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## GOV'T CONTROL OF RAILROADS IS BEING DEBATED

### At American Federation of Labor Convention in Montreal

The question of government control or government ownership of railroads was the subject of bitter debate in the American Federation of Labor convention, Wednesday.

The administrative forces of the Federation, backing the report of the resolutions committee for the approval of "government control" were opposing the railroad employees organizations and their supporters in urging for the endorsement of "government ownership" with "delegated operation of the railroads."

The opposition to government ownership was led by John Frey, chairman of the resolutions committee, who asserted that it was not a sound trade union doctrine that we should turn over to the state power our economic movement. He warned the workers that the government never kept its promises, adding that Labor had been made the first victims of the Sherman and Lever acts, although it had been promised that these laws would not be used against them.

Mr. Hoberling, of the Switchmen's Union, made a strong plea for government ownership and democratic control. Why do you want Wall street to control the arteries of the country? he demanded. There was more progress made towards organizing the railway men in the two years of government control during the war than there was in the 20 years previously, he said. We are not Socialists. What railway men want is democratic ownership and control and operation.

The question had not been decided when the convention adjourned Wednesday.

## LABOR'S POLITICAL PROGRAM AND THE L'GE OF NATIONS

### President Gompers Appeals to U. S. Organized Labor For Its Support

President Samuel Gompers appealed to organized Labor of the United States in his address before the convention of the American Federation of Labor at Montreal, to give its support to the non-partisan political program of the Federation of Labor and urge upon congress the ratification of the league of nations.

Mr. Gompers said the failure of the United States to ratify the League of Nations was pitiable. He expressed the fear that in the coming political campaign the league question will be subordinated in the number of questions which most attract the attention of the people of the United States. It is regrettable that the question itself has not had an opportunity to be presented for the consideration and determination of the people of our country, he said.

In his appeal to the federation to continue to stand by his non-partisan political program, he said, "Forty years of experience, of success and triumph, has shown us the way. The demands which Labor makes, not only to employers but of society, are for services for which Labor prefers and gives to society would be impossible and civilization would come to a standstill."

### LABOR PARTY MUST ADJUST PROGRAM TO OTHER GROUP'S INTEREST

A labor party has no chance of surviving in national politics, unless it adjusts its program to the interests of other groups, such as the skilled worker, the farmer and some divisions of the lower middle class. This adjustment is still far from accomplishment. Yet difficult and doubtful as is the success of the attempt, it is not impossible. The other groups are suffering just as much as the wage earner from the absorption of their interests in income by higher prices and by the increasing power over prices which the economic dislocation has placed in the hands of enterprising and unscrupulous capitalists and the proprietors of indispensable natural resources.

When you have occasion to travel, look for the button of the street railway employees and the card or button of the chauffeur, while your traveling bag should also bear the union label. Whenever there is an occasion to carry sandwiches, see to it that the meat is obtained from a union market and that the bread is union labeled and made from union labeled flour.

If you enjoy the theatre or moving pictures attend only theatres where members of the Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Operators are employed.

### DETROIT NOMINATES CANDIDATE IN LABOR PARTY OF UNITED STATES

Robert G. Ewald, business representative of the Bricklayers union of this city has been chosen as the Labor Party candidate for common council. This marks the opening of Labor's campaign in Detroit under the banner of the Labor Party of the United States.

Ewald is one of the oldest and most loyal Labor men in the state of Michigan. For many years he has been active head of the Bricklayers' union and in the building trades.

## TORONTO STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYEES THREATEN STRIKE

Toronto Street Railway Employees on Wednesday morning decided to give the Toronto Railway Company forty-eight hours to meet their demands for a twenty cents increase, or 75 cents an hour, and if this is not met there will be a strike on Friday. It is reported that there may be a compromise at sixty cents, that being the strike wage in Toronto.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PEOPLE

