

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

WORKING MEN, ATTENTION!

Be very careful where you buy Insurance for yourselves or your families! There is a great deal of difference between the Policies of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada and those of other Companies; more than you have any idea of.

The Bonuses or Profits are guaranteed on small policies as well as large.

For instance: The Sun Life 20 year endowment for children costs less and gives nineteen dollars more on every \$100 of Insurance.

—Write a Post Card to—

ALFRED B. CHARLES, Supt. Thrift Dept.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA - 72 Queen St. W., Toronto, Ont.

TARIFF BURDENS OF WORKING-MAN

Interesting Document Presented to Tariff Commission Setting Forth the Duties on Articles in the Home

The taxes which the workingman is called upon to pay were set forth by Mr. J. G. O'Donoghue before the Tariff Commission Friday night in the following humorous skit, which is described as the protectionist's ideal of a Canadian workingman's home:

"The workman, sleeping peacefully upon a 30 per cent. mattress, covered with a 30 per cent. quilt and a 35 per cent. comforter, awakes to gaze upon a 20 per cent. chromo hanging on a wall covered with 35 per cent. wallpaper. Lifting his head from a 30 per cent. pillow, he steps out upon a 25 per cent. carpet, where he alights upon a 30 per cent. tack. He lifts a 35 per cent. window blind, removes a 35 per cent. flannel nightgown, slips into a 35 per cent. shirt and 35 per cent. trousers, 35 per cent. socks, 35 per cent. shoes, ties the shoes with 30 per cent. laces, and washes himself with 35 per cent. soap. The drying operation is performed with a 30 per cent. towel, and the combing of his hair with a 35 per cent. comb. He adjusts a 35 per cent. collar, after hunting for a 35 per cent. collar button, and probably finds a 25 per cent. pantalon button missing, necessitating the tightening of his 35 per cent. suspenders. The request for the replacing of the button in its proper place is met by his wife in a 35 per cent. corset and other highly protected clothing. She does the necessary stitching on a 30 per cent. sewing machine, with 25 per cent. thread, the final act being performed with a 30 per cent. needle, assisted by a 30 per cent. thimble.

HIS TEETH ALSO.

"Before leaving for downstairs he adjusts his 10 per cent. artificial teeth and then descends to light a fire in a 25 per cent. stove with 20 per cent. charcoal, which he carries in a 25 per cent. pail. He may, perhaps, use some Rockefeller 30 per cent. coal oil to assist matters. He then sits down on a 30 per cent. chair, at a 30 per cent. table, covered with a 30 per cent. table cloth, his knees being protected by a 30 per cent. table napkin. In due season he has his choice of the following 'protected' articles of food: Apples, 40c a barrel; bacon, 2c a lb.; cheese, 3c a lb.; butter, 4c a lb.; coffee, 10c per cent.; potatoes, 15c a bushel. He assists himself with a 35 per cent. knife, and a 30 per cent. fork, likely soiling his 35 per cent. cuffs in the operations. Before he leaves for work he arranges for his children to regale themselves with 35 per cent. sugar candy during the day; with 35 per cent. dolls, that they shall go to school with 30 per cent. schoolbags, and 35 per cent. copybooks, decked out in 35 per cent. ribbons.

BURDEN ON TOOLS.

These things arranged, he gaily takes his 30 per cent. toolbag, filled with 35 per cent. nails, 30 per cent. tools, 25 per cent. axe, carries a 30 per cent. crowbar, lights his 35 per cent. pipe with 50c a lb. tobacco, fixes his 30 per cent. hat firmly on his head and hustles off through the dark of the morning guided by the light from 30 per cent. gas lamps. His daily routine of work may mean shoving a 30 per cent. wheelbarrow, and wielding a 30 per cent. pick, but he works his nine or ten hours, as the case may be, and returns at night to his well protected home. His wife smiles at him through a 15 per cent. window, probably thinking of the new 30 per cent. bonnet which she has purchased, and glad of the fact that her day, too, is over, with freedom from 35 per cent. clothes-wringers, 35 per cent. curtains, 20 per cent. brooms, 25 per cent. brushes, 35 per cent. baby carriages, 35 per cent. sleds, and a 20 per cent. dog. After a protected supper he adjusts his 30 per cent. eyeglasses, lights the 30 per cent. gas coming through a 35 per cent. gas meter, listens to his wife playing a few hymns on a 30 per cent. organ, and is warned by a 25 per cent. clock that the retiring hour has come. Tired and protected to death, he seeks his bed chamber, thinking of the struggle of the morning and succeeding days with the free labor of the world, assisted to Canada by hundreds of thousands of dollars of Government money. After a few years he dies, 20 per cent. crape appears on his door, and he is finally buried in a 25 per cent. coffin."

