

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

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Following is brief in outline of our Policy:

1. The "Canadian Labor Press" strongly condemns and continually exposes all forms of Communism and Radicalism in Canada.
2. "The Canadian Labor Press" endeavors to present all labor and industrial problems from a commonsense point of view with the idea of closer co-operation and a better understanding between employer and employee.
3. In the interests of the Canadian Worker, The Canadian Labor Press believes that Canadian industry needs adequate tariff protection.
4. The Canadian Labor Press advocates fair play to employer and employee.
5. The Canadian Labor Press stands for the betterment of Trade Union conditions in Canada and the welfare of our country at large.
6. The Canadian Labor Press is independent in politics and free from any political influences.

The Toronto Gas Audit Report

FROM published statements in the Toronto press, can be easily seen that the audit undertaken at the request of the Toronto City Council into the affairs of the Consumers Gas Company, has resulted in a complete vindication of the Company's policies.

Everyone who gave any attention to the foolish attack made upon the Consumers Gas Company, realized that any enquiry could only result in fully justifying the Company's attitude, but as the citizens of Toronto have spent more than twenty-five thousand dollars upon this matter, money spent without any useful purpose, there will likely be a scurrying to cover amongst our civic politicians and a refusal to bear responsibility for the incurring of this expenditure. The "Canadian Labor Press", in its issue of December 15th, 1924, in an editorial dealing with this matter, said: "The whole record of the Gas Company shows that every effort has been made to give the fullest service to the citizens, reinforced with the highest public spirit. Undoubtedly a great many of our citizens feel that the money spent on this question could be put to a much better use."

Extracts from the report as published by the Press prove the accuracy of our attitude and the soundness of our judgement and there is not the least doubt but that the attacks upon the Consumers Gas Company will be repudiated by the citizens of Toronto at the next municipal election.

In the 77th Annual Report of the Company and dealing with the year ending September 30th last, two things of particular interest to Labor are mentioned. One is that there has been no appreciable change during the year in the rates paid for Labor and the other is that the Company has done its utmost to relieve the local unemployment situation having had as high as 1,700 employees on its pay-roll during the year.

We trust that the men and women who form the great majority of Toronto's population and who work for a livelihood will thoroughly appreciate the public spirited attitude of the Company in this and other respects and will take especial care to see when election day comes round that the Company will receive a square deal in the future instead of being harassed and hounded as it has been during the past two or three years by certain of our would-be Solons.

Toronto's Radical Problem

ON New Year's Day, 1922, the citizens of Toronto voted on the proposed Radial agreement between the City of Toronto and the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario, with the result that the agreement was decisively defeated.

Those who took the attitude that the Hydro agreement was not in the best interests of Toronto have been fully justified by the Annual reports issued concerning the Radial systems now operating in greater Toronto. The Suburban Radials have shown a deficit of a quarter million dollars per year whilst under the control of the Ontario Hydro Electric Commission.

This matter is of great importance to Toronto because under the terms of operation the taxpayers of Toronto must pay this deficit and at the present time the Ontario Hydro is pressing the City of Toronto for this money.

There is only one logical way in which this drain can be stopped and the Radial systems still preserved and operated and that way is by transferring the control and operation from the Ontario Hydro to the Toronto Transportation Commission. If this is done, then undoubtedly the T. T. C. with its excellent system of management will be able to link up the Radials with the City System of transit and will give a much better service than exists at present thus enabling them to be placed on a self-sustaining basis.

As a matter of commonsense the development of Toronto's Transportation System requires the co-ordination of the Suburban Radials under one management with the City System.

This can be noticed in connection with the peak load at rush hours when the Transport facilities required to transport passengers is three times the normal demand due to the congested geographical location of Toronto's industrial area and it logically follows that the Toronto Transportation Commission will be enabled to reach a still greater pinnacle of success with the Citizens' Transport System if the Suburban Radials are brought under their management and co-ordinated with the City System.

There is another aspect to this question: the fact that within the next one or two decades, Toronto will probably reach a population of one million with an accompanying expansion of her area and if this matter is settled now it can be done with less expenditure than will be required if it is allowed to drift along until in population and area the City has greatly expanded. The "Canadian Labor Press" feels that the taxpayers of Toronto should pay a good deal of attention to this important matter and during the coming Municipal elections see that only those are returned to represent them in the Civic Government who are anxious to see Toronto secure control of the Radial systems for whose operation and upkeep Toronto has to pay.