### Prof. Ottewill Deals With University Extension in Alberta

(By Prof. A. E. Ottewill, Extension Dept. U. of A.)  
Article No. 7

The most recent development in adult education in the United States, and a direct outgrowth of University Extension is the establishment of Trade Union and Workers' Colleges. One of the first of these was the Trade Union College of Boston, organized in 1919. The organization and management is in the hands of a committee which includes representatives from the following unions: Shipbuilders' Union, Hoisting and Portable Engineers' Union, Teamsters' Union, Painters' Union, Theatrical Stage Employees' Union, Horseshoers' Union, Clear Factory Tool Strippers' Union, Newspaper Web Pressmen's Union, Free-Stone Cutters' Union, Milk Wagon Drivers' Union, Stenographers' Union. These will give an idea of the wide interest in the work of the College. The registration is conducted by the Boston Central Labor Union, and instruction is given by Professors from Harvard and Yale Universities, and other similar institutions. The object of the College is stated in the words of the committee: "The Trade Union College has been established by the Boston Central Labor Union in order to make directly accessible to workmen and workwomen the study of subjects essential to the progress of the organized labor movement. The aim of the Trade Union College is in accord with the following statement in the reconstruction program of the American Federation of Labor: "Education must not stifle thoughts and inquiry, but must awaken the mind to the application of natural laws and to a conception of independence and progress." Lectures are given in the evening in courses of ten, the fee for each course being \$2.50. Similar colleges have been established in New York, Chicago, and Seattle. In the course of study, the following subjects are given special prominence: English Composition, Public Speaking, Literature, Philosophy, Law, Economics, Labor, Physical Science. As these courses are outlined under the direct provision of the Workers' Committees, it is fair to assume that their interests in education are as broad as those of the working people of the Old Land. The whole organization and conduct of the Workers' Colleges of the United States is strikingly similar to that of the Tutorial Classes of Great Britain, and an observer is justified in concluding that these colleges are the American interpretation of the Tutorial Class idea.

Turning to our own Dominion of Canada, the first observation in order, is that so far University Extension has

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## BLACKSMITHS AT CHICAGO DID NOT GO OVER TO O.B.U.

### Journal Repudiates Statements Made by Kephart About the Blacksmiths' Union

The Blacksmiths' Journal repudiates the statement that the O.B.U. are gaining control of that International in Chicago, in the following:

A man by the name of Kephart signs himself as District Chairman of the O.B.U. of Chicago, May 7th, makes statements that are absolutely false so far as our International is concerned. For the O.B.U. is not affecting our craft. Some went on strike in sympathy with the switchmen but they are not deserting us and have returned to work. Why should we try to fool men? They will get next after a while and then there will be a reaction.

We are for an aggressive, strenuous policy in demanding justice, but it must be carried out systematically and intelligently. Sometimes selfish egotists try to use the labor movement for their own advantage and they sometimes get away with it, but very seldom are they successful. Whether the switchmen's strike was launched in that way, as has often been charged, or not, the facts are, the public is being irritated and the poor are the principal sufferers.

## DETROIT WILL GET BUSY WITH INJUNCTIONS

### Organized Labor Will Resist Any Attempt to Foist Judicial Tyranny Upon Them

(By the Federated Press)  
Detroit, Mich.—A temporary restraining order has been issued against the striking plumbers and steamfitters to prevent them from picketing the struck shops.

Michigan is recognized as one of the worst offenders in the matter of issuing injunctions to hinder Labor's progress. The supreme court of the state ruled several years ago against peaceful picketing and since then the injunction judge has been active in helping break strikes.

A year ago the Federation of Labor and its affiliated unions together with the Auto Workers' union began an aggressive campaign to root the injunction judge out of Michigan.

The campaign was topped with a monster parade and demonstration in front of the local jail, where eight union leaders were confined for a term for violating an injunction.

A year of quiet resulted. Now, however, the injunction issue is again coming to the fore. Organized Labor will resist most strenuously any attempt to foist judicial tyranny upon them.

The union label constitutes recognition of the union by making certain the recognition of union products.

## BUILDING TRADES DECLARE WAR ON ONE BIG UNION

### Will Send Representatives to Winnipeg, Vancouver and Other Points

"Organized Labor is slowly conquering the One Big Union movement in Canada," said J. McClelland, fraternal delegate from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, to the convention of the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. McClelland pointed out that there are now 2,200 local unions in Canada with a membership of 250,217. The Catholic Union which has been in existence about ten years, he asserted, is opposed to any international labor organization and has been organized Labor's greatest enemy in Canada, he stated.

The Building Trades organizations of the American Federation of Labor on Tuesday, declared war on the One Big Union of Canada. They decided to send representatives from each of the twenty international unions of the building trades department into Winnipeg to open the campaign. The One Big Union movement in Vancouver, Montreal and other cities will also be fought by similar methods.

Officials of the building trades unions said that it had been decided to revoke charters of all local unions that fail to oust the O.B.U. members. New locals will be formed wherever a charter is withdrawn.

Samuel Gompers declared that the One Big Union could not endure because it ran "counter" to the laws of human nature.