FREE TRADE IN PRODUCTS.

Mr. O'Donoghue, in presenting the views of the Trades Congress, said that body, represented trades unions from Halifax to Vancouver, a total number of from 150,000 to 200,000 workmen. This meant that they represented at a most moderate estimate not far from half a million people. He went on to read resolutions passed at the Trades Congress endorsing the fight of the British Trades Congress against Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's policy, and setting forth that the Manufacturers' Association represented only a small minority of Canadians in this matter. He noted in passing that while 26,000 British workmen supported Mr. Chamberlain, the fact that 1,200,000 opposed his policy had been glossed over. Another resolution pointed out that if free trade in labor was good for the employer, then free trade in products ought to be good for consumers. The attitude of the Congress was that there should be no increase in the tariff at this time.

Mr. O'Donoghue called attention to the fact that those who were coming asking for more protection were manufacturers who were doing well. On all hands small factories were being enlarged and the manufacturer's scale of living was being increased, while the position of the workingman was very little, if any, improved. The manufacturer, said he, wanted to be protected against the cheap labor of Europe, but he was equally anxious to be protected from the high labor products of the United States. As a matter of fact, he believed that the wages—the earning power of labor—were as great in England as in Canada. In this connection he quoted the opinions of John Burns that the British workingman was as well paid as any workman. The argument was that protection was only desired temporarily.

Mr. Fielding said he had not heard that argument all this week.

PROTECTION CREATED TRUSTS.

This point being admitted that permanent protection was desired, Mr. O'Donoghue went on to say that the result of the tariff in the United States was the creation of trusts. The manufacturers said they wanted protection to give higher wages, and then they came and asked for higher protection on the ground that they had to pay high wages. This was an endless chain that might go on forever. The manufacturers argued that higher duties on commodities created prosperity for the workers. The workers could just as well argue that a protection of labor would benefit the manufacturers. The manufacturers claimed they needed more protection, and yet they made three and four times the wages of a workman from his work. As proving this, he quoted from a recent trial in Toronto in which the manufacturer stated in the witness box that upon the labor of a mechanic getting \$4 per day, his firm made a net profit of \$15 to \$20. In spite of this talk about protection giving employment to workingmen statistics showed that there were fewer unemployed in free trade Great Britain than in protectionist countries.

Mr. Paterson inquired if this referred to Canada.

Mr. O'Donoghue said he did not know that it would refer to Canada in her present period of expansion, but it referred to the United States, France and Germany. He quoted from some English campaign literature to show that there were three unemployed to twenty-five employed workmen in France, while there was one unemployed to twenty-five employed in Great Britain.

DUTIES ARE A BURDEN.

Mr. Jas. Simpson said that the burden added to workingmen and farmers by the duties on the necessities of life, such as cottons, woollens and sugar, was a very heavy one. Mr. Ellis, of P. W. Ellis & Company, manufacturing jewelers, had appeared before the commission, asking more protection, and yet when he (Mr. Simpson) came past the factory of this firm that night he found it going full blast, doubtless to fill the orders it had on hand.

He also called attention to the fact that practically all the manufacturers asked for a high tariff on finished products and free trade in raw materials. On their own showing that was a poor policy, because it was retarding the development of Canada's great natural resources, and putting a premium upon the development of a foreign country. The argument that to reduce the duty would wipe out the industry was fallacious, because when the duty on the products of Toronto's greatest industry

was lowered in 1897 that factory went on expanding and to-day was making immense additions to its plant. People who had watched the development of Toronto manufacturers in the past ten years could not believe that they were suffering. Some years ago he worked for a man in a modest way of business. Since then the factory had quadrupled its output, the proprietor had built a palatial residence in one of the best parts of the city, and it was said he had a surplus of \$50,000 a year to invest in other enterprises. Under such circumstances he would have fancied these gentlemen would have been ashamed to come and ask for further protection.

He said that the workingmen could not agree that they were better off because of increased protection given the manufacturer. The manufacturer made increased profits, but he did not equally share these with his employes, but devoted them to a defence fund to keep down labor, and to further investments. He followed up Mr. O'Donoghue's statement that the cost of living had increased faster than wages. This was shown by the statistics gathered by the United States Department of Labor. Canadian labor departments had not been organized long enough to permit of comparisons. Mr. Simpson held that the woollen men who had added 50 per cent. to capital, and paid dividends on that, evidently were doing well enough without further protection.