Hero Wants Job

London, Eng.—After being presented with the Royal Humane Society certificate for bravery in rescuing 3 persons from drowning, Samuel Greensill thanked the donors, but said he would appreciate work instead. He is 60 years old, and an ex-service man.

Is Watching "Reds"

When spoken to recently on the activities of Communist Sunday schools, Attorney-General Nicks said he had been, and was looking into the matter. There had been a number of disquieting reports which had come to him from various places, but they did not seem to have been founded on any good information.

Sang "The Red Flag"

London, Eng.—The directors and management of 20 firms occupying offices in Lincoln House, High Holborn, W.C., state that employees of the Moscow Narodny Bank, Limited, in the same building, observed the two minutes' silence by singing the "Red Flag."

Numbers of men and women employed by other firms in the building, seething with indignation at the outrage rushed downstairs to take matters into their own hands.

The directors of the Moscow Narodny Bank held an emergency meeting, at which they expressed their disgust. They issued the following statement:

We, Soviet citizens working in the Moscow Narodny Bank, Ltd., consider it our duty to express our indignation at the insult to the feelings of British citizens which took place during the two minutes' silence on the premises of the Moscow Narodny Bank, Limited.

The culprits, they explained, were three young Englishmen belonging to the messenger staff.

A director of the bank stated later that the offenders are to be dismissed.

Widows' Pensions

Amended regulations for pensions of widows, children, and parents of British seamen and marines who have died in consequence of the war have been approved by an Order in Council.

The widow (over 40 or with children) of a Marine warrant officer Class I. will receive 40s. A widow (under 40 and without children) of a Marine warrant officer Class I. will receive 30s. Other pensions are in proportion.

Three Men Refuse to Work

Chatham, Ont.—Acting on the request of Tilbury authorities, county police here moved to compel three able-bodied men of a Belgian family of the town to go to work or bring about their early deportation to their native country.

The men, according to complaints lodged with the police, absolutely refuse work which has been offered to them despite the fact that they are said to be in destitute circumstances. In the family are the father, mother, two adult sons, one adult daughter and three children attending school. According to the police, the mother and the daughter are the only two who will work.

The reason the men refuse work, the police say, is that they are anxious to be deported to Belgium.

Emigration to South Africa

South Africa—According to information received from the National Executive of the South African Association of Employers' organizations, Johannesburg, in various countries announcements are being made that South is in want of masons, engineers, printers' operatives and workers of other trades. Workers who have emigrated to South Africa on the strength of those rumors have been exposed on arrival to bitter disappointment and that after they have sacrificed all their money to pay their fares. Emigrants who have had labor contracts before they started have been informed when they arrived that they must accept wages lower than the standard of the country gives. We therefore warn all workers not to emigrate to South Africa; there is great unemployment in that country at the present moment.

Wireless Operators Go on Strike

London.—The strike of the wireless operators on British vessels, threatens seriously to affect shipping in the course of a few days. The strike was ordered as a protest against a proposed cut in the salaries of the operators of about 35 per cent.

Although some 5,000 members of the Wireless Telegraphist Union are involved by the strike, cessation of work, if there is no settlement of the dispute, will be gradual, as it is understood existing contracts will not be broken and the men who signed for voyages before November 28th will fulfill their engagements. No further contracts by the operators are to be signed, however, and it is estimated that 600 of them will leave their posts before the end of the present week.

The dispute between the shipping companies and the operators arose over the decision of the former to reduce the wages of the operators beginning December 1. They justified the cut by the contention that ship's officers already have accepted similar reductions. The wages of the operators start at about \$40 per month and rise to about \$100 monthly.

There is some uncertainty as to how far the strike will hold up shipping even if it becomes general. All ships above 1,600 tons are required to carry operators, but during the strikes of 1920 and 1922 the regulations were waived, in some cases on condition that passengers be informed that there was no radio operator on board the vessel on which they sailed.

6 Months in Jail for "Red" Orator

Belfast, Ireland.—When will you workmen wake up and realize your power to overthrow the Government? By the aid of rifle, bomb and revolver you can blow government to hell, their proper country.