## MANITOBA HAS FIFTEEN LABOR CANDIDATES

### Independent Movement Against Bi-party System Has Three Branches

The Independent movement against the bi-party system of government in Manitoba has three branches—Labor in the industrial constituencies, Farmer in the rural constituencies and Non-descript, says the Western Labor News.

The Non-descripts are mostly Liberals or Tories in disguise. The following list is necessarily incomplete.

Outside Winnipeg there are five Labor candidates endorsed by the farmers. The Farmer candidates are all supported by Labor. There are 18 rural constituencies in which independent action has been taken so far as is known at present. In these twelve candidates are known to be Independent Farmers in the true, real sense. The others are not classified because the knowledge of their position is not yet available. This is as nearly the status of the movement as it stands at present. The next week the line-up should be more clear. The insurgent constituencies are: Brandon, Plains, Rockwood, Emerson, Ethelbert, Gladstone, Lansdowne, Norfolk, Springfield, Glenwood, Manitoba, St. George, Melita, Cypress, Fairfax, La Verendrye, Morris, Ross, Gosh.

The Labor candidates are: Winnipeg City: (Dominion Labor Party) F. J. Dixon, W. Ivans, W. A. James, F. G. Tipping; (Social-Democratic Party), Ad. John Queen; (Soldier and Sailors' Party), S. Cartwright; (Socialist Party of Canada), Geo. Armstrong, R. J. Johns, R. B. Russell, W. A. Pritchard.

Assiniboia: W. D. Bayley. Kildonan-St. Andrews: C. A. Tanner. Brandon: A. E. Smith. Dauphin: G. H. Palmer. St. Clements: M. J. Stanbridge.

## SWISS POSTAL EMPLOYEES ARE THREATENING STRIKE

Berne (By mail).—In the future if the Swiss government fails to give heed to demands for better conditions voiced by its postal employees it will face the menace of a tie-up of its postal service.

The members of the Union of Swiss Post Office Employees have voted, five to one, in favor of the use of the strike. With results of the referendum in today from 46 to 48 sections taking part, the vote stands 2,450 to 693 in favor of proposition No. 1 authorizing the general cessation of work to attain its demands, 2,677 to 363 for Proposition 2, calling for the use of the strike only as a last resort, 2,595 to 1,444 for Proposition 3, providing for the calling of a strike by the Executive Committee when declared for by a two-thirds vote of the membership, and 2,495 to 1,264 for Proposition 4, providing for the inclusion of these resolutions in the union's statutes. The result from the two sections not yet reported cannot alter the decision.

## LABOR MEETINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sunday, June 20th  
Commercial Telegraphers' District Council.

Monday, June 21st  
Trades and Labor Council.  
Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees No. 99.

Tuesday, June 22nd  
Dominion Labor Party.  
Barbers No. 227.

Wednesday, June 23rd  
Electrical Workers No. 514.  
Railway Carmen No. 238.

Thursday, June 24th  
Stationary Engineers & Firemen.

Friday, June 25th  
Plumbers & Steamfitters No. 483.  
Machinists No. 817.

Saturday, June 26th  
Edmonton Projectorists Association, Local No. 260.

## WIRELESS OPERATORS ARE OUT ON THEIR FIRST GENERAL STRIKE

Marine Wireless Operators of England went on strike Tuesday morning for higher wages. This is the first general strike of its kind and, according to reports it may take on international aspects and may affect all ports and shipping. Marconi headquarters on the Strand in London and on the wharves are being picketed by the striking organization.

The men are demanding an increase in wages of approximately 150 per cent over the pre-war rates and also better conditions of employment. Under the strike order, operators on ships are instructed to cease work when their voyage ends and not to seek for further trips.

## BRITISH LABOR DELEGATE WANTS WORKERS UNITED

### Advocates International Organization of All Union Workers of the World

An international organization of all the union workers of the world to further their aims and prevent another world war, was advocated by J. W. Ogden, fraternal delegate of the British Trade Union Congress, in an address before the convention of the American Federation of Labor, now being held at Montreal.

An international that is formed on a basis similar to that of Russia is to be avoided, said Mr. Ogden. He thought the only way in which we would be able to prevent useless conflict, is by linking the workers of the world into a great international organization.

Mr. Ogden predicted that the British Labor Congress will have a membership of 6,000,000 workers by next August. This would be an increase of 1,000,000 members in the past year. The British workers are constantly fighting the high cost of living, Mr. Ogden said, adding that they had assured the government if it would smash prices and profiteering, the workers would ask no further wage advances and wages will attain their proper stability.

