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### SPECIALS FOR THIS WEEK

Men's Gunmetal Shoe with welt sole. Regular \$10.00. **\$8.50**  
 Cut Rate.  
 Made with the recede toe, low heel, an ideal up-to-date Shoe. Special for this week.

Gum Rubbers  
 For Youths \$1.99  
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 For Men \$2.98  
 This Rubber is made in the one buckle style and with extra good wearing qualities. Ideal Footwear for the wet weather.

**The CANADIAN SHOE CO. Ltd.**  
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## F. W. WOOLWORTHS' PROFITS FOR 1919 OVER 8 MILLION

The F. W. Woolworth Company, which controls a chain of 5 and 10 cent stores, reports that last year it made a profit of \$8,254,433 after all expenses, including payment on preferred stock dividends, were paid. This is equal to \$17.11 per share of common stock, against \$9.88 the preceding year. Total sales amounted to \$119,496,107, or \$12,317,696 more than the previous year.

## HAMILTON, ONT., IS CONCEDED AS BEST ORGANIZED CITY

In Results Attained It Stands Second to None on American Continent.

To be honest it must be conceded that Hamilton is the best organized city in the Dominion at the present time, says the Industrial Banner. In results attained it stands second to none on the American continent. It may be that it is a number of trades, wage scales in Toronto are higher as is also the cost of living, but according to population the Ambitious City has a record second to none.

It undoubtedly has one of the best central labor bodies in the Dominion, one that has been bothered less by fanatics than any other in our country and a considerable percentage of its membership are men who have been accorded delegates to it, from their local organization continuously for lengthy periods of time, which has added to its stability and steadiness.

No other city on the continent, barring none, has been so successful on the field of politics, for years it elected the late Allan Sturholme, the sole Labor member in the Ontario Legislature and in the Provincial elections it captured both seats, electing the Labor candidates by overwhelming majorities.

It has two of the four representatives upon the Board of Control, seven aldermanic representatives in the municipal council and has Labor men on all the civic boards. It has the largest L.L.P. branch in the province and an up-to-date political organization.

Its ladies branch of the L.L.P. is also an influential body and there are strong branches of the party in both east and west ridings as well. On the industrial field it is solidly united and this year the various local trades unions have successfully agitated for increased wages and secured other valuable concessions from employers.

Hamilton also is about to build one of the most up-to-date Labor Temples in Canada and already has a substantial fund accumulated to start the work and has purchased a valuable and convenient site upon which to erect the edifice. We think this is a record that would be pretty hard for any other organized centre to equal and the boys and girls of the Ambitious City should be accorded ungrudging credit for the successes they have achieved and what is more, they mean to capture both the city Federal seats when the general elections are brought on.

## ADDRESS OF LABOR MEMBER ON SPEECH FROM THRONE

(Continued from Page One)

tions between Capital and Labor which I had hoped would in some measure bring about a better relationship between these two elements. But unfortunately no one seems to have taken the proceedings seriously. One of the principles agreed on at Ottawa was that Labor had a right to organize and recognition of unions, yet I find that although this Government took part in the Conference—and I understood the Alberta delegate raised no objection to this principle—that only a few days ago the employees of the Provincial Telephone System endeavored to secure an agreement with the Government and were refused. The management of the Telephone System informed the men that the Government was not prepared to recognize a Union; no intelligent reason was given, but it was stated that non-recognition was the Government's policy. I know that non-recognition has always been the policy of this Government, but I had hoped that the Provincial Treasurer, who was the Alberta delegate, would, after receiving some inside knowledge of some of the causes of the industrial unrest, persuade his colleagues to change that policy. Probably he has tried and been unsuccessful. The men are not asking an exorbitant increase in wages; they are asking to be put on the same schedule as the Civic Employees in Calgary, who are doing a similar class of work. How can we expect private employers to recognize unions if the Government refuse? The Union is now recognized as a part of our Industrial System and, although playing an inconspicuous part at this time in Western Canada, it will eventually play a more important part in our industrial life.

