...

The Chicago Franklin Press Feeders...

The Photographers' Union of San...

In San Francisco the war between...

A damage suit is likely to result...

Notwithstanding the disastrous...

Business Agent Veri...

At their last meeting...

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WORKERS' ASSOCIATION...

Labor in Ontario regrets the extreme...

The United Mine Workers will be...

The alien labor law of Canada remains...

The Chicago Franklin Press Feeders...

The headquarters of the International...

The British trades congress is an...

If the vote on amalgamation between...

Several carpenters' local unions...

Some of the superintendents, foremen...

They say when unwise trade unionists...

Nervous prostration has a pretty hard...

Modern Conception Of Capital

Editor Toiler: I notice in The Toiler...

When a business man says, "I have...

Yet he is usually under no delusion...

Most of the reforms earnestly...

Study, therefore, the means by which...

1. Direct Legislation is law-making...

2. The Initiative means that if a...

3. There are two main forms of the...

4. There are two main forms of the...

5. A plan which meets much favor...

6. Here are the most comprehensive...

7. Method—Instead of small districts...

8. Means—The use of a reasonable...

9. Object—To destroy the political...

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It's a Matter of Importance

TO buy your apparel in an accommodating store—such a...

store as ours. Our store is planned so that every department...

is run in the interest of and for the accommodation of our customers...

We spare no expense that will tend to improve the excellence of our service...

and hesitate at nothing that will satisfy the legitimate requirements of our patrons.

YOU WILL NEVER BE URGED TO BUY THE THING YOU DON'T WANT

but you will be helped by expert opinion as to the kind of clothes to wear...

without being obtrusive, and our broad guarantee of "Money Back if You're Dissatisfied..."

protects you amply.

GOUGH BROS.

186 Yonge Street Toronto. 6-8 Queen St. West.

Union Label Outfitters.

POLITICAL POWER FOR LABOR

We have been asked to present some reasons why workingmen should strongly...

support Direct Legislation and Proportional Representation. These reforms...

may be summed up in a sentence: Because either of these reforms would give Labor its just share of political power.

Most of the reforms earnestly desired by workingmen depend upon political action for their accomplishment. And we can get very little effective political action so long as Labor is politically so weak.

Study, therefore, the means by which Labor can get political power. These means are Direct Legislation and Proportional Representation. I shall present a brief outline of these two methods to you. Show them to each of your friends so as not get posted.

DIRECT LEGISLATION

1. Direct Legislation is law-making by the voters. It consists of the Initiative and the Referendum.

2. The Initiative means that if a certain percentage of qualified voters petition for any measure, it must become law if it gains a majority of such votes. Five per cent of the voters is about the right percentage, and it should not be higher than five per cent. Too low a percentage involves the risk of expense in needless or frivolous votes. Too high a percentage renders the law inefficient and practically inoperative.

3. The Referendum is a mandatory vote by the people on a proposed law, yes or no. By "mandatory" we mean that it compels the enactment of that law if the majority votes yes. This is the great difference between a Referendum and a Plebiscite, because the Plebiscite compels nothing.

4. There are two main forms of the Referendum. One is a vote of the people on a measure between an Initiative position as already referred to. The other is a Yes or No vote on acts passed by Parliament or the Legislature—usually limited to certain classes of laws.

5. A plan which meets much favor is that no new Act shall go in force for a certain time—say two months—and if during that time an Initiative petition is presented demanding a Referendum, then the Act must be submitted to the people before it becomes law. If no petition is presented, then the Act becomes law at the expiration of the two months.

6. Suppose the Legislature passes some Act which is against the interests of workingmen. They must get up and bear it, and wait for such mockery of a remedy as the next general election may afford them by grace of the party machine.

How different would it be if we had the Initiative and Referendum! Organized men, unorganized, labor would spring to action, and could not be compelled to submit to the obvious measure unless a clear majority of the electorate voted Yes. The mere knowledge that this could be done would immensely increase in workingmen the practical political knowledge which is political power.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

Here are the most comprehensive definitions of Proportional Representation that I have been able to find: Object—To destroy the political monopoly exercised by the party machines with its accompaniments of disenfranchisement, plutocratic rule, gerrymandering, bribery, lying, corruption, crookedness, party hatred and kindred political evils. To substitute therefor a just and Proportional Representation of the whole people, and give opportunity and facility for electing the best men.

Method—Instead of small districts electing one member each, use large districts electing several members. Let each elector have only one vote. This is the object of voting, which is closely allied in the alternative. Provide for the transfer, directly or indirectly, of votes from candidates who do not need

them to those who do, in accordance with the wishes of the voters themselves. Then, in a seven-member district, for instance, any seven-seventh of the electors scattered anywhere in the district could elect one representative, and the other six-sevenths could not interfere with their choice.

Do not you see how such a system would ensure to organized labor an immediate and effectual voice in the councils of the nation!

THE MUNICIPAL BEGINNING

Proportional Representation is applicable to municipal government no less than to parliamentary, and here lies the line of least resistance. In Ontario the agitation for Proportional Representation has taken the form of a demand that any municipality may have the option of adopting this great reform if it see fit.

SINGLE OFFICERS

Another improvement is to elect Mayors, Reeves, and other single officers by a method of voting, which is closely allied to Proportional Representation, because the ballots are marked in nearly the same way, with figures 1, 2, 3.

This plan is particularly useful, because its adoption would make people familiar with the way of marking ballots for Proportional Representation, and because the method of electing single officers is easily explained and understood.

The object of voting, which is closely allied to Proportional Representation, which is also known as the Hare-Spence plan, is to obtain a clear majority at one balloting, no matter how many candidates are running.

Another excellent means of propaganda is to get up a short address on scientific Suffrage, combined with a mock election on the Hare-Spence plan. Specially in getting a man well enough posted to run its elections of committees on the Hare-Spence system, we would strongly recommend that at least adopt the improved plan in electing its president and other officers.

A book of rules has been published, and can be got free of charge from Walter A. Roebuck, 115 Bay Street, Toronto.

To sum up, the essence of Proportional Representation is the single vote in large electoral districts.

It costs more to neglect a duty than to perform it.

One bad turn deserves another revolution for the better.

Lines dusts and screen doors are not being worn very much.

A bent pin is the easiest thing imaginable to find when you are not looking for it.

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