

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS
THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS
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Following is brief is an outline of our Policy:

1. The "Canadian Labor Press" strongly condemns and continually opposes all forms of Communism and Radicalism in Canada.
2. "The Canadian Labor Press" endeavors to present all labor and industrial problems from a commonsense point of view with the idea of closer co-operation and a better understanding between employer and employes.
3. In the interests of the Canadian Worker, The Canadian Labor Press believes that Canadian industry needs adequate tariff protection.
4. The Canadian Labor Press advocates fair play to employer and employe.
5. The Canadian Labor Press stands for the betterment of Trade Union conditions in Canada and the welfare of our country at large.
6. The Canadian Labor Press is independent in politics and free from any political influences.

Another Proof of the Dangers of Communism

ORGANIZED labor should be glad to know that the Toronto Candy Works, which has been under investigation by the Minimum Wage Board for alleged underpayment of employes, has been completely vindicated by the report just handed out.

At the time the investigation was under way, the Communist Party of Canada, through their official organ "the Worker," and by every other means possible, endeavored to bring discredit upon this concern, and place a boycott upon their products which would thus deprive hundreds of working girls of employment.

As in all of the other workings of the Communists, they were doing more harm than good, and their continued efforts to disrupt industry is bringing nothing but disruption to the workers of Canada.

The Dominion Trades Congress and Immigration

(Continued from page 1)

Canada, is perfectly true and proof of this can be found in the public statements made at various times by the responsible officers of the Dominion Trades Congress on this question and the resolutions passed by the Congress which are to be found in the reports of various annual conventions.

"The Canadian Labor Press" does not desire anymore than anyone else with commonsense does, that Canada should be flooded with immigrants whom she cannot absorb into her national and industrial life and an analysis of the figures for immigration during the last quarter of 1924 published in the February, 1925, "Labor Gazette," shows quite clearly that she is not receiving immigrants in such numbers as to create a difficult problem for Canadian citizens. During the period mentioned the total immigrants entering into Canada was 15,358 and were classified as follows:

Farming	4,473
Trading	1,055
Domestics	2,421
Skilled	1,050
Mining	232

leaving unskilled and unclassified, 5,927; in each classification the figures include, male, female and children. Now no one is so foolish as to pretend that Canada cannot absorb immigrants who come here for the purpose of taking up farming, entering into trade or going into domestic service. There may be on the part of the interests Mr. Moore represents, a desire to fight the inclusion of skilled workmen and miners, but we should like to point out that one of the things the country suffers from is the scarcity of skilled mechanics, and in fact, at the joint conferences of employers and employees in the building and construction industries held in Ottawa under government auspices, it has been suggested time and time again, by the special interests Mr. Moore represents, that the employers were not making sufficient provision for the training of skilled workmen and something must be done if the amount of skilled workmen was to be brought to a sufficiently normal standard, so to be consistent, there can be no opposition on the part of the Congress to the admission of skilled workmen into Canada, especially from the British Isles. Of the 5,927 remaining unskilled and unclassified, no less than 4,768 were women and children who obviously do not come into competition with the workers Mr. Moore represents and thus the total number who entered during that period amounts to twelve hundred odd or an average of about five thousand per year, a percentage in ratio to the population so small as to be entirely negligible.

In the same editorial in "The Congress Journal" is reprinted an excerpt of the policy of the Congress

Buy Made In Canada Goods, Keep Canadian Workmen Employed

additional revenue to our railways of which the C.N.R. receives undoubtedly a certain percentage; it is therefore the duty of those who form the body controlling the policy of our National Railway, to see that more revenue is secured in order that the road may pay its way. As stated above, one of the means whereby additional revenue may be secured is through more passenger traffic which includes immigration traffic.

Mr. Moore, therefore being a director of the National Railway must let the citizens know whether he intends to help the road by promoting additional immigration traffic or seek to protect the special interests he represents by having that traffic curtailed; if he takes the first attitude he does, his duty as a director, anxious for the welfare of all Canadian citizens and if he takes the second, he takes an attitude inconsistent with his duty as a C.N.R. director and we think in all fairness he should tender his resignation so that the government appoint some person more in sympathy with the successful rehabilitation of the road.

One final word in conclusion: to use the words of "The Congress Journal," the editorial in its April issue was "totally and wholly misleading" by reason of the fact that "The Canadian Labor Press" sent a representative to Great Britain, not alone for the purpose of investigating immigration, but all other industrial and social questions, so that during the next year or so, its readers will have the benefit of a first hand point of view upon British industrial questions as they arise.

Effect of Free Trade in Great Britain

(Continued from page 1)

These figures reflect the curtailment of production in the Canadian mills. Words of Wisdom from U. S.

