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## EDMONTON FREE PRESS

Edited, Controlled and Published by  
**THE EDMONTON TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL**

Phone 5595  
-ELMER E. ROBER, Editor- 101 Purvis Block

VOL. 1, No. 29. OCTOBER 25, 1919

### THE CANDIDATES

The constitution of the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council gives that body power to pass judgment on candidates for public office. The Council exercised that prerogative on Monday night and in doing so endorsed certain candidates of the Dominion Labor Party, in connection with the coming civic elections.

Joseph A. Clarke, who receives the endorsement of the Council for the Mayoralty, has been a good Mayor. Along general lines he can be compared favorably with previous incumbents of the highest office in the city government. His attitude has been fair to all sections of the community and Organized Labor especially has always received proper consideration at the hands of the chief magistrate during the past year. Mayor Clarke will receive very general endorsement from trades unionists in the coming elections.

Alderman J. A. Kinney is too well known to require any introduction to Edmonton voters. His performance as an alderman has left nothing to be desired. His deep sense of civic duty and the conscientious application to his duties as an Alderman will commend him to the voters. We have no doubt that Mr. Kinney will top the polls as he did two years ago. J. W. Findlay is an "old-timer" in the Labor movement in this city. He takes a very great interest in civic affairs and could very ably represent the city on the Aldermanic Board. Mr. Findlay is closely connected with a number of movements of a reform nature and if elected will consistently stand for a clean city. He is in every way worthy of the support of all sections of the community. James East, a returned soldier and an ex-Alderman, completes the list for north side candidates. His record when he held office before was such as to commend him to the voters, and Mr. East should be among those near the top of the poll in December.

For South Side Alderman, W. J. Murray receives the Trades' Council endorsement. Mr. Murray is well known in the city generally and is particularly well and favorably established in the community on the south side of the river. He should be elected without difficulty to represent Strathcona on the 1920 Aldermanic Board.

Frank Scott who will contest one of the vacancies on the School Board, is also an "old-timer." Mr. Scott is a man of exemplary character and has the confidence and respect of every one of his many acquaintances. He has given practically all, and certainly the best years of his life in the service of humanity. The Free Press could not conceive of a more suitable candidate for the School Board than Mr. Frank Scott.

### ONTARIO HAS SPOKEN.

The results of the Ontario elections will be extremely gratifying to independent thinkers in every part of Canada. Ontario is now in possession of a legislative assembly that is more nearly representative of all sections of the population than any Government that Canada has yet experienced.

We can see no cause for regret that no one party has a "working" majority. As a matter of fact the working majority idea has been "worked" too long now, and Ontario is to be congratulated on having created the opportunity of putting into effect an administration that will be truly representative of the electors. The Cabinet or executive committee of the assembly should be representative of the whole legislature and not any particular group. Such an executive should be chosen by a proportionate method and would function similar to the executive of any other organization. It would carry on the business of the province between sessions in the same manner that the executive of a union would attend to the organization's affairs between meetings. Such an executive would be responsible to the whole assembly, and not in any sense to a particular section of members.

The composition of the new Ontario legislature would, if it is kept free from the creation of a machine, seem to insure truly representative action on matters that come before the assembly. The Ontario farmers are to be congratulated on their brilliant success. They have before them a great opportunity, and on them rests a tremendous responsibility. It is sincerely to be hoped that they may grasp the opportunity to demonstrate, that representative administration can be as efficient in practice as it is correct in theory and principle.

Labor men in other parts of Canada will rejoice at the success of Ontario Labor in the elections. The eleven men who will sit in the provincial assembly will have a very large influence in shaping the governmental policies, and whatever line of action is decided upon by the farmers, the voice of Labor will be heard with good effect in the new Ontario legislature.

### THE LOAN.

On Monday next the Victory Loan 1919 campaign will be inaugurated. The new loan will not have behind it the impetus of patriotic fervor that characterized previous loans, in the days when the Hun was menacing the world. But that does not detract in the least from the fact that money must be raised to finance the country in the days of peace. True, many may disagree with the method of raising the money, but that is hardly the point at this time. We may not agree with the methods of electing our Governments; but we don't admire the man who would refuse to vote on that account. Where it is necessary to float a national loan, certainly we must agree that an internal issue of the popular variety, like the present effort, is the more desirable. A feature of the 1919 loan, also, is that the income derived from the bonds is taxable. We regret to say, however, that this feature will not affect the average worker who is not now receiving sufficient income to be liable to the Dominion income tax.

But apart from the patriotic duty which may be involved, the Victory Loan provides a convenient opportunity for a safe and profitable investment for the working man or woman who may have been enabled to put away a small sum from their earnings. We commend the Victory Loan 1919 as worthy of trades' unionist support.

### SHOULD AFFILIATE.

We understand that the teachers' organizations are contemplating affiliation with the Trades' Councils of the province and the Alberta Federation of Labor. The Free Press believes that there should be no hesitation on the part of the Alliances to make such a move.