I believe that the Provincial Government are not treating their employees fairly. There is just one other class—and that is Retail Clerks—that have suffered more through the enormous increase in prices than Civil Servants. Many other classes, by virtue of organization, have forced an occasional increase in wages, but the wages of Civil Servants have remained more or less stationary. The Government ought to put their employees back on the standard of 1914; that is, accept 1914 as a reasonable wage and grant an increase which will make the wage of 1920 equal in purchasing power to the wage of 1914.

### Factories Act

The employees in the stores throughout the Province have also reasonable grounds for complaint against the Government. Last year an amendment was made to the Factories Act which provided for a Commission to be appointed which would meet periodically and determine a Minimum Wage to be paid to Minors and Girls employed in Stores. I suggested a Minimum Wage Bill at the time similar to what they have in British Columbia and Manitoba, and I believe now in Saskatchewan. These Bills set out clearly the functions of these Commissions and as a result the Minimum Wages paid in these provinces have been increased and now average about \$12.50 per week, while in Alberta the Minimum Wage is still \$6 per week for the first four months, \$7.50 for the second four months, and \$9.00 for the last four months of the year. The average wage paid in Alberta is less, I am informed, than the Minimum wage paid in British Columbia; the average wage in Alberta is less than \$11.00 per week. I thought at the time the Attorney General would read into the amendment to the Factories Act made last year the spirit of the Minimum Wage Bills elsewhere; it was quite possible to do that. But instead he appointed a Commission, with Judge Taylor as Chairman, who met for the first time a few weeks ago in Calgary. I asked some of the members of the Commission what they had accomplished or what they expected to accomplish, and was informed that the Chairman took the position that unless there was a dispute between the employer and employee the Commission would not act; in other words, the Commission has been converted into a Court of Arbitration. Now, that was not the intention of the amendment as I understood it. It may be that the Judge misunderstood his instructions. Members of the Commission inform me that the Chairman seemed to be a very estimable gentleman but knew nothing about Labor Legislation or what was expected of him. The Factory Inspector himself was not even invited, the man who knew best about the conditions in the Province. The whole thing was a fiasco. Some of the employers are quite pleased about it all, but the employees are not and are still working for the same wage as they did in 1914, and the Attorney General is to blame. I do hope that the delegate to the Industrial Conference at Ottawa will persuade the Attorney General that it is not judges or lawyers that we need to deal with legislation of this kind but someone who has a knowledge of economic conditions.

### Increasing Prices

In advocating an increase in wages, some of you may think that I am un-mindful or quite oblivious of the effect of these increases. Like many others, I have only a hazy idea where the enormous inflation in prices is leading us; it must be evident to us all that we cannot go on in a vicious circle indefinitely. The enormous increase in prices has had a remarkable social effect. It has caused those whose wages or salary has remained more or less stationary to analyze costs as they had never done before; they now realize that money does

## BRITISH UNION MEN MAY JOIN UNION OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

Reports from Great Britain has it that 5,000,000 union members have decided to join forces with the Union of British Co-operative societies, whose membership will aggregate nearly 5,000,000, in order to dominate production, consumption and distribution in Britain. It is estimated that this amalgamation of two forces will represent the greatest business combination in history. The British Federation of Industries, with capital representing approximately \$20,000,000, will have a strong contending force to reckon with, which really means a great power vs. a gigantic combination of wealth.

But in this case in Britain the unions alone furnish nearly three-fourths of the inhabitants. A joint advisory board or council of co-operators and trade unions has been selected to draw up a plan of campaign for the new organization.

## CO-OP. SPIRIT CANADA IS GIVEN IMPETUS BY H.C.L.

Toronto and Sydney Mines Co-operative Societies Doing Big Business, Shown by Reports.

