

CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

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Department of Labor
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True Confidence and Understanding Between Employer
and Employee Absolutely Necessary to Industrial Peace.

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Canada's Immigration Growth Retarded

Teach "Buy Canadian Goods"

Saskatoon, Sask.—Statement that "American trash magazines and advertising" were but propaganda which American manufacturers were flooding the country and that the only way to relieve the unemployment situation in this country was for everyone to purchase "made-in-Canada" goods, prefaced an emphatic appeal to the people of the west to exert themselves in standing for their right and the completion of the Hudson's Bay Railway, above all, in an address by Colonel Ralph H. Webb, mayor of Winnipeg, to the Saskatchewan school trustees' convention held recently.

He urged that teachers make it a duty to take ten minutes each day to teach children to buy Canadian goods.

The Prairies were not interested in the secession talk that had been heard, the speaker declared, but the actions of people in the east made the west pretty sore at times.

N. S. to Name Royal Commission

Sydney, N. S.—Nova Scotia has announced the intention of the Government to appoint a Royal Commission at the earliest possible date, under the Public Inquiries Act, to investigate conditions in the coal mining industry and to recommend a scale of wages to obtain for a period yet to be determined, unless in the meantime an alternative method of settling the present dispute is mutually agreed upon.

Pending the findings of the Commission the company is asked to continue the 1924 wage scale, and both company and men are invited to give an undertaking to abide by the decisions reached. The terms of reference, it is indicated, will follow closely those set out in the Winfield Conciliation Board's report, which are quoted in the Premier's letter.

Labor Temple Co. Has a Good Year

Shareholders Get Six Per Cent.—Report Credit Balance of \$39,406.78

At the annual business meeting held recently at the Labor Temple, the Labor Temple Company declared a six per cent. dividend and, according to the financial statement, finished the year with a credit balance of \$39,406.78. Receipts for the year amounted to \$24,538 and the expenditure, \$19,664.18. The current assets were \$11,266.74 and the fixed assets, \$48,044.85. The current liabilities were \$3,019.81, and the shareholders' liabilities \$16,991. Honorariums were presented to the president and the secretary.

The following directors were elected for the year: President, David A. Carey; vice-president, Thomas Dulan; secretary-treasurer, James Simpson; executive, Joseph Bamber, F. C. Cribben, W. J. Storey, A. E. Thompson, James Watt, William Jenoves, A. Conn, John Munro, William Conant, Controller W. B. Robbins, W. Varley, John Beck.

Winnipeg, Man.—The Harris Abattoir Company, of Toronto, has closed a deal to erect a plant here which will employ 500 men.

TORONTO STREET CAR SERVICE UNEQUALLED IN GREAT BRITAIN

Special dispatch to "The Canadian Labor Press" By James T. Gunn, Staff Correspondent in Great Britain

For over twenty years the car service of Glasgow has been considered the finest in the world, and an outstanding tribute to public ownership development.

To one who has experienced the accommodation and efficiency of the cars operated by the Toronto Transportation Commission, there is no justifiable reason why the Corporation of Glasgow should continue to hold that position. As compared with the service of the T. T. C. the Glasgow cars actually crawl, and with much longer waits between cars in order to get to your destination.

Whilst there is a different system of fares in operation on the whole, one would judge that the single fare system with transfers, even at 7 cents on the average is much cheaper than the different rate stage fares in operation on the Glasgow system.

Professional Jealousy of Labor Groups and others who would hold back Natural Progress of the Dominion

"The Canadian Labor Press" has been made the object of bitter attacks by various labor groups throughout Canada during the past few months on account of its advocacy of the necessity of more people in Canada and especially agricultural workers, this being the point most strongly stressed by us. We have not recommended the desirability of industrial workers for our cities under present conditions because at the present time Canadian Industrial life is in the same boat as in many other countries and we are in the throes of a gigantic readjustment which immigration for our agricultural development will help to solve.

THERE IS ONE THING SURE HOWEVER, THAT PESSIMISM AND A CONTINUAL DENUNCIATION OF CANADA AND HER ABILITY TO TAKE CARE OF HER CITIZENS, WILL NEVER ASSIST US ON THE ROAD TO PROSPERITY.