School teachers are work-people who, like other workers, are employed for wages. Their interests are identical with those of the machinist, printer, carpenter or other trade unionist who are members of the organizations that go to make up the Central Labor bodies of this and other provinces. The affiliation of teachers will be of mutual benefit. The value of the knowledge that an organization has at its back the influence of a great body of well organized workers is not to be overlooked, while the affiliation of the teachers with the Central bodies would undoubtedly add materially to the influence of the Trades' Councils and the Alberta Federation of Labor.

Senator Robertson, Minister of Labor, stated at the convention of the Trades and Labor Congress, that the Dominion Government recognized the Congress at the official mouthpiece of the Canadian Labor movement. The same position is occupied in Canadian cities by the Trades' Councils and in this province by the Federation of Labor. In the United States, the American Federation of Teachers, which is growing by leaps and bounds, is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. In Britain the teachers' organizations are recognized as a very prominent part of the Organized Labor Movement. The city alliances in Alberta should lose no time in getting linked up with the Trades' Councils, and the Provincial body should affiliate with

the Alberta Federation of Labor in time to take part in the Federation convention in January.

### CLASS REPRESENTATION

The Calgary Daily Herald opposes the Farmers' and Labor Parties because that journal professes to disbelieve in "class" representation. Does the Herald mean to seriously infer that we do not now have "class" representation?

The present composition of the house of commons at Ottawa, according to the trades and professions of the men sitting there, is as follows: 79 lawyers, 47 of other professions, 72 merchants and manufacturers, 2 representatives of Labor and 32 farmers. At the present time there are in the Senate, House of Commons and Provincial assemblies, 714 professional and business men, 161 farmers, and 6 labor men. According to the last census, we have in this Dominion about a million and a half workers who should be entitled to vote, constituting 45.2 per cent of the total; 933,735 farmers, or 34.3 per cent of the total and 557,473 business and professional men or 20.5 per cent of the total. Therefore in the Senate, Commons and Provincial assemblies, the representation should be: Labor 398, Farmers 302, and Business and Professional men 181. It is quite evident that when the Herald gives expression to its antipathy toward "class" representation, it means that it is opposed to all classes being properly represented.

### GREATER PRODUCTION.

Increased production is hailed as the panacea for all our social and industrial ills. Workers are urged to sink all their desire for better working and living conditions in a great effort to increase the production of goods of all kinds. More production we are told will automatically settle all disputes and bring peace and happiness to every creature. All of which may be taken with the proverbial grain of salt.

We need greater production if at present there is under-production, but under our present system of production for profit rather than for use, over-production could easily work as great an evil in the workers' case as under-production. It is on record that when England was producing in almost unlimited abundance when compared with surrounding nations, the English worker was shoeless because he made too many shoes, was ragged because he manufactured too much cloth. And while England was undoubtedly ranked as the richest nation in existence, her people's condition was decidedly unsatisfactory. Oh, no, greater production is not all we need.

### EDITOR'S NOTES.

Every assault on Organized Labor ultimately increases its strength.

Paternalism is distasteful to the independent worker. The organized worker is his own philanthropist.

The theory of "divine right" in Government has passed forever, but the same theory in industry still holds.

"Fair Play for the Workers" is a new book at the library by Percy Stieckney Grant.

What has the non-unionist in the so-called "open shop" ever done to increase the wages or shorten the working hours of his fellows?

Now that the winter months are near at hand a good live social club should be a valuable adjunct to the Trades and Labor Council.

The Free Press is running a valuable series of articles by Walter Smitten, Secretary-Treasurer of the Alberta Federation of Labor, on the work of that body. Mr. Smitten's articles are worthy of careful perusal.

The Steel barons brought the alien workers to America to bear down the wage level. The foreign worker is now being condemned for organizing to raise it. The only good foreigner is one who will work cheap and long under any old conditions.

American Labor papers are taking raps at our Prince. If our U.S. brothers must take a swat at something British or Canadian, we would be glad to suggest some of our real enemies of democracy. There is no need to pick on the Prince.

The Labor Party will make the improvement tax an issue in the coming civic election. It is difficult to see the justice or wisdom in taxing a citizen because he is endeavoring to improve or beautify his surroundings. The abolition of property qualifications will also be an issue. If a man or woman is entitled to vote, by no process of reasoning should he or she be barred from holding an elective office.

The pronouncement of Premier Stewart to the effect that before another provincial election we will have the proportional representation method of voting, will be hailed with considerable satisfaction. Of course it is possible to gerrymander to some extent through the proportionate system, but the danger is considerably reduced. The practical value of the system is largely determined by the proper grouping of constituencies, and the number of members to be elected in each division.

"The strongest bond of human sympathy, outside of the family relation, should be the one uniting all working people of all nations, and tongues, and kindreds."

It does not require a very great stretch of imagination to believe that Abraham Lincoln, the author of the above quotation, would have been in the front rank of those who advocated the recognition of Organized Labor, if that had been the great issue in his day that it is in the present era.

"To my mind, and in this I am convinced I am speaking the opinions of many others in all classes, it is unreasonable to ask the workingman to accept his employer's view as to what is a fair wage and what are fair conditions of labor unless he is given, not only full opportunity for assuring himself of all the relevant facts in the case, but also some share in the management of those matters which are of even greater importance to labor than to capital."—Lord Robert Cecil in the London Times.