"The high cost of living in Canada has given a great impetus to the forming of co-operative societies throughout the Dominion of Canada during the last couple of years," says the Toronto Industrial Banner, "and probably the most successful illustration of what may be accomplished by using strictly business methods in carrying on co-operative enterprises is to be found in Toronto, in the building up of a co-operative institution by the United Farmers of Ontario, which inside of some six years has grown from a small and struggling affair until today it handles goods which in round figures measures up in millions of dollars and continues to rapidly expand.

Another very successful co-operative enterprise which is causing considerable interest in Eastern Canada is the one conducted in Sydney Mines, N.S. This society was founded about thirteen years ago; it has just issued its 23rd quarterly report. Its progress and development during that period has been steady and continuous. Its sales during the past quarter amounted to \$243,215, which represented an increase of \$55,000 over the same period last year. Over a hundred new members joined during the three months, bringing the total up to 1,700.

During the society's existence, it has returned over \$360,000 in purchase rebates to the purchasing members. The rate of purchase rebate, or "dividend" this past quarter was 12 1/2 per cent, which is equal to the highest average in the British stores.

### CHINOOK COAL

Phones 5216 and 4433  
 Western Transfer & Storage, Ltd.  
 10163 104th Street

## STYLE HEADQUARTERS

THE SPRING WEATHER has a tendency to make us think of a New Suit. This ad is to remind you that we are better prepared than ever to give you what you want in a nice Suit. Our Spring lines are arriving and we are very much pleased the way they are opening up. Don't worry about the much-talked-of high prices for Spring. We can sell you a Pure Wool Suit made up very neatly, and guaranteed, at \$35.00 and \$40.00.

We ask you to see our line.

## The Boston Clothing, Hat and Shoe Store

Hart Bros. Jasper Avenue at 99th Street

## Hardware Seasonable Suggestions

COCO DOOR MATS									
16x27	18x30	20x32	22x36	24x39	26x42	28x45	30x48		
\$2.75	\$3.50	\$4.25	\$5.25	\$6.00	\$7.00	\$8.25	\$9.00		

  

WIRE DOOR MATS		Extra Mop Cloths—40c each	
Small Size, \$1.75; Large Size, \$2.25		House Brooms, extra value—\$1 each	
Self Wringing Mops—70c each		O' Cedar Mops—\$1.50 each	
Crank Wringing Mops—80c each		Liquid Veneer Mops—\$1.75 each	

**Sommerville Hardware Co., Ltd.**  
 10154 101st Street

## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

The advertisers in THE FREE PRESS deserve the support of organized labor and its friends. They materially assist in making it possible for this paper to be of service to the workers. The individuals and firms using our publication are showing interest in our cause and expressing friendship for the wage worker, and the latter should give them the preference in making purchases. As organized workers you can readily grasp the value of reciprocity in preference to all others. As one good turn deserves another, it follows that those advertisers should get the purchasing power of Edmonton's organized labor, amounting to over ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS PER WEEK, as well as friends of the cause. Hot air never accomplished anything. Talk is usually valueless. Action is what counts. Buy from those who help your cause. Those who make their wants known through THE FREE PRESS are certainly worthy of your patronage. See to it that they get it.

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Give Your Son and Heir the Sun and Air in One of Our **BABY CARRIAGES**

We were fortunate in getting in a large stock of Baby Carriages last fall—at the old prices. Prices, as you are aware, have advanced considerably since then—but we are giving our customers the benefit of our forethought.

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Comprising the ever-popular Pram at from \$32.50 up. Reed Carriages from \$31.50 up. Reed Gondolas from \$52.50 up, and some very beautiful designs in combination wood and reed, in grey, ivory and combination colors. We also show a nice line of collapsible go-carts at from \$8.50 up; and Sulkies from \$4.00 up. You can effect quite a saving by buying your Carriage here.

**Announcement re Early Closing**

Beginning Saturday, May 1st, this store will close at one o'clock each Saturday. We trust our customers will co-operate with us, and arrange to do their Saturday shopping as early on Saturday as possible.

**Blowey-Henry Co.**  
 Phone 9355 9905 Jasper