We would never have progressed as far as we have if we had allowed ourselves to be carried away by the wallings of those narrow visioned individuals who can think of nothing outside of their own little circle of activities and who do not realize that it is a case of "wheels within wheels;" that they are but one of the many cogs in one of the wheels and that if all of the other cogs in all of the other wheels do not function also, that their little cog would not be of much use and therefore they would get nowhere.

Keen business men realize that when business is bad, it pays to advertise and boost their goods in order to create sales. The same thing applies to Canada; we know we have a good thing in this country of ours and it is realized that we need more sales, figuratively speaking, but ARE WE ADVERTISING CANADA AND WHAT SHE HAS IN THE RIGHT WAY? WILL NOT THIS CONTINUAL PESSIMISM AND DISPARAGING TALK REDOUND BACK IN A MOST UNFAVORABLE MANNER IN THE YEARS TO COME?

LEGISLATION OF INTEREST TO CANADIAN WORKERS

A discussion upon the merits of the garnishee law in Ontario and the introduction of some new bills were features of a brief period which the Ontario Parliament spent recently upon the work of legislation. During the course of it second reading was given to four Government bills, one new Government bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act was introduced and a private member's bill to permit townships and counties to regulate the width of sleigh runners, was brought into the chamber.

Introducing a bill to amend the Landlord and Tenant Act, Hon. W. F. Nickle said that the bill was intended to remedy a situation where consent to sublet was unreasonably withheld and would permit a tenant to make application to a court for the determination of the suitability of a sub-tenant before letting took place.

Hon. Beniah Bowman introduced a bill to amend the Consolidated Municipal Act, explaining that it would enable townships and counties to pass by-laws with respect to the widening of sleigh runners.

A bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act was also given first reading. The Attorney-General said it was intended to meet a grievance with respect to the fact that certain widows who were drawing compensation under the Act were living in irregular domestic relations and not marrying as they did not wish to terminate the allowance. The bill would give power for diverting the allowance in such cases for the benefit of the children.

Hon. Mr. Raney rose to observe that the law of garnishee in this province was of doubtful wisdom. In many other provinces the creditor must first obtain judgment before being able to attach the debtor's income. In Ontario, however, in the case of debts for small amounts, the creditor could issue a garnishee order prior to having had his claim adjudicated upon by the courts.

"That is a vicious principle. I have known cases in which it has been used as blackmail," Hon. Mr. Raney commented, detailing the case of a school teacher, who had had some faulty work done for her by a builder. She had offered to post the amount of the bill in court while the builder's claim should be judged. The builder, however, had refused this, had declared his intention of proceeding to garnishee, and had finally done so. The result, had been that the teacher, until her objections to the work had been upheld by the court, had felt herself depreciated in the eyes of the School Board as one who did not pay her bills.

Premier Ferguson stated that the wisdom or otherwise of the garnishee law was a matter much broader than 70 per cent. exemption which the statute books. Hon. Mr. Ferguson pointed out, incidentally, that while much of what Mr. Raney had said was true, yet something could be said on behalf of the garnishee law, which aimed at preventing unscrupulous creditors from drawing their income in advance and evading their obligations.

Strike-breakers Are Assaulted

Toronto, Ont.—Constantin Shadoff and his wife, Mary, of 25 Wyatt Avenue, are in St. Michael's Hospital suffering from head injuries sustained when they were assaulted by four unidentified men while walking home from work along Sumach Street. Shadoff declares that one of their assailants struck them with a hammer, then stepped into a taxi-cab and fled. Shadoff has one bad wound in the head, which required several stitches, and Mrs. Shadoff has several smaller wounds.

Shadoff and his wife are employed at the Fashion Clock Company, Spadina Avenue, as clockmakers, where the employees have been on strike for some time. They were walking along Sumach street when the taxi drove up to the curb and four men alighted and rushed upon them. Shadoff says that he distinctly saw one of the men with a hammer in his hand. After striking their victims down the thugs hurried into the car and were driven away. Pedestrians picked up Shadoff and his helpmate and had them removed to the hospital.

