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POLICE UNIONS.

The question of police unions will not be settled by resolutions from Police Chief's conventions. Neither will arbitrary rulings on the part of the authorities be the deciding factor. Unions of policemen will stand or fall according to the determination, or lack of determination as the case may be, on the part of the workers themselves. Steadfastness to the principles of unionism—or lack of it—has always in the history of Organized Labor, been the deciding factor in the success or failure of any trade-union organization. The same condition will apply to the police or any other body of workers who desire to unite for mutual benefit or protection. Laws against combinations of workers, coupled with the most bitter persecutions, did not stop the growth of British trade unionism. Therefore we repeat that organization of workmen who are employed as policemen, will stand or fall according to the sincerity of the desire for organization on the part of the workers themselves.

A DECIDED ADVANTAGE.

"When Labor and Capital argue in formal debate, certainly those who represent Labor seem to have a decided advantage in their oratorical manner of advancing their arguments, and in the preparation of the facts on which these arguments are based."

There is nothing at all surprising in the above remark of the Toronto Telegram regarding the debates that took place at the Industrial Conference. The advantage of the Labor representatives does not, however, lie in their superiority as individuals, although they lose nothing by comparison in that respect.

The most outstanding reason for the superiority of Labor representatives at the Ottawa Conference, or any other like gathering, is the incontrovertible fact that practically all the elements of right and reason are on Labor's side. When a lady delegate from across the continent could, within a few hours of her arrival in Ottawa, quote specific instances to prove that workers right in the Conference City, while the debate was going on, were being exploited in a most shameful manner, can it be wondered that the Labor delegates should have a "decided advantage" in presenting their arguments?

Another phase of the question is revealed in the motives underlying the arguments. Labor's delegates fight for a larger, fuller, better life for the mass. The representatives of big business have no such high motives to lend sincerity and passion to their argument. Labor fights to free the multitude. Privilege fights to retain privilege. Right and justice, reason and honor lend their appeal to Labor's argument.

AMALGAMATION THE GOAL.

The steady evolution of the trades' union movement in Great Britain toward amalgamation and solidification, as the result of many years of education and agitation, is the greatest possible argument against a revolutionary movement that seeks to tear down in its entirety the present Labor organization, with the hope of raising from the ruins a movement that will be efficacious for the cure of all the workers' economic ills. There can be no comparison between the steady development of industrial amalgamation in Britain and the One Big Union movement in America. The former means the application of the accumulative education of a century of varied experience; the latter is a movement conceived in theories and dreams and not built on the foundation of experience. As a matter of fact the O.B.U. is not an industrial but a political movement.

Education and agitation toward industrial amalgamation must go on. The line of demarcation between organizations whose interests are co-related is undoubtedly the greatest source of weakness in the Labor movement of America. The agitation is going on and we find the Miners' International Union passing a resolution calling for negotiations with the railway unions which may soon lead to the formation of an organization similar to the British Triple Alliance. Other organizations are contemplating similar action, and when it is pointed out that only in the last five years has the principle of amalgamation been asserting itself in Britain, there is every reason to hope that when the movement starts in America it will rapidly gain momentum. It required ten years of education and active propaganda to impress the average British trade unionist with the necessity of closer affiliation. The same route must be followed here and industrial amalgamation of unions whose interests are co-related should be the goal of every advanced Labor organization.

SUSPICIOUS.

There is something about the recent debate in Parliament in connection with the newly established Board of Commerce, that arouses suspicion. It is unusual to say the least to hear criticism of a government undertaking from the benches to the right of Mr. Speaker. It is especially notable when the opposition leader defends the subject of attack.

The Board of Commerce has not accomplished anything of great moment as yet, but one of the commissioners, Mr. O'Connor, has been since his appointment, a little too outspoken to suit the peace of mind of some whose practices the board might interfere with. Of course the government could not very well have Mr. O'Connor removed because he showed a proper enthusiasm in connection with his job. But—if private members on the Government benches could be induced to attack the "offending" commissioner, with the chance that opposition members might take advantage of an opportunity to make Mr. O'Connor the "goat" for an attack on the Government, would it not strengthen the administration's position, if they decided to remove the commissioner, to point to the fact that the people's representatives had condemned him?

It is quite possible that there was no ulterior motive in the attack on the Board of Commerce in general, and Mr. O'Connor in particular, but the incident is worthy of notice.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

The National Conference on Industrial Relations declared itself to be unanimously in favor of the proportionate representation plan. The declaration of the Government that a Speakers' Conference would be called to investigate the merits of proportional representation was welcomed and the committee urged that such action be not delayed. (Another conference!)

