



Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



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Entered at Ottawa Post Office as Second Class Postage.
The Canadian Labor Press
PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS, LIMITED.
389 COOPER ST., OTTAWA
A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

DISARMAMENT APPEAL OF LABOR

A. F. of L. and its kindred makes appeal for world peace, stating that if the public accept militarists and commercial expansionists as authority on armament, the nation is headed for a kaizerized democracy.

If the public permit racial prejudice to grip them they must pay the cost in back-breaking taxes for military establishments.

If the public neglect domestic markets to aid commercial expansionists in foreign lands, the alleged gain will be more than neutralized by battleship costs and preparedness bonds.

Today our country votes dollars for war and pennies for construction and peace.

Out of every dollar appropriated by congress in 1920, 93.6-10 cents was for war and its effects and 6.4-10 cents for peace.

This policy can be changed if the people refuse to longer accept the viewpoints of those who profit by war.

The conscience of the nation must be massed behind the armament conference that will convene in Washington, November 11.

On that date demonstrations under the auspices of organized labor will be held throughout the land, and President Gompers has cabled the suggestion to organized labor in England, France, Italy and Japan that similar action be taken by them.

The immensity of these meetings, their determination and their inclusion of all citizens should stagger the militarist and stand patter.

These militarists are not invincible. They are powerful because they continue unchallenged. They can be engulfed in a Niagara of public opinion for disarmament.

The people can sweep them aside as chaff and bend every public official to their will if they but express it. Most public officials would welcome this force.

Militarism thrives on the people's awe of an alleged power, on their indifference to duties, and on the false concept of those who imagine that shouts to the flag is patriotism of a high order.

The alleged power of privilege and greed is ludicrous before determined, intelligent citizens.

Labor's Armistice day demonstrations should be taken advantage of by every believer in harmony and concord between nations. Those who block this ideal should be shoved aside.

Petty partisanship and the struggle of individuals for prestige and place are nothing.

The one question is: "Shall our country stop building war machines and devote our energies to construction and peace?"

Nothing else is important. Nothing else counts. The question reaches into every home, into every pocketbook, into every pay envelope in America.

Shun the man who ignores the great principle involved and discusses individuals, incidents or side issues.

ORGANIZATION MUST TRIUMPH

Mass meetings of labor are being held everywhere. The labor press and unions breathe deeply the spirit of fraternity which has been awakened in the heart of organized labor. Workers understand the motives of the opponents of the labor movement. Understanding, they are firm in their devotion to its principles. They knew what the destruction of the labor movement would mean to them and their families. It is idle, therefore, for any set of employers or hired attorneys to endeavor to deprive organized labor of such elementary rights as moral suasion, the giving and receiving of information, the use of the public highways, and, in short, just as idle as it is to seek to abolish the right of labor to choose employers and associates and to make union shop contracts.

So long as the country remains free these rights will be exercised in one way or another. They will be enjoyed practically in spite of fulmination and legal sophistry. Common sense will prevail in the end; reason and consistency will reassert themselves in the courts. If not, there will be constitutional reform to curb the judicial legislators and confine them to their proper functions.

No doubt there was a time when the shortsighted, bigoted employers thought unionism could and would be crushed by injunctions, damage suits, denunciation, and similar weapons. They ought to know better now. What have they accomplished? Labor is stronger than ever. The unions have not dissolved; the policy of labor has not changed. Mistakes have been made, and the same errors will be avoided in the future. But all the essential features of the unionist movement have remained unimpaired.

The assaults have failed; they have been repulsed. Would it not be wiser and more profitable for employers to abandon futile methods and try the policy of fair play, honest dealing, and friendly relations with their organized employees, and the latter's duly elected representatives?

Sooner or later this course will have to be adopted by them, and our effort is to bring it into full and general operation at the earliest possible time and thus avoid many unnecessary controversies and contests.—Exchange.

SLEEP.

Sleep is nature's method of restoring you, of resting your body and mind, and keeping you fit.

If you are "done in" when you get home from the office or shop, rest for ten or fifteen minutes before you eat. You will find it is time well spent.

Get from seven to eight hours sleep every night.

A TRUE STORY.

"I was working on a cup machine and another lad had a big greasy rag in his hand. He accidentally threw it aside, not looking where it was going. The suction of my machine helped to draw the rag and caught my hand. I just pulled my hand out in time or it would have taken my whole hand off. Well, it healed up very nicely and it was all better in a couple of months. I wrote this to try to stop any more accidents. I think it is best to be safe than sorry."

EIGHT YEARS.

For nearly eight years we have asked you to BE CAREFUL, and are asking you the same thing now. Never take a chance—Play Safe.

AN UNEQUAL SITUATION

For the year ending March 31, 1918, Canadians bought from the United States goods valued at \$791,906,125; during the same period, citizens of that country bought from Canada only \$441,390,920 worth of goods.

Thus 7,500,000 Canadians bought nearly twice as much from the United States as 97,000,000 Americans bought from us.

Isn't it about time that we in Canada woke up?

How foolhardy talk is then about a reduction in our protective tariff!

TOO LARGE A PROPORTION OF OUR PURCHASES ARE MADE ABROAD NOW. PROTECT THE TARIFF OR IT WILL BE WORSE.

HULL TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

At the regular meeting of the Hull Trades and Labor Association, President Hebert, in the chair, the terrible condition of the Hull approach to the Chaudiere bridge was brought up by Delegate Brulay, upon whose motion a letter will be sent to the Hull city council, asking that it be repaired.

Delegate Paradis wanted the Hull Street Railway Company to foot the bill, but President Hebert pointed out that it was up to the municipality, and it should be repaired at once in view of the fact that the Ottawa authorities had done their share in attempting to make the bridge passable.

It was also decided to form a branch of the Independent Labor Party, and \$10 was voted to form the nucleus of a fund for this purpose, and a committee composed of Delegates Paradis, Thibault, Tremblay, Laurin and Dagenais will have charge of the preliminary work.

Delegate Paradis, in voicing the necessity for a labor representative in the Dominion parliament for Hull

WINNIPEG TYPOS MORE THAN HALF VICTORS

Progress is still going on in the county, said that the old politics of twenty-five years ago, when the residents of Hull and Wright county were content with the two old political parties, had gone, and a progressive party had come into being and was making its presence felt. A committee composed of Delegates Thibault, Paradis, Dagenais, and Tremblay was formed to consider the advisability of putting a labor candidate in the field. At the suggestion of President Hebert a letter will be sent to the Hull city council, expressing the opinion that the property owners should vote in favor of the bylaw to raise \$50,000 to be spent in local improvements, provided that works undertaken be done by day labor. He thought that if this was done the city would be able to give work to many of the unemployed and would at the same time be able to take advantage of the assistance promised by the Dominion government in the sustaining of the unemployed.

LABORERS' STRIKE IN WINNIPEG

fight for the 44 hour week in the job printing industry in Winnipeg, says the Western Labor News. After thirteen weeks of bitter fighting, 65 per cent. of the shops have signed up for the 44-hour week and are working at high pressure. Orders are pouring in, taxing to the limit the efforts of the staffs to handle the work, and as a result a large number of locked out men are getting work from time to time.

There is no destitution among the printers yet locked out. Hunger and privations, the world's greatest strike breakers, who have been invoked for aid by the open shop interests in Winnipeg, have failed to act. With unlimited funds, the union can hold out indefinitely and the men are prepared to do so until the most

rabid anti-union employer has been compelled to deal squarely with the workers or is forced out of business.

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