

## Hot Shot from The Gun Fired at Socialists

TORONTO, APRIL 4.—SOCIALISM IS "AUTO-CRATIC AND DEMOCRATIC."

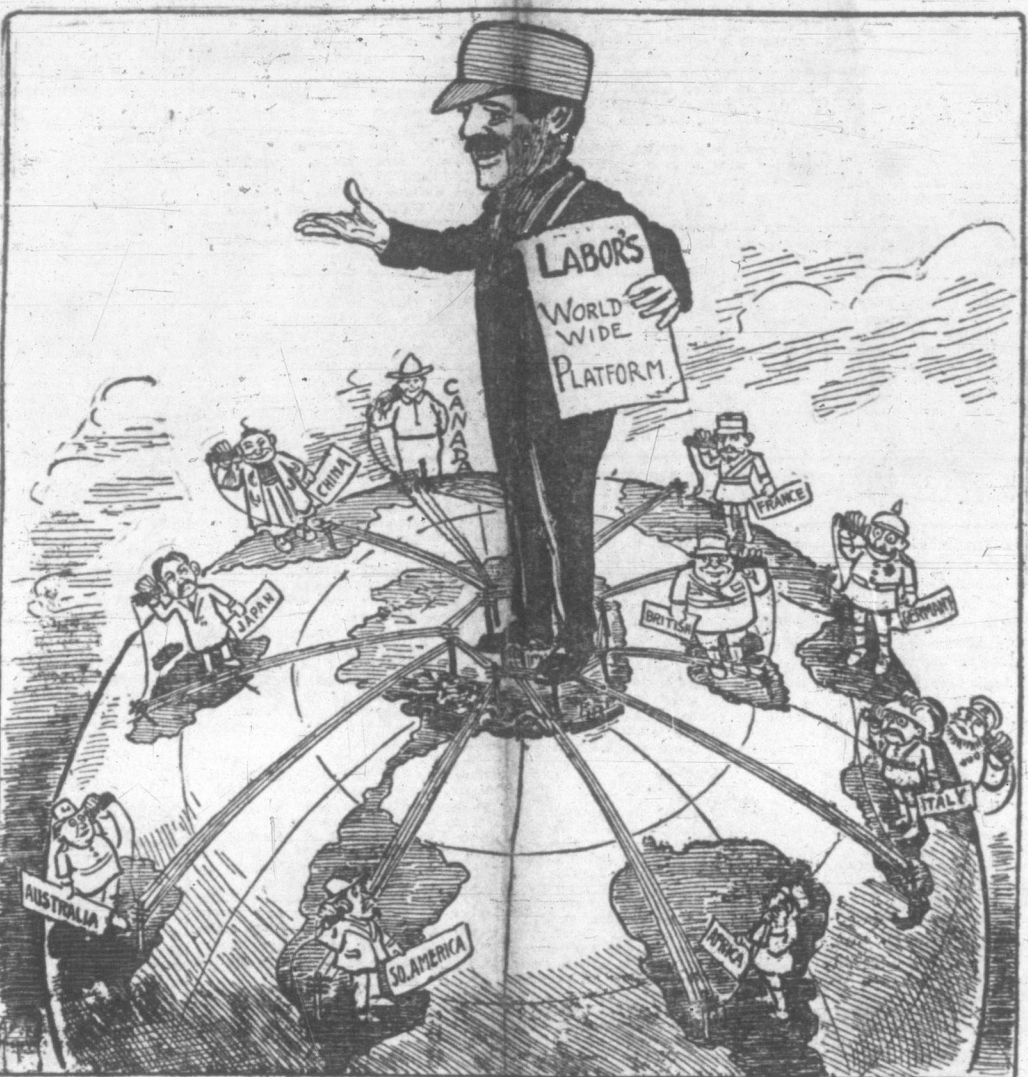
Mr. James T. Gunn, speaker recently in the Open Forum at Toronto, on the "Relation to Democracy," the speaker divided socialism into two classes, the theory of economics, its philosophy and as a living movement. Gunn endeavored to show that the Socialist movement was a living movement, and that it had been ruled by the majority in Canada, which he said was so insignificant that it had not any definite effect, but to Socialism in Europe, where, he claimed, it had been in the hands of a few. Mr. Gunn read several extracts in support of his argument, and accused Marx of being a dictator, and stated that it was because of the autocracy of Marx and others the working class were repudiating the Socialist movement, many leaders in which, he said, had submitted to corruption to suit their own ends. Of such alleged corruption Mr. Gunn gave a few instances.