The speech of E. S. Woodward, of Victoria was according to dispatches, easily the clearest argument given to the Conference by any of the speakers. Some of the figures quoted by Mr. Woodward are worthy of repetition. "In the Commons, Senate, and all Provincial Legislatures, there were but six labor men against 714 representing the employing trades. The percentage of population engaged in labor," said Mr. Woodward, "was 45.2 per cent.; farmers 34.3 per cent.; business and professional 20.5 per cent. If Labor was given fair representation, it would have 45.2 per cent. representation, or 400 members in the various parliaments." These are figures that should make working men and women think.

In considering proportional representation it must be borne in mind that the present grouping and dividing of constituencies would have to be discarded to make the plan effective. As an example, Edmonton district as at present divided would not benefit from the proportional representation method of voting, because of the fact that when only one member is elected from each division he could not, under any system imaginable, represent any more than one section of the voters in that division.

To make the proportionate plan effective in this district, the divisions must be grouped into one and allotted the number of members

to which the district would be entitled according to the percentage of Canadian voters who are domiciled within its boundaries. If Edmonton district was entitled, then, to three members as at present, they would be elected at large by all the voters in the district, which includes a large farming area outside the city proper. Thus it will be readily seen that while under the present plan three Conservative candidates might be elected with a very small majority in each division, under the proportionate plan that would not occur. For instance: If four candidates were running in each division as at present constituted, very little over one-third of the voters might be represented. Suppose in East Edmonton the top man was elected with 1,000 votes. Number two received 950, number three, 900; number four, 850; 1,000 voters would be represented in Parliament and 2,700 would not be represented. Or to count the three divisions together assuming for convenience that in West and South Edmonton the vote was the same, 3,000 voters would under the present method be represented by three members, while 8,100 would not be represented at all. Under the system of voting in the district at large by the proportionate representation method such unjust and inequitable representation would be impossible.

U. S. LABOR IN POLITICS.

The rank and file of the Labor movement in the United States have decided to enter the political field. Having so decided, the opposition of Samuel Gompers and lesser officials in the A. F. of L., has not visibly deterred the American workers in their determination to take an independent stand in the political life of the country.

In the face of Mr. Gompers' opposition the New York Federation of Labor passed a resolution to form a Labor Party, and the Illinois State Federation took the same stand. Later a number of International Unions in convention assembled have taken similar action. These unions include the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the Order of Railway Conductors and the United Mine Workers of America.

A National Labor Party after the pattern of the British organization, seems to be assured in the United States and a Labor group in Congress and Senate, holding the balance of power, is predicted by those who are active in the formation of the new third party.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

One of the employers' delegates at the Ottawa Conference made a remark to the effect that he and his colleagues were rightly seated on the opposition benches because they were naturally on the defensive. Defending what? As our preacher would say, we leave this thought with you.

Some employers said they were in favor of an "average" eight hour day in Canada. We suppose they wanted their employees to work ten hours while the other fellow's workmen put in six to make up the average.

A large number of miners in Nova Scotia are unemployed because of lack of orders for coal. The railways of Canada consume 10 million tons of coal annually and it is estimated that two-thirds of it comes from the United States. The miners can hardly be blamed for petitioning the Government to have more Canadian coal used on Canadian railways.

There may be some justification for industrial action to enforce the nationalization of mines in Great Britain because that is as much an industrial as it is a political question. But a strike to force the withdrawal of troops from Russia is an entirely different matter and the opposition of Messrs. Henderson and Clynes was particularly aimed at that phase of the move for direct action in the old land.

The Steel Workers are putting up a wonderful fight against the Corporation, and in the face of tremendous odds. All the strong-arm methods of the feudal ages are being used against the workers in the terrific struggle and the steel barons are determined to retain their system of slavery at any cost.

Within a few hours after Miss Gutteridge, of Vancouver, arrived in Ottawa she met a woman who worked a whole week and two nights overtime for \$3.37. Here is Miss Gutteridge's story:

"Two days ago, in the City of Ottawa," said Miss Gutteridge, "I spoke to a woman who is working here. She worked a whole week and two nights overtime recently on piece work and was paid for her work \$3.37!

"This woman was paid at the rate of 4 cents a dozen on the work she was doing and to obtain a wage of \$12 a week she would have had to perform the one operation she was engaged on 300 dozen times. "And that is not all. Part of this same order was handled by other manufacturers and they paid 16 1/4 cents a dozen where this employer I have spoken of paid 4 cents. He did not have the excuse that he was competing with others."