Mr. Fielding said he had not heard that argument about woollen men. It was said of a cotton concern twenty or twenty-five years ago.

Duties Should be Raised and Not Lowered

	d.	c.
Hookdown cap, 8/4, cost to make in England	4 1/2	or 9
Hookdown cap, 6/4, cost to make in Canada, cheapest	30	
Good cap, 8/4, large crown, good linings, England	1s 1 or 26	
Good cap, 8/4, large crown, good linings, Canada	70	
King Edward, England	8	or 16
King Edward, Canada	60	
Linings made in England, common	1/2	or 1
Linings made in England, good	1	or 2
Linings made in Canada, good	2	
Linings made in Canada, common	5	
Per Cent.		
Duty on cloth to manufacturers in Canada	30	
Duty on cap peaks made in England	25	
Duty on paper bands made in England	25	
Duty on caps made in England	25	
Cloth is being brought to England from Germany or Italy free, and cheaper than it can be manufactured in England.		

Editor Tribune:

Kindly allow me space in your valuable paper to say a word to the women buyers.

Dear madam, to you this is a serious question. Do you want your husband's wages reduced. Think of the little children; you are one of the great buying public and as such I wish to state our case. The baking firms of Bredin, Weston, and Tomlin are at war with the Journeymen Bakers' Union, No. 204 on this vital question. Those firms want to run their business, paying as little wages as possible; the union wants them to pay the same wages as other bakers are paying, will you help them in the fight by deciding to purchase elsewhere until an agreement is reached, that will give to the bakers employed in those firms the same wages as are paid to others in the baker's trade? We have used every effort to deal fairly with those firms, but to no avail. We are asking only what is reasonable and hope for your assistance in getting it. You can do a great deal for us by purchasing elsewhere until those firms recognize the right of labor to its share of the proceeds of what it produces. To you has come the opportunity of doing a service for all workers in showing to those firms that they cannot sacrifice human flesh and blood in their efforts to get large dividends.

Stand by the men who are making a gallant fight and we will win the fight for justice.

Remember, to-day it affects us, to-morrow it may affect you.

Yours for justice,

I. Woolner,
Pres. 204 Bakers' Union.

THE PEOPLE'S VETO.

In these days of franchise grabbing, when greedy corporations are fighting against municipal ownership, the People's Veto part of Direct Legislation is of great importance. It is simple and effective. Provision is made that certain measures shall not become law for thirty or sixty days, or some such time from date of passing. If during that interval a petition signed by a certain percentage—say five per cent.—of the qualified electors is presented, asking for a popular vote on the measure, then it must be voted on by the people, and if they say No, that measure does not become law. The people have vetoed it. And the mere fact that such a veto exists, makes the council or Legislature very careful what proposed laws they pass.

Experience shows that this popular veto has been of much value, and that the mere fact of its existence is of great benefit, even when no votes are actually taken. For instance, its effects in the State of Oregon have been these:

1. Exploiting schemes have been kept out of the Legislature through fear of this veto power of the people.
2. Good measures that had been vigorously attacked by interested corporations were allowed to stand, the people refusing to sign their petitions for a call for a referendum, thus showing the trustworthiness of popular judgment, and incidentally refuting the slander sometimes made that "anyone will sign a petition."
3. The comparative absence of charges of corruption and partizanship in the Legislature. The newspapers have generally spoken well of the last Assembly or said nothing, while for the previous ten years at least the rule has been that some bitter things were printed about the legislators. Altogether, the session of the Oregon Legislature since the passage of the Direct Legislation amendment was the best for many years.

Then in Detroit there is now in existence an ordinance of the city council—or a by-law, as we in Canada call it—which provides that any ordinance granting, renewing or amending a franchise for a public utility shall be held over to enable a vote of the people to be taken on it, and that the vote of the people shall be obeyed. This ordinance was got by pledging the candidates, just as the Toronto Federation for Majority Rule has done here; only the Detroit aldermen stuck to their pledges, and some of ours did not. Let us show at the polls that we do not forget and cannot be fooled.

SO-CALLED REPRESENTATION.

