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### NEW INTERNATIONAL UNION IS FORMED AT BOSTON, MASS

Boston.—A new union, to be known as the International Brotherhood of Telephone Workers, was formed here during a two-days' convention of delegates from the 29 locals of mechanical workers employed by the New England and Providence Telephone companies. This action was reported to result from the demand of mechanical telephone workers in New England for an organization dealing specifically with their craft, as opposed to the general union, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

### EDMONTON FREE PRESS

Edited, Controlled and Published by  
**THE EDMONTON TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL**

Issued at Edmonton, Alberta, Every Saturday

Phone 5595 **ELMER E. ROPEL, Editor** Adams Building

VOL. 2, No. 8 MAY 5, 1920

### THE PACKERS' BOGUS DOLLAR

Readers of popular magazines have become very familiar with full-page advertisements purporting to show the infinitesimal profits enjoyed by the great meat packing interests of the United States and Canada. Everybody is familiar with that diagram of the packer dollar, with the tiny segment marked 1.6 per cent profit. Many who are familiar with it have obviously gained the impression that all packers' profits are measured by the figure there indicated. Remembering this dollar these people should read the statement of the United States Federal Trade Commission in that body's latest report: "Such a rate on sales in an industry like meat packing, which rapidly turns over its product, is the equivalent of a high rate of return on net worth (15 per cent or more). Rate on investment, not rate on sales, nor rate per head or per pound, furnishes the correct method whereby the reasonableness of profits may be determined."

It would appear, then, that the packers in spreading that 1.6 per cent dollar before the newspapers and magazine readers of the country, were deliberately attempting to deceive the public. And if there is any doubt on this point, listen to this further statement of the Trade Commission's report: "The advertisements of the great packers in respect of profits per head or per pound of beef are not based on accepted methods of determining costs, and dependence cannot be placed upon them. The whole accounting system of the packers must be revised before dependable figures can be found showing costs and profits by specific products or even for the business as a whole."

All of which brings to mind the observation that "figures never lie but liars sometimes figure."

### WORKING CLASS READING

One of the most significant signs of the times in which we live is the class of literature that is being read today, especially by the workpeople of the world. Commenting on this the Christian Science Monitor says: "Quite quietly, like the silent rising of a river, there has set in an element of education in England not tabulated in the educational curriculum: it is education by reading, and therefore depends upon what is read." Mr. A. Bain Irvine, managing director of a large book concern in the Old Country, has given the public some idea of what books the working classes in the Old Land are buying. The great book-buying centers he gives as the Lanarkshire pit regions, the Lancashire pits, the Midlands and South Wales. It is the class of books that are being bought that is interesting, books that the average middle class or upper class reader outside the professional classes would never dream of buying—books which are stiff reading, books requiring close reasoning and courage to tackle them. They are being read by tens of thousands of workmen.

It is not only in England, however, that the workers are reading solid material. While the sale of books of that nature may not be as large in this country, the workers, and especially trade unionists, are taking full advantage of the splendid array of economic and sociological literature to be found in our public libraries. The Free Press has enquired at the local library as to the patronage received by that part of the institution catering to the reader of "heavy" material, and finds that there is a good demand for that class of books. To the trade unionist that has not heretofore taken advantage of the library we can only say that he is overlooking a very great privilege. Without any expense and only the effort required to take one to the library, the prospective reader has an unlimited choice of literature at his disposal. The local institution is well patronized, but we feel sure that there are still those who do not yet realize that they have at their very door a wealth of the world's best literature.

### LET EDMONTON BE WELL REPRESENTED

In about three months' time the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada will convene in Windsor, Ontario in annual convention. To what extent will Edmonton Labor be represented?

The Dominion organization is recognized as the mouthpiece of organized Labor in Canada, and its pronouncements on questions affecting the workers are accepted, by those outside the movement at any rate, as the voice of Canadian trade unionism. Each affiliated organization, therefore, has more than a passing interest in the affairs of the Congress, and every individual member should feel a responsibility for the actions and expressed views of the Dominion body. There is only one way in which this responsibility can be exercised, and that is by representation at the annual conventions where the general policy of the organization is laid down. There never was a time when more momentous and complex problems engaged the interest of Labor in Canada. For that reason it is particularly desirable that the Congress convention this year should be thoroughly representative of all sections of Canada, as well as all shades of opinion contained within the international trade union movement in this Dominion.

Edmonton locals should be well represented. Now is the time to prepare and it is to be hoped that this important matter will receive the immediate attention of Edmonton unions. The Congress has met in the East for a number of years and an effort should be made to have the convention come west next year. Edmonton has never had the privilege of entertaining the Dominion body, and the Free Press would like to see this city make a strong bid for the 1921 gathering. At any rate, let us plan to be well represented in Windsor in September of this year.