CANADA HAS MUCH SUPERIOR TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH SERVICE AS COMPARED WITH GREAT BRITAIN

Special dispatch to "The Canadian Labor Press" By James T. Gunn, Staff Correspondent in Great Britain

The City of Toronto, from time to time works itself up into a fury concerning the inequities of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada, particularly in regard to rates and considerable sentiment is expressed by several politicians and members of the Labor movement for the establishment of a public owned scheme of telephones in order to oust the dread octopus of private ownership in Toronto.

It is interesting to compare the telephone system of Great Britain which is public owned and has been for some ten years, with the privately owned system existing in Eastern Canada. The price paid for a private telephone for household use in Scotland is a rental of \$32.50 per year plus 2 cents for every call made by the party in whose house the telephone is installed. One can see that the rental alone equals the price of a house telephone in the City of Toronto, where the calls are unlimited without extra charge and in efficiency the Bell Telephone Company have much the better of the case.

Telegrams through the public owned telegraph system here are slightly cheaper than in Canada. The service is however very poor as compared with the telegraph systems in Canada. For example, it is impossible in any of the smaller towns in Britain to send a telegram after the Post Office closes at 7 o'clock at night, and in the larger cities one must go to the General Post Office, perhaps involving a trip of several miles, in order to be able to send a night telegram.

Canadian cities, even if they pay a little more for their service, are more than amply compensated by the efficiency of the accommodation given them by the Telegraph Companies of Canada.

Doctor Wins Suit for Wages

A doctor can legally collect extra wages from the father for services performed when twins are born, according to a decision rendered by Magistrate L. C. Jones, of Wilmington, Del.

Evidence to the case disclosed that Albert P. Kappa had engaged Dr. Willard Springer to attend Mrs. Kappa at the birth of "a baby." The fee agreed upon was \$35.

Twins arrived at the Kappa home and the doctor put in his bill at \$50, which Papa Kappa refused to pay, holding to the original agreement. Dr. Springer then brought suit, claiming that he was entitled to extra pay for extra service.

The magistrate ruled in favor of the doctor and awarded him the full amount of his claim.

Prince Still Holds His Pressman Card

New York, N.Y.—The Prince of Wales paid his dues as a member of the New York Paper Pressmen's Union just in the nick of time to avoid suspension from that organization.

The Prince joined the union while on a tour of the city's newspaper offices during his recent visit, and paid in advance until Jan. 1 the monthly dues of \$3.50. The union requires its members to be paid up at least every two months, and suspends those who fail to do so.

Try to Settle Unrest at Belle Isle Mines

St. John's Nfld.—The Government is negotiating between the British Empire Steel Corporation and men employed in the Belle Isle Iron Mines in an effort to settle the labor troubles which began more than a month ago, when the company introduced time clocks. The miners contended that this was an effort to force them to work longer hours without increase of pay, but the company stated that its aim was simply to provide a more careful check of the number of men in the mines in case of accident.

Labor Saved Premier Bracken

Winnipeg, Man.—Labor members came to the aid of the Bracken Government and without a division, a bill to repeal the Manitoba Income Tax Act, introduced by J. K. Downes, Independent, Winnipeg, was defeated in the Legislature recently.

January Mothers' Allowances \$147,796

During the month of January, 1925, \$147,796 was expended by the Mothers' Allowances Commission for the benefit of 4,129 mothers with 12,582 dependent children, according to a statement just issued. One mother assisted had 11 children. There were 16 mothers with 8 children and 5 with 9.

The greater number of the women receiving the benefit were widows. There were, according to the statement, 3,255 widows, 487 wives of incapacitated husbands; 151 had been deserted by their husbands for a period of more than five years, and 106 were foster-mothers. Resident in Toronto were 780 of the mothers, receiving \$31,792.