"The democratic control of industry" is one of the four great planks in the platform of the British Labor Party. Democracy in the control of industry is as logical as democracy in the control of state. We need them both.

## WESTERN TEACHERS FEEL NEED OF CO-OPERATION

Propose Endorsement of Minimum Salary of \$1200 for Second Class Teachers

Representatives of the teachers' organizations of the four western provinces met in Winnipeg Wednesday for the purpose of creating closer co-operation between the teachers of those provinces.

It is proposed to publish a monthly magazine as the organ of the teachers,

and when the time is ripe it is intended to co-operate with the east and make a dominion-wide organization, but in the meantime, energies will be directed toward organizing the west.

A statement by Premier Martin, of Saskatchewan, that 425 teachers, many of them from Manitoba, had gone into Saskatchewan in a year, was taken as an indication of the need of working together. By organization it is hoped to ensure greater permanency of position. It is proposed to have the various organizations endorse a minimum salary of \$1,200 for all second class teachers and to have it put into effect at an early date. Western representatives will meet in Calgary next summer.

Those who met at Winnipeg were H. Charlesworth, Victoria; J. K. Colling, Moose Jaw; M. Stanley, Calgary, and E. K. Marshall, Fortage la Prairie.

## A Magnificent Showing of Luxurious Fur Coats, Wraps and Neckpieces

Style is just as essential in furs as in clothes of fabrics and the vogue is influenced just as much by capricious Dame Fashion as any other article of attire. Last year it was the soft, youthful squirrel and fox—this year the sleek richness of Hudson and French Seal and the warm brown tones of the Mink that bids fair to carry off the honors. Hudson's Bay Furs are famed throughout the whole world. Buy your Furs here and be absolutely sure of the quality being right as well as the style and price.

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Take our advice—buy a Rat Coat now. The chances are the price will be trebled next season. Raw skins were sold recently in the St. Louis and New York fur markets at \$5.00. Think what that means to the price of Rat Coats. Our prices are extraordinary low this season considering the quality. They are made from well matched skins of No. 1 quality, have cuffs on the sleeve, heavy satin linings, shawl or notch collars. All sizes. Cut extra full at bottom.

Prices: \$135.00, \$150.00, \$175.00 and \$225.00

### Marmot Coats

These splendid wearing Fur Coats are silk lined throughout. Cuffs on sleeves, shawl or notch collar. Only the finest quality skins have been used in the making. All sizes. Cut extra full. Priced at

\$115.00

### Sumptuous Hudson Seal Coats

These beautiful Coats are made of the finest skins. They have cuffs on sleeves, and selected by experts; large collar, lined throughout with pussy willow silk; belted back. Priced at

\$395 AND \$495

### A Magnificent Hudson Seal Coat

This Coat is made from the finest No. 1 skins. Collar, cuffs and the bottom of coat, which is cut extra full, is of Alaskan Sable. Lined throughout with fancy silk. Belted back. All sizes. Priced at

\$775.00

### French Seal Coats

These stylish models are of fine quality skins with collar, cuffs and bottom of coat trimmed with Australian opossum and finished with silk tassels. Lined with fancy silk. All sizes. Price

\$225.00

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## HUDSON'S BAY CO.

## STEEL WORKERS OF ENG. HAVE WHAT AMERICANS ASK

Send Fraternal Letter Extending Well Wishes to American Steel Workers

British steel workers have the conditions which American steel workers are striking for, and the latter are extended well wishes by the Britishers in a cable received by the steel strikers.

The fraternal message is as follows:

"On behalf of 150,000 British iron and steel workers, who already enjoy all and more than you are asking, and who, through joint representation of employers' and workmen's organizations have the most successful machinery of industrial negotiation in the world, we send warmest wishes for success of your fight on behalf of the workers in American iron and steel industry.

By the refusal of the representatives of the steel corporation to submit the dispute to arbitration the corporation stands condemned."

## BUSINESS MEN OF TOLEDO, OHIO START TO REASON

Bank Deposits Shrinking So Mr. Business Man Inquiring Into Facts of the Case

Business men in the city of Toledo, Ohio, are taking another guess on their attitude toward the lockout of 16,000 Overland automobile employees who refused to lengthen their work day. When the lockout started the business men joined in the hue and cry against those unionists, but the lockout has been on for several weeks and bank deposits are shrinking and less commodities are being sold. Mr. Business Man is now beginning to inquire into "the facts of the case."

The strike has created a unusual condition, says an exchange. A federal judge issuing an injunction in which picketing is "regulated" and the company ordered to operate its plant. Federal Judge Killets has appointed a representative to see that his order is obeyed. The court official is now in control of the plant, which is filled with school boys and strikebreakers.

## Going To Assured Sources

It takes times like these to show men the wisdom of going to assured sources for their clothes.

The temptation to buy unfamiliar makes brought out to meet the unusual conditions will be avoided by the man who wants his full money's worth this season.

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