So there is just one Conservative elected in the whole of the great Province of Alberta. Does anyone think that there are so few Conservatives there that all the representation they are entitled to is one lone, solitary man? Of course not. Is such a method of representation fair, or even decent? Why no. The Toronto Trades and Labor Council can teach the Alberta politicians a lesson. It uses in its elections the Hare-Spence system, which would render impossible such an outrage on common sense and common justice as Alberta has suffered from. More than that, it would give workingmen a chance to elect candidates of their own, in exact proportion to their numbers, in spite of all that the party machines could do.

It is not even necessary to go as far as the Hare-Spence system to get this result. All that is really needed is to group together six or seven of the present single-member constituencies into one big electorate, and then let each voter have only one vote, with the whole twelve or fourteen candidates to choose from. See if you can think out how that would work. It is the principle on which the District Labor Council elects its committees.

THE UNION BUSINESS.

The man who stays away from the meetings of his local is responsible for what is done wrong. The absentee does more harm than all other disrupters put together; he is of no benefit to the organization that increases his wages and gives him better shop conditions. There are plenty of union men who never go to a meeting unless they are out of work, or want assistance. Wake up, brothers, and attend the meetings of your local.

It is very necessary that locals hold regular meetings, and it is also essential that all members be present; you

can then make a kick in the hall and not knock on street corners and in saloons, if the business of the local is not conducted to suit you. This is a business proposition and it should prompt you to do right and work in unity in building up your local.

The good union stands just as ready to see the employer treated fairly as it does the member. If it is to grow and prosper its decisions must be fair and equitable; the more extreme its fairness the greater its prosperity. Justice to all should be the motto, and from this there should be no deviation.

Labor unions are organized for the betterment of the workingman's condition; they are not organized for the purpose of challenging the employer for a fight. The laboring man tried for years to better his condition individually, but failed. The only course to pursue was to unionize with his fellow-workmen.—Exchange.

THE ECONOMICS OF PROTECTION.

In the Star's report of the Tariff Commission proceedings at London on the 21st is the following news item:

"A letter was read from the Real Estate Owners' Association of London, asking that the duties of bituminous coal be removed."

Of course, the duty should be taken off this class of coal. Free coal means cheaper coal. Cheaper coal encourages manufacturing. Where manufacturing grows more workers are required. As workers centralize toward the industries the pressure for housing intensifies, rents rise and the selling price of land soars skyward. Why wouldn't the Real Estate Owners' Combine petition for reduction on tariff of bituminous coal?

Incidentally this illustrates the mysterious disappearance of prosperity, or that measure of it that succeeded the adoption of free trade in England. An editorial writer on the Telegram recently scored Jerome K. Jerome for opposing Chamberlain's bread tax. The inference to be drawn by the reader was that starvation now rampant in England is due to the free trade policy. I suppose if the aristocracy of England were to develop leprosy, spavin, and other horse diseases with their gout there would still be some protectionist writers for revenue only, who would attribute that to free trade?

The ranks of labor enjoyed the blessings of free trade in England only till the landlords had time to make an estimate how great an increase in rents would absorb the new prosperity. Here is the sink-hole into which has poured, as a Niagara, all the prosperity that invention and scientific advance have made in five hundred years. Two hundred and seventy years before the invention of the steam engine, we have the authority of Prof. Thorold Rogers that in 1495 the ordinary English peasant could provision his family for a year by fifteen weeks of ordinary work, and that an artisan could achieve the same result in ten weeks.

With the inception of landlordism, the modern phase of slavery, industrial freedom, waned. The clergy preached contentment, and children were taught to take off their hats to their lords and masters, spoon-fed on the cream of England's prosperity, called rent.

Organized labor in England is rapidly unlearning the antiquated lie that protection increases wages, as is evidenced by their vote of contempt on the bread tax proposals of the political contentmentist, Chamberlain, the one-time free trader. Attention is rapidly turning to the land rating proposals of Bannerman, and if religious or other fake issues are not introduced England may shortly become the emancipator of labor from the yoke of monopoly, as she was the pioneer in abolishing chattel slavery.

G. C.

If our trades are honorable methods of employment, then it's a foregone conclusion that our insignias are as honorable to wear as any under the sun. The member of the organization who sports a fraternal insignia in preference to his trade union button may imagine he is some pumpkins, but all of the Omega, from Dan to Beersheba, can't smother the fact that if it were not for his trade and the opportunity to work at it he would not be a fraternalist, for the good and sufficient reason that it takes coin to hand out the "high sign."

Every minute in every hour of the day or night is the "right time" for the fellow that is willing and really anxious to do things right.