"They call our flag red, but it will be redder yet. Force must be met with force," were among the playful remarks ascribed to Samuel Patterson, Wyndham Street, at an open air meeting in Carlisle Circus on the 13th of this month, when arraigned before the Lord Chief Justice and a jury at the Belfast Assizes. Samuel went on to denounce the King and "Neddy" Carson and told the meeting that while people were starving they had rogues, vagabonds and thieves in Sir James Craig and his government. He knew there was a police note taker present, but he did not care. The note taker gave evidence of Patterson's eloquence, and two other policemen corroborated. Patterson said he did not think that his words were seditious and that he was trying to warn the Government that they were responsible for the plight of the people because of the want of legislative powers.

The jury found a verdict of guilty and the Lord Chief Justice said he believed that Patterson had openly incited the people to violence. If he did them, he was a fanatic; if he did not, he was a coward. In any case he was a public danger and would go to jail for six months and, in default of finding bail to keep the peace for twelve months, a further six months.

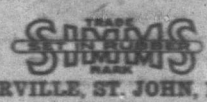
Sydney, Australia.—It is considered very probable that the seamen's strike will be called off.



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Release Members of Ship's Crew

Melbourne, Australia.—The thirty-six members of the crew of the steamer Northumberland, who were sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment for absenting themselves from the ship without leave, were released on giving an undertaking that they would return to work on the vessel, which they did. The Northumberland left for Sydney with a full crew.

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Ontario's Minerals

The outstanding metallic products of Ontario are silver, nickel and gold. The gross value of these to the end of 1924 follows:—silver, \$234,392,000; nickel, \$197,600,000; and gold \$154,419,000.

Of silver, the production in 1924 was 9,961,315 ounces, or over fifty per cent of that from all Canada. The Cobalt silver mines have been in operation for over twenty years, and to the end of 1924, along with outlying areas such as Gowganda and South Lorrain, have yielded over 350 million ounces, worth approximately \$200,000,000. The yield is now at the rate of about 10,000,000 ounces per year.

Ontario is the only producer of nickel in the Dominion, and supplies ninety per cent of the world's requirements of this metal. Post-war depression has passed away, and in 1924 the nickel mining industry functioned on better than a pre-war scale. The nickel deposits of Sudbury yield large quantities of copper as a by-product, also important quantities of platinum metals.

Of gold, Ontario's production in 1924 was over eighty per cent of the entire output of Canada, and had a value of \$25,669,262. The increase in output over 1923 exceeded 5 1/2 million dollars. At the present time, the yield is approximately 2 1/2 million dollars per month, principally from Porcupine and Kirkland Lake, or more than one-half that of the entire United States.

The metal mines of Ontario occur in the pre-Cambrian formations which cover seventy per cent of the entire northland. Only the southern fringe of these formations has been penetrated. The development of new mining areas means the expenditure of money for supplies and labour, and the new wealth created is gradually distributed to all classes of the community.

The Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway represents an asset of 23 million dollars, and the Ontario Government shows its faith in the north country by providing branch lines where business warrants. In 1924 the Larder Lake Branch, 22 1/2 miles and South Lorrain Branch of 17 miles, were completed. Nine projects represented last year 22 per cent of the railway program.

For lists of publications, maps of mining areas, geological reports and other information, apply to

HON. CHARLES MCCREA,

Minister of Mines

THOS. W. GIBSON,

Deputy Minister of Mines
TORONTO, CANADA.

Spanish Trade Union Movement

Spain.—A National Congress of Spanish trade unions has just been convened, which is to discuss inter alia the question of industrial unions. It is a significant step, for it means a decisive advance in the concentration of the Spanish movement. Nor is amalgamation proceeding nationally only, these are also forces at work in the provinces and districts which are conducting to closer contact between union and union. This process has also been going on recently in the Canary Islands, and the

Balearic Islands, where attempts are being made to organize the trade unions adopting the platform of the Spanish Trade Union Federation into regional organizations, which in their turn are to affiliate to the National Centre. In Majorca the Union of General Workers has taken the initiative, and summoned a congress for October 4th, and at this congress a Trade Union Federation for Majorca is to be founded.



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