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GREATER PRODUCTION AND UNEMPLOYMENT CLASH IN BRITAIN

Wholesale dismissals from government dockyards in England, is intensifying the employment problem. On one hand is heard the demand for greater production and on the other is the workers' insistence for relief because of unemployment.

The government's unemployment insurance bill includes those between the ages of 16 and 70 years, and is intended to supplant the present plan which applies to about one-quarter of the workers and pays 11 shillings (about \$2.75) a week. Pending legislation would increase these benefits to 15 shillings (about \$3.75) to men and 12 shillings (about \$3) to women.

NEW GLASGOW TYPOS RECEIVE UNIQUE PROPOSAL

Union Accepts Proposal for Six Months' Grace As Sporting Proposition.

The New Glasgow, N.S., Typographical Union, in keeping with the trend of events, on the expiration of the wage contract entered into with the employing printers and publishers in Pictou County, put forth the demand recently for a 25 per cent increase on the present wage.

Four members of the union met the employers in the Council Chamber in the town hall, and the situation was discussed at considerable length. The employers in giving their reasons why the increase could not be granted, went into detail and explained clearly the many factors with which they had to contend. The tremendous increase in price of all newsprint and other essentials has made it an extremely difficult matter to keep things moving. Apart from this they pointed out that the printers and publishers were not getting the work at home they are entitled to, much of it being sent out of town. They intimated that a "Trade at Home Campaign" along the printing lines would be instituted.

The proposition eventually put up to the Union was that a period of six months be given the employers to make good along business lines. This unique proposal was accepted in good spirit by the Union, and it was decided at a special meeting to accept the proposal as a sporting proposition. So six months from date the New Glasgow Typographical Union, clothed with the armor of virtue, will seek the reward of merit.

ONTARIO RAILWAY MEN PROTEST AWARD GIVEN RECENTLY

The award given the Niagara, St. Catharines and Toronto Railway men recently has been protested. The men claim that it gives them no chance but to work at a lower salary than before. Is it any wonder that they protest? A strike has been threatened unless the Minister of Labor agrees to appoint another Conciliation Board to deal with the salary question.

INTERNATIONAL'S STRENGTH IN CAN. IS DUE TO WORTH

Employers Have International Organizations So Why Not Labor.

The reason why International Unionism is so strong in Canada today, after years of trial is, because it has proved its worth, says the Toronto Industrial Banner. There never yet has been a national or independent union in the Dominion that was ever able to withstand a long drawn out or sustained struggle, because they have never been strong enough in either numbers or finances to bear the strain.

For years the Canadian Federation of Labor has proved the truth of this assertion. Again and again it has planted National unions in opposition to the older and legitimate international organizations, but in the long run the majority of the said organizations have either disbanded or gone back to the international fold.

The cry of keeping your money in Canada and not being dictated to from union headquarters in the United States is the most veritable rot. Canadian unions have been in strikes in which they have received in benefits from the international unions more than all the money they have ever paid into the international coffers. As the employers of Canada and the United States are organized along international lines, labor is only wise when it follows their example, a union of one hundred thousand or a quarter million members is in better shape to finance a big strike or lockout than a small and insignificant Canadian organization that all told does not have one fiftieth of the monetary resources that are in waiting in most of the international treasuries. The Canadian locals affiliated with International bodies know A. F. of L. are in a better position to defend their members than any other kind of labor union in America or anywhere else.

In one year alone, the International labor movement in Canada has enrolled more new members than the Canadian Federation of Labor totals up altogether. The statistics of the Ottawa Bureau of Labor fully attests this fact. The A. F. of L. is everywhere making enormous headway. It has now gone over the four million mark and the coming in of the big Railroad Brotherhoods will bring it up close to five millions.

What have the little fellows with but a few thousand members all told to offer as against a big affair of millions of wage earners. If unity is strength, why divide up with dual organizations that from the very nature of things, may get along in fair weather, but must inevitably go under in periods of acute and long drawn out depression. The International Labor movement in the Dominion is strong, because the overwhelming majority of Canadian union men belong to it and what is more there is a reason why, but some people are so dense and bone-headed they can not see—the cat.

PRODUCTION FOR USE INSTEAD OF FOR PROFIT

First Plank in Platform of Winnipeg Branch of the Dominion Labor Party

Production for use instead of for profit, was made the first plank in the platform of the Winnipeg branch of the Dominion Labor party, adopted in connection with the forthcoming provincial elections, at a convention last Saturday.

Walter F. Harvey, of Springfield, Man., was in attendance at the convention as a representative of the United Farmers of Manitoba. Mr. Harvey extended greetings and said it was recognized that the farmers were in a fight against class domination and that the interests of the farmers were the interests of the workers. He made it clear, however, that the farmers party was chiefly interested in the federal field, the provincial governments, notably the Norris government, having given the farmers a certain amount of consideration.

Greetings were also extended by James Dunn, representing the ex-soldiers and ex-sailors' party, who said this party would be behind labor in the selections, although it hoped to run candidates of its own.