### LABOR AND THE WELFARE OF INDUSTRY

"Remember," said Mr. Sidney Hillman, President of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, speaking at the convention of his union in Boston last month, "remember, we cannot defeat the industry. Labor can never defeat an industry. When it tries to defeat it, it defeats itself."

Mr. Hillman's is not an isolated view. It is a very concise expression of the attitude of all progressive Labor men. The welfare of an industry is just as much the concern of the worker engaged therein as it is the concern of the capitalist whose money is invested therein—and much more so. The living of not only the worker himself but of his family—their home comforts, education and all material interests—depends on the economic soundness of the particular industry in which the breadwinner is engaged. An industry that cannot maintain the workers employed therein in decency and comfort is not economically sound and the capital and energy invested in it are misplaced. It is sometimes said that an industry has gone to the wall because of high wages. But the place to prove such an assertion is not on the books of the company but in the homes of the workers. Have they received more than their share of the necessities of life? If not the assertion that they were responsible for the failure of the industry is groundless.

The workers' all is invested in industry. Humanly speaking they are the industry. The individual owner of today might withdraw from the industry. The workers remain. They are abidingly and inescapably of the industry for without their labor power it cannot exist. And yet the workers have no direct voice in the conduct of the means of their livelihood. Capital has complete control. The individual owner may conduct an industry, in which scores of workers have invested their lives, in any manner that his particular ideas may dictate, without any consideration of the interests of the workpeople. Not only is the welfare of industry the concern of Labor, but Labor's interest in industry is so vital that the workers are entitled to a voice in the conduct of it. Students of the industrial problem are almost unanimous in agreeing with this view. Not the least emphatic statement of the case being that of Hon. Wm. McKenzie

## Summer Footwear For Women Arrived

We have just opened up several new lines of Footwear which we know will appeal to you. The styles are decidedly smart and out of the ordinary. See these tomorrow.

### WOMEN'S WHITE CANVAS OXFORDS

A very dainty little Shoe which will create much interest with smartly dressed Women. Hand turned soles. All sizes and all widths. The very smartest Footwear for the street. Priced at. **\$14.50**

### WOMEN'S BLACK SATIN OXFORDS

A full range of White Canvas Oxfords with Cuban, military and sport heels. There are styles for street and sport wear. All sizes and all widths. Priced at. **\$3.50**

### WOMEN'S FINE PUMPS, EXTRA SPECIAL \$8.50

We have just received these direct from the manufacturer. They are of kid and patent leather, featuring the newest heels. All sizes and all widths. Extra special at. **\$8.50**

### WOMEN'S BLACK VELVET OXFORDS

Another of the latest fads from the fashion centres of the east. Very smart and very stylish, in a full range of sizes and widths. At. **\$10.50**

## Just Arrived—A Shipment of Imperial Bicycles, \$67.50

Imperial Bicycles are guaranteed. They are fitted with coaster brakes, comfortable spring seat. Complete tool outfit. Frames are nicely enamelled in several good colors. They are easy running machines. Before buying that wheel, drop in and see these famous Imperial wheels. Extra special. **\$67.50**



BOYS' AND GIRLS' BICYCLES—Sold on the easy payment plan, 1/4 cash, balance in five equal payments. At. **\$65.00**

### A Wallpaper Reminder

1, the home's foremost beautifier, am to be found in all my glory in THE HUDSON'S BAY WALLPAPER DEPARTMENT.

### The Hudson's Bay Wall Paper Department

At last, after a long journey, all my many patrons have arrived and have been assembled to delight the eye of the people of Edmonton and surrounding country. Call and see these:

### For Your Dining or Living Room

A selection of handsome papers in plain, tapestry and verdure patterns showing rich colorings of brown, grey, green and rose, at. **75c** per single roll.

### For Your Bedrooms

A refreshing assortment of dainty colored stripe and check papers, all very pleasing in effect. Per single roll. **20c to 40c**

Also a splendid line of Wall Sanitite in black and tile effects, 45 **75c** each, wide, per running yard.

Have our Decorator call and see you. Wall Paper Department, Fourth Floor.

## Boys' Running Boots at Unbeatable Prices

BOYS' BROWN CANVAS BOOTS with double sole of red rubber. Regular \$2.50. Size 1 to 5. Special. **\$1.69**  
Regular \$2.00. Sizes 11 to 13. Special. **\$1.49**

BOYS' CANVAS BOOTS with double sole of white rubber, with or without heels. Sizes 1 to 5. Special. **\$1.98**  
BOYS' CANVAS RUNNING BOOTS in tan, white or black. Rubber soles. Sizes 11 to 13. Special. **\$1.49**

# HUDSON'S BAY CO.

King, whose book "Humanity in Industry" contains a chapter on "Democracy in Industry," which chapter, by the way, is an oasis in a desert of tiresome platitudes.

### REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AND GROUPS

Politics is the business of the people. The interests of a people are many, but they all depend to a very large extent upon an economic basis. Economic interests, therefore, should have a greater bearing on politics than should any other interests. It would then appear that representative government would mean the representation of the economic interests of all the people. If that be so it would seem that such representative government can only be obtained through economic groups having representation proportionately according to their numbers.

In Canada there are three distinct economic groups. First, there is the wage-worker. The employee in the bank and in the mill; the worker in office and shop; the wage-earner in the school and on the construction of the building itself; all have a common economic interest. An interest that influences, and to a great extent regulates all their other interests, thus creating a common social interest. Then come the capitalists and business men; the owners of the means of production. Allied with them to a very large extent are the professional classes, especially the legal element. This makes another distinct economic group whose interests economically, and because of that socially, are identical. The third group is that of the farmers, whose interests might be said to be a combination of both of the other groups. The Farmers nevertheless, compose an economic group, separate and distinct from either of the others.

It has been shown that economic interests influence and regulate other interests. The social status of a man or woman depends almost entirely on their economic status. The opportunity which they may have to enjoy education, esthetics and the necessities of a comfortable living, almost entirely depends upon their economic status. These things being so, is it not natural that economic interests should assert themselves in politics? The time may come when economic differences will be removed—indeed that must be the ultimate goal—but it would seem that for the present the logical political development of a country like our own, must be along the lines of economic group representation.

### EDITOR'S NOTES

The Trades and Labor Council meets on Monday evening. Every delegate should make it a point to have a permanent engagement at Labor Headquarters on the first and third Monday of each month.

There is no room for any kind of compromise with individuals or groups who are determined to disrupt and impair the solidarity of the workers' organizations.

The Financial Post puts up an editorial whine to the effect that housing schemes and "cheap" money being loaned by the government is unfair competition that is putting the mortgage companies out of business. We would like to see such "unfair competition" extended to some other lines of business.

Complaints of a large section of the employer group in the United States that the demands of Labor are exorbitant, and that employees should show more moderation in wage scales, now that they are in an advantageous position, come strangely from those employers who are showing not the slightest mercy to the great mass of consumers, from whom they are extracting unconscionable profits. Employees should not be blamed by employers as long as the latter set such a wretched example before them.—Christian Science Monitor.

### BUILDING TRADES CONFER WITH MAYOR TO END STRIFE

Seattle.—Representatives of the international building trades unions are holding conferences with Mayor Hugh Caldwell in an effort to end the strife, existing between the local building trades and the master builders who have endeavored to make all building jobs in the city non-union. The international labor men are Joseph Duffy, bricklayers; A. Muir, carpenters; Ed. Brady, sheet metal workers; Thomas Lee, electrical workers, and James H. Sheehy, plumbers and steam fitters.

### CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS STRONGEST GROUP IN LITHUANIA

New York.—Incomplete results of the April election for a Communist Assembly in Lithuania found in German papers indicate that the Christian Democrats (The Clerical Party) will form the strongest group in the assembly, with the Social Democrats second and the "Popular Socialists" third. The Poles and Jews will have four or five delegates. No elections will be held in the Lithuanian territory occupied by Polish troops until these are withdrawn, says a message from Kovno.

### DEBS NOTIFIED OF NOMINATION BY STRANGE CEREMONY

Chicago.—Eugene Victor Debs will be formally notified of his nomination for President by the Socialist party in the strangest notification ceremony in American history.

On May 29, five Socialist party members, each one a close personal friend of many years' standing, will be admitted to the reception room of the Atlanta penitentiary, and there they will tell Convict Number 9653 of his nomination.

The notification committee will consist of James O Neal, for many years a resident of Terre Haute, Debs' home town; Seymour Stedman, Debs' running mate and close friend of the candidate since the A.R.U. strike; Julius Gerber, executive secretary of Local New York; Otto Branstetter, present national secretary, and Dr. Madge Patten Stephens, member of Debs' home party branch and likewise a close personal friend of the Debs family for many years. After the ceremony at the prison, there will be a mass meeting in Atlanta to demand amnesty of all political prisoners.

Don't wait until it begins to sprinkle before starting to buy in something for a rainy day.

### High Values at Lowest Possible Prices

### Men's and Young Men's Suits

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Constantly increasing cost during the past few years prompt us to demonstrate more forcibly than ever before an old established policy of this business—to offer the most dependable merchandise at the lowest possible prices. To be able to obtain thoroughly dependable Suits at this price is an opportunity for economy worthy of investigation.

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