"Socialism is oligarchical, dictatorial, autocratic and not democratic, and for this reason could not progress," was an expression of opinion by Mr. Gunn. A wealth of denials and mild abuse came from the dyed-in-the-wool Socialists present. In his short address, Mr. Gunn tore to shreds present-day Socialism as he understood it. When it came to heckling, Mr. Gunn was informed bluntly by more than one speaker that he did not understand Socialism, while other accused him of simply revealing 99 per cent. of the dirty linen which had troubled Socialism since its inception.

Mr. Gunn endeavored to show that the failure of Socialism caused the birth of syndicalism, and syndicalism was not any more democratic than Socialism. For three reasons he did not believe in Socialism. First, because of its economic; second, because of its system of philosophy, and in the third place because it was not a democratic movement and had not been consistent from 1840 to the present day. Expediency, and not democracy, and opportunism in every form, Mr. Gunn believed ruled the Socialist movement. The rising in Russia provided one instance of the method of expediency and in Canada there were better men who could achieve the same end without adopting the Russian way.

Dealing with the outcome of the present-day Socialism, as he viewed it, Mr. Gunn stated that if political democracy meant anything it meant control by the many, in theory each man equal before the law, but in the Socialism of today, there was a tendency to a permeation of capitalistic society by collectivist thought that would make the chains of ownership stronger than ever. Socialism, Mr. Gunn admitted, had been of advantage in some respects. It has at least shaken society into remembering that the weaker brethren had to be provided for.

During the question hour, Mr. Gunn was accused of not having attacked the real Socialism at all, but had dealt with the kind of Socialism dabbled in by the ignorant who desired to bring the Socialist movement into discredit. Replying to the individual who accused him of washing dirty linen, Mr. Gunn said it was not a matter of dirty linen at all, but a question of whether he was to be compelled to accept something without being allowed to use his own judgment. If he was not to be allowed his personal liberty, then he would fight against Socialism, and until Socialism turned round and gave liberty to the people it would, he said, not make progress among the working men.



## B.C. MEMBER WANTS ALIENS DEPORTED

In the Federal House, recently, H. H. Clements, M. P., of Comox-Alberni, it was expedient that the policy of the Government in relation to the internment of alien enemies, deportation of undesirable persons and the treatment of soldiers be clearly defined.

He said the House should make itself heard with respect to the personal question in regard to the alien enemy question. He said every interned alien was just as much an enemy today as he was yesterday. He said he should be deported at the earliest opportunity. The authorities should not wait for palatial ships to take them away from Canada; cattle ships were good enough.

Mr. Clements said there were aliens in Canada who had been naturalized but whose naturalization was for the purpose of personal purposes, and they were not true Canadian citizens. From the time the Liberals came into power until 1911, he said, it seemed to be their desire to populate this country with "riff-raff" of Europe who brought into Canada and caused trouble for the true Canadian citizen but with the alien who became a citizen for a purpose such as the I. W. O. Y. B. or for the purpose of causing strife and trouble in British Columbia.

Mr. Clements said he desired to see the immigration law amended. The bars had been put up against labor coming into British Columbia; ninety-nine per cent. of the men available for service went to the front; labor became scarce, and an urgent call went out for men. The bars were let down, and there came into British Columbia a big influx of undesirables.