A number of resolutions were passed. One condemned the Norris government for failing to carry out the platform on which it had been elected and appealed to the electorate to save the province from its hands. The union government was asked to resign and "give the voters a chance to elect a representative government." In another resolution, unshaken confidence in the innocence and integrity of the men convicted on sedition charges was expressed.

It was decided to form a provincial executive, and arrangements were made for raising campaign funds. It is the intention of the party to run six candidates for Winnipeg seats in the legislature and these will be finally selected at a meeting called for Wednesday night. The announcement was made that the Brandon and Dauphin branches would nominate candidates and that labor in other parts of the province would support farmer candidates.

It is much easier to form a new habit than it is to reform an old one.

NATIONAL CONVENTION OF ITALIAN GEN. FED. OF LABOR AT MILAN

Milan.—The national convention of the General Federation of Labor of Italy will be held here during April. Points to be discussed include the nationalization of the land and of national resources, the international labor conference, at Washington, joint action with the Socialist party, nationalization of industries and syndicalist education.

Delegates of the Socialist party and members of the parliamentary Socialist group will attend the convention.

UNION WORKERS MAY EMIGRATE FROM SEATTLE

Emigration Contemplated As Answer to Anti-Union Employers

(By the Federated Press)

Seattle.—Wholesale emigration from Seattle by union workers may be organized labor's answer to the anti-labor fight being prosecuted bitterly by the employers through the Associated Industries of Seattle, judging from developments here during the last few days.

Efforts of the employers to lengthen the working week from 44 to 48 hours has resulted in the walking out of 1,900 men in five machine shops here and the departure of several hundred other mechanics for eastern cities, where they have been assured of union conditions. The "Leave Seattle" movement will assume huge proportions unless the anti-union forces cease their activities, the employers are being warned through the labor press and in personal interviews with labor executives.

Special trains, if necessary, will be employed to carry workers to the east, where jobs are awaiting them, according to J. W. Kelly, organizer of the International Association of Machinists, and Joseph Reed, vice president of the International Brotherhood of Boiler-makers, Shipbuilders and Helpers.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, has sanctioned the back-east movement. In a telegram to William Short, president of the State Federation of Labor, Gompers declares thousands of skilled mechanics are needed in the east and middle west, and expert craftsmen are wanted in the automobile factories of Detroit, The Chesapeake and Ohio, and the Norfolk and Western are but two of the railroads said to be in bad need of help.

Short, in an interview, predicts the crippling of industry in Seattle by next spring unless the exodus is stopped.

Not only are mechanics affected. Hundreds of tailors have left the city during the last few months as the result of the anti-union fight waged by the employing tailors under the direction of the Associated Industries, which dictates to small storekeepers by withdrawing credit if they refuse to do as ordered.

Seattle workers may have suddenly hit on a solution of labor-capital wars, union officials declare. With the city depleted of craftsmen profits will fall and the bosses must mete out justice to their workers or go out of business. Not even the Associated Industries can function with no toilers from whom to exact profits.

BANK EMPLOYEES SEEK INCREASE AND BETTER CONDITIONS

The Royal Bank Employees Association has written to the head offices of all the chartered banks in Canada asking for a twenty-five per cent increase in salaries up to \$2,000 dating from January first, 1920, "without prejudice to any annual increase and allowance at present in force (with a minimum of \$200)".

Other improvements in the conditions and work of the bank employees asked for include the following:
No night work, except on Saturday and Mondays and on special occasions, such as pay nights, with alternate staffs for night work, and the head office of the banks to "treat through its officers with duly accredited representatives of the Employees Association on all matters of grievance which may arise between employers and employees."



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AUSTRALIAN COAL MINERS CONSIDER VARIOUS REFORMS

Six Hour Day and Five Day Week With Other Better Conditions To Be Submitted

(By the Federated Press)

Sydney, N.S.W.—The coalminers of Australia recently gathered in conference here to consider various reforms in connection with coal mining in Australia and New Zealand. The following claims are to be submitted to the employers when the conditions of the trade are reviewed next October:

1. A six hour working day.
2. A working week of five days.
3. Abolition of contract system of payment.
4. Two week's holiday on full pay every year—during Christmas and New Year vacation, when trade is slack.
5. A minimum weekly wage.
6. Compensation in the form of full

wages to be paid for time lost through occupational diseases or accidents, with full compensation in the event of death.

7. Tools, lights, and explosives to be provided by mine owners free of charge.

8. Mineworkers to have an effective voice in the executive control of the industry.

9. Adequate bathing facilities and change houses to be provided at all mines.

10. Modern safety appliances to be installed at all mines.

11. Proper sanitary arrangements to be likewise installed.

The royal commission appointed to investigate housing and other conditions in connection with mining, is now sitting at Sydney and sensational evidence showing the degrading conditions under which the miners are forced to live is being elucidated. Another commission is sitting investigating occupational diseases in connection with the mining industry.

Since the dry law went into effect, there has been a remarkable renewal of interest in chemistry on the part of middle-aged men, some of whom have set up kitchen laboratories.

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