British Labor and Emigration

By James T. Gunn, Staff Correspondent in Great Britain

A great deal of apprehension is being felt in labor circles in Great Britain as to the ability of Canada to absorb immigrants into the industrial and national life of the Dominion. The statement of Canadian politicians that emigration is proceeding from Canada into the United States at a rate of 200,000 per year is extensively quoted in the Labor Press of Great Britain, supplemented by a number of articles written by Canadian citizens whose viewpoint is that of the extreme left in labor circles. The greatest portion of this propaganda is circulated around the Clyde where undoubtedly there exists a feeling of curiosity as to the possibility of a new life for British citizens who emigrate to Canada. In other words, whilst the official policy of Scottish Labor is against emigration, the individual point of view is that there may be a chance to get away from the miserable conditions that exist in the Clydeside district. During a series of lectures given by the writer it was asked on several occasions by members of the audience if proper provision was made for the children who were placed in Canadian homes. The two cases in Ontario some time ago where two boys committed suicide have evidently left a deep impression on the British working class mind. The report made by the delegates headed by Miss Margaret Bondfield helped to considerably steady public opinion here, although amongst the extremist element it is entirely ignored. The principal stumbling block to successful emigration still remains however in the objections raised by the Labor movement in Canada and the statements made by responsible politicians in the Dominion for the purpose of securing party advantage. Not one word of the fact that the exodus into the United States was probably due to the building boom in that country, and that Canadians have been returning to the Dominion at the rate of 4,000 per month is published here. These facts have been entirely suppressed with the consequent result that a bad impression is left in the public mind here. The obvious remedy for the Canadian Government to take is to see that the facts pertaining to the return of Canadians from the United States into Canada is given proper publicity in Great Britain, and if that is done a large amount of the suspicion that exists in certain Labor circles around the Clyde area will be dispelled. Canada owes it to herself and to her citizens to see that the false propaganda circulating through Great Britain against the Dominion is effectively counteracted, and the "Labor Press" of Canada can help a good deal towards that result by seeing that the facts of the situation are placed before the movement in Canada.

What Every Canadian Should Know about the Woollen and Knitting Mills of Canada

Importance to the Empire

"In developing the strength and might of the British Empire, the part that industries in the Dominions must play in building up man-power is frequently overlooked.

"Our Empire consists of Great Britain, in free association with a number of younger nations. Great Britain is rapidly becoming stabilized in population, and at the recent meeting of the British Scientists in Toronto it was stated that it was extremely doubtful if the population, which was now 45,000,000, would exceed, or even reach 50,000,000, and that there would shortly be no surplus population for emigration. Any increase of man-power must therefore come from the young nations, and with the populations of Germany and the United States greater than that of Great Britain, if the Empire is to hold its place in the world. The building up of man-power is of prime importance.

"The growth of young and powerful nations has always been from agriculture to industry and from the production of raw materials to the manufacture of wares. We can perform no greater service to the British Empire than to build up Canada both agriculturally and industrially.

"The wool-growing and wool-working industries in Canada, which provide both agricultural and industrial work, are capable of considerable expansion and are a potential source of diversified employment both for workers and capital. It is not generally realized that 94.4 per cent of the capital employed in the woollen and knitting mills is Canadian.

"Great Britain is an industrial country buying her food and raw materials from the Dominions."

COST OF LIVING HIGHER IN GREAT BRITAIN

By James T. Gunn, Staff Correspondent in Great Britain

In view of the fact that Canadians feel, as has sometimes been expressed, that prices are high, thus keeping up the cost of living, it will be interesting to readers of "The Canadian Labor Press" to get a comparison of food-stuffs in Great Britain as compared with Canada.

Butcher meat is much dearer in Great Britain than in Canada. For example, the cheapest Hamburg steak in the butchers' windows is 16 cents per pound—an article that sells for 10 to 12 cents per pound in the City of Toronto. Steaks, lamb, mutton, pork, are all correspondingly dearer and in much the same proportion compared with Canadian meats. Bread is approximately the same price, the cost of a 2 lb. loaf being 10½ cents. Milk is a little dearer in Canada, while other things, such as tobacco are much cheaper. For example, tobacco comparable with Macdonald's Briar Plug, costing 20 cents for one-ninth of a pound, costs 20 cents per ounce in Britain, and the cost of the working man's beer and whiskey has risen so much as to be almost prohibitive. The whiskey which before the war cost 78 cents per bottle now costs \$3.00. Beer was formerly sold at 6 cents per pint and now is 12 cents, and Bass, which formerly was 6 cents per bottle, now retails at 16 cents.

Mechanics rates of wages average around \$17.50 per week, but it is claimed that unskilled laborers on a great many civil jobs earn as much if not more than tradesmen.

Canadian readers will see that as a result of the inflation due to the war, the cost of living in a great many things is higher than in Canada.