Since United States governments have built up tremendous prosperity for their country, the United States view points are worth study. Mr. Walter Humphreys of Boston, Mass., said in 1924:

The doctrines of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers concerning a protective tariff policy has been that in the United States it cannot be justified merely as a means of making a particular industry prosperous, or even for the benefit of the employees of that industry. Unless it can be shown that the nation at large is benefited by the maintenance of the protected industry, the protection cannot be justified. The industrial history of the United States during the long period of protection has so completely exemplified the fact that the nation as a whole has unmistakably benefited as to leave no room for argument.

That communities desire to have industries located within their precincts is demonstrated by the numerous bill boards attracting the attention of the passerby to the local advantages for a plant or business. Each new industry affords additional means of employment, which enhances wages in all other industries, producing greater prosperity which is shared by all professions and vocations in the community. Real estate values are increased, activity in building trades is promoted by the need for industrial buildings, housing for employes, new and enlarged mercantile buildings, etc. On the other hand, it is a misfortune to a city to have some large industrial organization move away because immediately the skilled and unskilled employes, clerks, etc., become competitors for the positions held by the other wage earners.

There are two bases for a protective tariff: to protect and nourish an infant industry, and to provide for the more or less marked differences in cost of production between industries in one country and another. Those who believe in free trade take some satisfaction in directing their shafts of criticism to one set of facts when it is to the other that the policy of protection has relevancy.

The manufacture of steel rails, in its infancy, had tariff protection. There came a time, however, when the United States was able to deliver rails in England in competition with the foreign production, due to the development of new processes and labor-saving machinery and the consequent reduction in cost.

Protection, Key to Good Wages

The wool industry after on hundred and twenty-five years cannot be said to be in its infancy, and yet it is still unable to compete with foreign products. The necessity for protection in this industry is not, therefore, based upon the reason mentioned in the case of infant industries but upon a difference in the cost of production at home and abroad, which results from different standards of

living for the wage earners. Opponents of protection ridicule the policy of protecting the wool manufacturing by referring to it as an "infant industry," but students of the tariff, whether or not believers in the policy of protection, know that protection is necessary not because of the infancy of the industry, but because of the continuing discrepancy between the cost of labor and other factors in the United States and European countries where wool is manufactured. Moreover, wool manufacture cannot properly be compared with the production of steel rails because the cost of the production of the raw wool has not diminished, nor have there been epoch-making improvements in machinery which give to the wool manufacturers of our country a comparative advantage.

In the case of the tariff for the wool industry is a special one for, besides the general advantages of diversification of industry, from the time of the establishment of the Federal Government it has been recognized that a domestic supply of raw wool and an adequate domestic manufacture of wool goods are essential factors of national defence.

To those of our friends abroad who seem to think a tariff unnecessary, we have said that the question is chiefly a matter of wages. There is a very obvious difference between the wages in Europe and in the United States. Given the same labor cost everywhere the mills of the United States could probably operate and would doubtless compete for the business of neutral markets, but in view of the evident difference, it must be clear that there are only two ways that such an equality of competition can be brought about. As we have pointed out to our benevolent competitors, it can be done by lowering our wages to the European level, or by raising European wages to the level of ours. To attempt the former would bring about a revolution, whereas to raise the level of wages in Europe to those in America would cause no social disturbance whatever.

Trade Unionism in Venezuela

The president of the Venezuela Working Men's Union, B. Suarez, attended a meeting of representatives of the Pan-American Federation of Labor at Washington, which elected President Green, chairman of the Federation in the place of Mr. Gompers. On the occasion he stated that trade unionism is not permitted in Venezuela, the executive committee of his union being compelled to function in Washington. No trade union activity, no free meetings, and no free speech or free press are allowed in Venezuela. "Venezuela," said Mr. Suarez, "is rich in natural resources. Its oil reserves are only equalled by those of Mexico. It has extensive gold fields and its vast area is covered with fruit and cocoa plantations. This has made us the victims of exploitation, especially by United States capitalists.

So far as aggregate wealth and natural resources are concerned, Denmark is a poor country, but the average of individual comfort and the degree of economic independence is higher than in most.

Want Better Compensation

Des Moines, Iowa.—Trade unionists and sympathizers are urged by President Lewis of the state federation of labor to support pending legislation, that will strengthen the Iowa workmen's compensation act.

Under the present law an injured workman is given compensation only for the injury received. He receives no compensation for the time he is incapacitated during the healing period. The proposed law would allow compensation during that period.

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Copies of the Regulations issued by the Department of Education may be obtained from the Deputy Minister of Education, Toronto, Toronto, December, 1924.