Mr. Clements suggested that the Government would be wise to have the photographs of aliens placed upon their naturalization papers. He declared that some people of this class remained in Canada as naturalized citizens until they had made enough money to return to their own country. Then they returned to the place they had come from and handed over their naturalization papers to some other alien who wished to come to Canada. The second man took the name on the naturalization papers when he came to Canada and was an enemy in his own country. Then they returned to the place they had come from and handed over their naturalization papers to some other alien who wished to come to Canada.

The Franchise Act should be amended so as to require a certain standard of education for voters, said Mr. Clements. "Distasteful aliens should be disfranchised. There were thousands upon thousands of aliens employed throughout Canada who were entitled to absolutely no consideration by their employers. Sedition was talked by these people and the situation required an immediate remedy as a strong organization of the Vancouver branch of the Great War Veterans' Association, protesting against oriental immigration into Canada. He also made a plea for technical education for boys of sixteen and up who had interrupted their studies to go to the front. Mr. Clements closed with an appeal for unity throughout Canada, and as a step in this direction, advocated the formation of a non-sectarian schools.

## PRESIDENT MOORE ON HIS BUSY ROUNDS

"I find a keen and gratifying interest in the cause of organized labor everywhere I go," said Mr. Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, on his return from Toronto and Almonte, where he addressed large and representative meetings on subjects connected with the labor movement.

A Toronto meeting of the Trades and Labor Council, which meeting was held in Toronto University. At that meeting, which was largely attended, he advocated the six-hour working day as a certain development of the future, pointing out that already its adoption had met with much success in England.

## LONDON WOODWORKERS JOINING UNION.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Local Union No. 1946, held a continuation of the special meeting for the purpose of organizing and welcoming new members. The majority of the men who were present were inside woodworkers, as they are about the only woodworkers who have not some powerful organization behind them. The majority of the outside workers are in the Carpenters' Union, and that is given as the reason they have better working conditions and much higher wages. Organizer James Marsh, of Niagara Falls, spoke at the meeting on organization. He pointed out what the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America has done for its members, and the different benefits that members can derive by belonging to the union.

## LAND SETTLEMENT SCHEME FOR RETURNED MEN

The Grain Growers' Guide strongly commends the soldier land settlement proposals and thinks it wisely administered they should succeed in placing a large number of returned soldiers upon the land under the most favorable circumstances. The Guide adds: "Soldiers desiring to locate in each province will be examined by a qualification board as to their fitness for farming. A returned soldier who has previously had good farming experience will have one of the best opportunities ever afforded to a soldier going upon the land. The settlement scheme is very generous, and in that very generosity there is a great danger that the soldier may not plan as wisely as farmers have to do in order to make a success of their industry. The farming industry only permits success, generally through the greatest industry and frugality, and the future will find it harder than ever for the farmer to strike a proper balance at the end of the year. In addition to this generous financial treatment, the soldier settlers should be given every assistance in the way of practical advice and information. This is where their farm neighbors, and their local grain growers' associations can render the greatest aid to their new neighbors. It is at once a privilege and an obligation to render service to those who have rendered service to us greater than can ever be repaid."

## MONTREAL ACTIVE FOR HOUSING PLAN

The Montreal Administrative Commission's proposal that a board be appointed to act as a housing commission for the city of Montreal, was approved by a largely attended meeting to discuss plans and consider suggestions in connection with the housebuilding campaign which is to be launched this spring. Representatives of various public bodies gave their views on the question, most of them expressing approval of the Commission's plan. The seven trades allied with building workers expressed their interest. It was finally decided that each organization interested submit a list of names of men whom they considered most fit for the board. Among the speakers were President J. T. Foster, Trades and Labor Council; representative of the Fabian Society, building associations, etc.

## OTTAWA BUSINESS AGENT SECURES CONVICTION.

Arthur Winger, 171 Glenora avenue, paid a fine of \$10 and 30 cents when he pleaded guilty in Police Court, recently, to a charge of operating a steam boiler as a pressure of over 20 pounds and not being a qualified engineer holding certificates. The charge was laid by C. W. Lewis, of the Stationary Engineers' Union.