It is not surprising that Senator Robertson took occasion to compliment the debater after Miss Gutteridge had concluded her ringing appeal for the minimum wage.

**THREE SHIPYARDS
REFUSE TO SIGN
NEW WAGE SCALE**

Three of the largest shipbuilding companies in the Bay district at San Francisco, have refused to sign the new wage scale and working agreement, and all their men will be called out October 1st according to a statement issued by the Pacific Coast Metal Trades' Council.

The three companies are the Pacific Coast Shipbuilding Company; Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co., and the San Francisco Shipbuilding Co.

**MINERS RECEIVE
ALLOWANCES WHILE
IN RETRAINING**

Provision has now been made by the government for the payment of increased allowances to married miners who are undergoing retraining through the vocational branch of the department of soldiers' civil re-establishment. The department has been given authority to pay allowances to these miners at similar rates to those paid to men who are granted training on inability to return to previous occupation owing to war disability.

NEW STYLES

With
THE OLD INTEGRITY

You'll find more men this fall waiting to buy good clothes than there are clothes or good woollens to make them. Stiek to the staunch-reliable make that you know, or you'll find yourself paying full price for less than the full standard of service and quality.

Stanley & Jackson Clothes mean the new styles with the old integrity of fabrics and sound tailoring—

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High Grade American Footwear
Just Arrived from New York**

We have just opened up a magnificent selection of the season's most approved styles from one of the foremost of American makers of high grade footwear for women. The modern woman wants her feet to be neat and trim and in these new Fall lines that wish can be fully gratified. If "Milady's foot is naturally slim, so much the better, but if it is inclined to be wide, the present cut of shoe will give her desired slender silhouette and the correct poise so much desired by all well dressed women. See these Edwin C. Burt's American shoes Tuesday, second floor.

WOMEN'S BLACK KID BOOTS—With 9-inch tops. Goodyear welted leather soles, military heels. A very smart and dressy walking boot. All sizes. Price **\$15.00**

WOMEN'S BLACK KID BOOTS—With 9-inch tops, hand turned sole. Louis kid covered heels, plain toe, long vamp. All sizes. Price **\$16.50**

WOMEN'S BLACK KID PUMPS—Tongued style with strap and button. Shown for the first time in the west. Some thing quite new. Price **\$13.00**

(Second Floor)

Men's "Astoria Boots, New Fall Styles

Men who are on the lookout for a real snappy Fall Shoe should see these. All the new leathers in black, tan and brown now in stock. Several decidedly new styles to choose from. All sizes and all widths. Prices

\$11.50 AND \$12.00

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Gabardines are Still Very Popular

We are showing a full range of excellent quality wool gabardines in the correct fall weight. The following shades are here to choose from: Sand, open, fawn, plum, nigger brown, myrtle, nut brown, taupe, navy and black; 50 inches wide.

\$4.75

Per yard.

Fancy Novelty Checks

These are especially suitable for children's school wear, or for separate skirts. We have them in a good range of fall color combinations, sand and blue, grey and brown, plum and grey, brown and fawn, and blue and brown; 38 inches wide.

\$1.39

Special, per yard.

HUDSON'S BAY CO.

**COLD STORAGE LAW
UPHELD IN OHIO STATE**

The Ohio state supreme court has upheld the Smith cold storage law which gives the state the right to seize and sell at public auction food which has been held in cold storage longer than the statute provides.

**SEVERAL HUNDRED
UNION MOLDERS
GO ON STRIKE**

Several hundred union molders employed in seven foundries in Battle Creek, Mich., are on strike following a refusal of their employers to accede to the demands. The struck concerns are the Nichols & Sheppard, Tracing Machine Co., American Steam Pump Co., Union Steam Pump Co., Battle Creek Jobbing Co., Advance Rumely Co., and the Duplex Printing Machine Co.

**SIX THOUSAND
GARMENT WORKERS
GO ON STRIKE**

Six thousand members of the Ladies Garment Workers' Union of New York City, are on strike for reduced hours and increased pay. About 1,000 of this number will soon return to work, as offers of settlement have been received from 100 firms. Their demands include the 44-hour week, a minimum of \$50 to tailors, \$40 to machine helpers, \$35 to female helpers and \$45 to alteration tailors.

**CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL DONATES
TWO FOUNTAINS**

The public spiritedness and generosity of the unionists has been demonstrated by the Central Labor Council of Greybull, Wyo., donating to the city two drinking fountains. It is hoped this action will result in city council adding others at an early date.

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