Mr. Ogden said that the Labor party in England was the second in power, only being outstripped by the coalition party which is threatened by the great Labor party.

## INVESTIGATION OF "BIG FIVE" SHOWS IMMENSE PROFITS

### During Three Years Profits Doubled, Trebled and Even Quadrupled

Washington.—Revealing that the net profits of the packers increased 223 per cent during the three years of the war, 1915 to 1917, the Federal Trade Commission has made public another section of the report of its investigation of the "Big Five," Chicago meat packers.

The report shows that during the three years more than \$100,000,000 was added to the surplus accounts of the several companies, and that in the same period the profits, both in dollars and in the rate on investment, doubled, trebled and even quadrupled.

The commission disputes the figures given out by the packers in which they claim a profit of only 2 to 3 cents per dollar of sales. The report says that such a rate on sales in an industry like meat packing, which rapidly turns over its product, the equivalent of a high rate of return on net worth—15 per cent or more.

No dependence can be placed on the advertisements of the big packers in respect to profits per head or per pound of beef since they are not based on accepted methods of determining costs.

## JUDGE ADMITS EXISTENCE OF CLASS STRUGGLE

### Labor Regards Decision As Admission That Lockout of Culinary Workers Is Failure

Minneapolis, Minn.—By a decision handed down by Judge Fish, who is about to retire from the bench in order to write a life of Abraham Lincoln, an injunction has been granted the proprietors of the Public Meat Market of this city, regarding by labor as an "unfair" institution, enjoining the Meat Cutters, Cooks, Waiters, Waitresses, Bakers', Milk Wagon Drivers', Ice Wagon Drivers' unions and the Provision Trades Council from picketing the Public Meat Market.

The existence of the class struggle is admitted by the judge in the following paragraph of his decision:

"While we may be well convinced that fundamentally the interests of employer and employee are identical, the fact cannot be ignored that practically, in the present stage of social development, the two classes are in open and bitter conflict. And the conflict is of a kind well calculated not only to warp the judgments of the immediate parties but to inflame the minds of all others who necessarily suffer from the quarrel."

The decision is regarded by Minneapolis labor as a confession that the lock-out of culinary workers by the Associated Industries is a failure, and that the machinery of the law had to be invoked to retard the success of the workers.

## NEW MEAT CUTTERS UNION IS FORMED BY CALGARY EMPLOYEES

At a meeting of the employees of the P. Burns Co., Calgary, held in the Labor Temple on Wednesday, June 2nd, there was formed a local of the Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America. Over 100 members were signed up at this meeting and a charter was filed.

Another meeting was held on June 7th, at which more members were taken in, the number now totaling 175. An agreement is being drafted to submit to the employers.

## BARBERS' LICENSE LAW OF ALBERTA

### Continuing from Last Week's Issue, Legislation for Barbers

(By Walter Smitten, Secretary Alta. Fed. of Labor)  
(Continued from Last Week's Issue)

12. Said board shall have power to adopt reasonable rules and regulations prescribing the sanitary requirements of a barber shop, barber school or college, subject to the approval of the Provincial Board of Health, and to cause the rules and regulations so approved to be printed in a suitable form, and to transmit a copy thereof to the proprietor of, or person operating each barber shop, school or college in this Province.

Any member of said Board, or duly authorized deputy shall have power to enter and make reasonable examination of any barber shop, barber school or college in this province during business hours for the purpose of ascertaining the sanitary conditions thereof. Any barber shop, barber school or college in which tools, appliances and furnishings in use therein are kept in an unclean and unsanitary condition, so as to endanger health, is hereby declared to be a public nuisance, and the proprietor thereof or any person operating such barber shop, barber school or college shall be subject to prosecution or punishment therefor.

Nothing in this Act shall prevent any firm, corporation or person desiring to conduct or operate a barber school or college in this Province providing they shall first obtain a permit from the license board and shall keep the same prominently displayed. Provided the Board shall have the right to pass upon the qualifications, appointments, and course of study in such college, which shall not be less than as specified in Section 7, and provided further, that there shall be no money collected by such college, or any of its students or teachers in the practice of the profession therein taught, and the said Board shall have the right to revoke the certificate, permit or license of any such barber, college, instructor or teacher therein, for any violation of the provisions of this section.