## GLACE BAY AND UNION RECOGNITION.

The question of recognizing the Clerks' Union of the Dominion Coal Company, was for the present, at least, been withheld. A council of comfort is given in that the matter of increased wages will be with

## Would Home Seem Like Home--Without Taxes?

IDEA FROM ONTARIO IS WORKINGMEN'S HOMES WITH PARTIAL TAX EXEMPTIONS.

Would home really seem like home without the regular call of the humble and unassuming tax collector? It would take some time getting used to it. Might as well take away the family wash boiler or the backyard fence. There are many plans afoot to help solve the troublesome housing problem of the working man. Everybody has a suggestion.

Down in the Provincial Legislature, in Toronto, the law-makers have come forward with the intimation that the new spring style of workingmen's home may be a home, with part of the taxes cut off. It is said that the Ontario Government has under advisement legislation designed to provide for a partial exemption from assessment and taxation of workingmen's homes. It was intimated by the Premier when the Assessment Act Revision Committee completed its attention in December last that the Government would give its particular attention in this direction in the hope of improving the housing situation. Since the presentation of the Housing Bill, ordered for final reading recently, there has been considerable speculation as to the fate of this suggestion, to set which speculation at rest, the Premier's announcement is made. The Government's proposals in this connection are looked for when the report of the select special committee is laid before the House.

## MANITOBA TOO.

Manitoba is not to be left behind in the housing movement for workingmen, for if Winnipeg plans slowly forming, materializing that city will have six hundred new houses this summer, costing \$2,500 each, and aggregating a cost of \$1,500,000. Hon. Edward Brown, Provincial Treasurer, moved in the Legislature recently, a bill in regard to participation by the Province in the Federal housing scheme, which means \$2,000,000 for expenditure in Manitoba for new homes.

## FORMATION OF A FEDERAL OR PROVINCIAL COMMISSION ON THE LINES OF THE HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION TO HANDLE AND ADMINISTER ALL HOUSING FUNDS

provided by either Government, is demanded in a resolution by the Nova Scotia Provincial Executive of the G. W. V. A., who say they are unalterably opposed to allowing this work to be carried on by municipalities or private companies.

## CAPITAL VENUE FOR IMPOR- TANT CONFERENCE.

A meeting is being held in Ottawa when representatives of 18 Canadian shipbuilding concerns will meet representatives of the Federation of Shipping Employees to discuss questions of wages, hours, general working conditions and other matters of mutual concern. The shipbuilders arrived in the Capital and had a long conference with Hon. Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor. The representatives of the workers including Secretary J. March are in attendance.

## TRINITY OF COUNTRIES FORM FEDERATION

Mr. Geo. Gunderson forwards to the Canadian Labor Press, a statement that all civic workers of Denmark, Sweden and Norway have formed an International Union. Some 25,000 men are affiliated. This including city street railway men and men incidental to civic workers. Decided to ask for an eight-hour work day. Four days holiday in the year and sick and disability benefits.

## KINGSTON AMUSEMENT HOUSES NOW SOLD

Through the work of W. P. Covert, member of the general executive board of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Operators, the amusement houses of Kingston are now unionized. For some time past there was in evidence some difficulties, but these have now been eliminated by Officer Covert, who is the business agent of the Toronto movie men.

## THE NEW FIGURE IN WORLD AFFAIRS—WHEN LABOR SPEAKS THE WORLD LISTENS.

## FROM COAST TO COAST

### MANITOBA LABOR BUREAUS OPENED

Returned soldiers will be given preference when seeking work from the Provincial Employment Service, according to the Minister of Public Works, of Manitoba.