14. Candidates must give notice to the Commissioner in writing of their intention to present themselves for examination at least two weeks before the date set for it, together with the requisite fee. All master barbers having men in their employ who have not already been examined must see that this section is obeyed. Candidates presenting themselves for examination shall pro-

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## POSSIBILITIES AND MEANS OF A BANK FOR LABOR

### People Have a Right to Have Their Deposits Used for Their Own Benefits

By Frederick C. Howe

Staff correspondent the Federated Press  
Banking is a very simple operation. It requires less ability than a competitive business and less training and knowledge than almost any other profession. In proof of this, banking in the United States up to the Civil War was carried on by farmers and workers as a neighborhood or cooperative activity. The 65,000 credit unions in Europe contain all of the essentials of real banking. They are carried on by peasants and artisans. Their losses are negligible. In fact, there are no losses. There are 200 credit unions in Canada that have never lost a dollar. The record of the credit unions in Massachusetts and New York is almost as creditable.

In practice there are two types of banks: (1) Producers' banks to encourage the production of wealth and to aid men with nothing but their labor to acquire tools and capital; and (2) Exploiting banks that are not primarily interested in production, but a great variety of exploiting processes, partly in the handling of commercial paper, which is legitimate, but largely in the formation of trusts, the purchase and sale of securities, participating in speculation, and in the use of banking power to extort usurious interests and control industry.

Banking in the United States up to about 1890, and almost exclusively up to 1860, was interested in production, in aiding farmers, merchants and men without capital, to acquire capital, or to translate their wealth into other forms for consumption. Sometimes these banks were mutual or cooperative.

More often they were private banks or state banks. The banks of America had not yet been interlarded by ownership and interests, into what is in effect an unscrupulous banking syndicate, cynically responsive to Wall Street and exploiting activities. It was through the banks that the railroads and major industries were consolidated.

This translation of the bank from its original function into that of exploitation explains the need for new banks to aid the farmer and the worker. They have no credit facilities for productive enterprises. Their deposits are mobilized in the banks and transferred from small banks to larger banks for exploitation purposes. More money is to be made in this way than through 6 per cent loans to merchants, farmers and workmen.

At European countries have people's or producers' banks, which take the form of Raiffeisen or Schulze-Delitzsch banks known in this country as credit unions. They are pure banks. They gather together the deposits of the community, and the members themselves

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## EVIDENCE WHICH THROWS LIGHT ON TEXTILE COSTS

### Profits, Wages and Protection Involved in the Canadian Textile Industry

Continuing from last week's issue the text of the bulletin issued by the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

Cottons and Child Labor  
If the economic and moral character of the woolen industry in Canada is bad, that of the cotton industry is worse. The manufacture of cotton goods in Canada is centered in some twenty-six mills which are largely owned and operated by the Dominion Textile Company, one of the biggest industrial mergers which was ever organized in this country. The cotton industry in Canada employs some 16,000 workers, and 4800 of these are children under sixteen years of age. In 1918 there were 3535 boys and 1419 girls, under sixteen years of age, working in the 26 cotton mills which represent this industry in Canada. The wages which these children received are lower even than the lowest figures shown in the woolen industry, where the adult women are the most poorly paid wage-earners. An index of the mere pittance which these 4800 children engaged in the cotton industry must receive may be judged from the fact that the average annual wage for the entire 16,000 employees in this industry is only \$238 or about \$10 per week. It is significant that the reports from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics do not contain a classification of wages in the cotton industry similar to that published in connection with woolens. The 26 cotton mills in Canada pay

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## APPEAL MADE FOR A NEWS SERVICE FOR LABOR PRESS

### International Labor Press Holds Important Convention at Montreal

By Laurence Todd

Staff correspondent the Federated Press  
Montreal, Can., June 6.—The convention of the International Labor Press association tonight adopted a resolution by Claude Taylor of Grand Rapids, calling for a Labor press campaign against the revival of the private detective menace. Taylor instanced the employment of spies and thugs in the Butte and Calumet copper strikes, the steel strike and the Grand Rapids furniture strike in support of his resolution.

Another resolution adopted called on the American Federation of Labor to furnish a feature and foreign news service to the Labor press of the country, this service to be harmonious with Federation policy.

E. J. Costello, managing editor of the Federated Press, explained the Federated Press. Ellis Scaries, editor of the Mine Workers' Journal, defended the fairness of the Associated Press and strongly opposed the Labor party. David Williams of Pennsylvania took issue with Scaries on both points.

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