### SAULT STE. MARIE 8-HOUR MOVEMENT

The City Council of Sault Ste. Marie is now dealing with the question of an eight-hour day for all its laborers. Part of the board is bound to put through a motion to grant the union hours at the present nine-hour day. The council has split evenly on the issue, and a final vote will be taken. The rate for city laborers here is 40 cents per hour.

### QUEBEC TRADES COUNCIL TO HOLD MASS MEETING

Under the auspices of the Quebec Trades Council a mass meeting will be held on Thursday next, April 10. The president of the Trades Congress, Tom Moore will be the principal speaker.

### TORONTO FIREMEN SEEK INCREASES

According to Toronto reports, the members of the Fire Department are solid for increased salaries. The chief has recommended an increase of \$100 to all on the force, and this is receiving full support from the men.

### HAMILTON WORKER SUC- CEEDS IN CLAIM.

The jury at the Supreme Court in the suit of Lawrence Scotland vs. the Canadian Carriage Company, for damages for injuries through inhaling sulphuric acid gas, while at work in the plant, which he claimed, was not provided with proper protection for workmen, was yesterday over six hours in arriving at a verdict. The jurors twice sought advice of the judge, who gave them eight questions to answer. The jury answered the questions finally in favor of the plaintiff, and fixed damages at \$2,800. Judgment was entered for this amount, but at the request of counsel for the defense, a stay of 15 days was granted. W. S. McBrayn was for the plaintiff, and S. Johnson, K.C., Toronto, for the defendant company.

### B. C. WORKERS IN A GET- TOGETHER

According to the Fed., the plumbers and steamfitters have endorsed the proposal of J. J. Coughlan and Sons to place a committee of organized labor in the yards to work in conjunction with a like committee of the employers, for the purpose of settling disputes and for the general betterment of conditions. Trade is improving.

### WINNIPEG CANDY WORKERS JOIN UNION

According to a Winnipeg dispatch, the admittance of female employes into the Bakers' and Confectioners' Union will increase the membership of the union by nearly 1,000 persons. This is the estimated number of persons that are employed in that capacity who are not in the union, and according to the feeling indicated, the girls are very anxious to become union workers.

### ONTARIO PROVINCIAL CAR- PENTERS TO MEET

At the Labor Temple, Toronto, on Saturday, April 12, the executive of the Ontario Provincial Council of Carpenters will meet. Among the matters that may be discussed are the question of uniform wage rates for the whole of the province, as well as uniform hours. The organization of the millmen, which branch is considered the weakest insofar as organization is concerned, will also be reviewed with the objective of standardization. The call for this meeting has been issued by Secretary T. Jackson, of Toronto. P. McCallum, of Toronto, is the president, and Pat Green, of Ottawa, first vice-president.

### PETERBORO COUNCIL PASSES THE BUCK

Peterboro Council in common with other city councils, where labor has entered its portals, have again shown their willingness to pass it on, and shirk responsibility especially when problems are big.

### WINNIPEG FIREMEN MAY ASK FOR BOARD

Winnipeg City Firemen's Union have considered the counter-offer made by the city in respect to their demands. They decided to press for the institution of the two-platoon system by May 1, instead of July 1, as proposed by the city, and they also decided to stand out for the scale of wages they originally asked.

### CARLETON PLACE NOW HAS TEXTILE WORKERS' UNION.

Carleton Place has now dropped into line in the extension of the United Textile Workers' campaign for organization, a charter having recently been installed, with a thriving membership list. The result is from the direct efforts of President T. Moore, of the Congress, the missionary work he having carried on in this section, bearing fruit to the general advantage of the movement. The installation of the new local was in charge of Mr. Pat Green, president of the Ottawa Trades Council, who also did similar duty for the Almonte union, in the near-by section.

### QUEBEC SHIPWORKERS' STRIKE ENDED

With the promise that a delegation would go to Ottawa early in April to ask the Minister of Labor to fix a uniform scale of wages for ship workers throughout Canada, 600 strikers at the shipyards of the Tide Water Construction Company, Montreal, threw down their tools and returned to work.