

EDMONTON FREE PRESS
 Edited, Controlled and Published by
THE EDMONTON TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL
 Issued at Edmonton, Alberta, Every Saturday

Phone 5595 **ELMER E. ROPER, Editor** 101 Purvis Block
 VOL. 1, No. 23. **SEPTEMBER 13, 1919**

THE BLOT REMOVED

Fair-minded and justice-loving Canadians will be pleased to hear of the release on bail of the Winnipeg strike leaders. By the decision of Chief Justice Mathers and his colleagues, a blot on the name of British justice has been removed. Probably the only further criticism of the courts in the matter will be with respect to the delayed action which resulted in the unconvinced men spending twenty-six days in jail.

The fact that two of his brother judges concurred with Chief Justice Mathers in his decision, will be sufficient evidence that in the refusal of bail by the junior judge, prejudice prevailed over justice. It is regrettable that an institution which exists for the purpose of administering justice should so often be responsible for gross unfairness. Certainly there is need for some safeguard that will prevent the possibility of any one man, whose conception of justice may be tainted with prejudice having the power to, in the name of our courts, unjustly punish those against whom no crime has been proven.

PROFITEERING, WATERED STOCK, LIVING WAGE.

It is most interesting, yes, even amusing, to peruse the columns of some of Canada's financial journals. This class of periodical exists by means of advertising revenue derived from insurance companies, brokerage firms, banks and other financial institutions. Naturally their editorial columns are colored accordingly to please the big interests from whom they receive support. As an illustration, here is the commencement of an editorial appearing in a recent issue of The Financial Post of Toronto:

Public opinion is today swayed by catch phrases. Such expressions as "profiteering," "watered stock," "production for service," "a living wage," etc., are bandied about by socialists and labor quacks in explaining all the economic ills which have followed the great European upheaval and they are seized upon by the people with enthusiasm only equalled by ignorance. We still await an intelligent definition of any of these phrases—few attempt to define them; it is much easier to fool the people than to educate them.

It is not difficult to understand why The Financial Post would desire to have us believe that "profiteering" and "watered stock" are myths, and hallucinations of socialists and "labor quacks." We do not suppose that a labor paper's definition would be counted as intelligent by The Post, nevertheless we would venture to express the opinion, that issuing company stock without corresponding value received or representing available capital, would be designated in many quarters as "watering of stock." We would say also that the declaring of dividends so large as to be without precedent, on such stock, representing as it does no actual capital invested, would be quite closely akin to "profiteering," even though the clients of The Financial Post are not in business for "the glory of God."

In discussing a "living wage," the same journal waxed indignant because it believes that labor includes the possession of "automobiles and other luxuries" in a living wage. The article from which we quote closes with the statement that "Labor is getting a living wage—and more." A threat is contained, however, that this will not continue unless labor earns more. But as the Post does not reveal any scheme by which its big business clients are going to do without labor, it is quite possible that the workers may have something to say in regard to the definition and establishment of a living wage.

We agree that the people of Canada, whose enthusiasm the Post says is "only equalled by ignorance" are seizing upon the questions that are vital; and it is only to be hoped that they may soon seize upon the profiteers and stock manipulators with the same degree of enthusiasm.

OPERATORS NOT TAKING RIGHT STAND.

Mr. David Rees, who was in Edmonton this week reports that the mining situation in the southern part of the province is very satisfactory. This is due to the conciliatory attitude of the mine owners in dealing with the U.M.W.A., under whose jurisdiction the miners in the south have returned to work.

It is too bad that the mine operators in the Edmonton district cannot see their way clear to deal with the International Union in the same manner that the southern owners are doing. The O.B.U. bogey is not very convincing, for the reason that the workers are returning to the U.M.W.A. because they realize that the International method of organization with the guarantee of the sanctity of contracts, is the best for workers and industry alike.

It is to be hoped that the Edmonton and Cardiff operators may change their decision to not recognize the International Union, and as in the larger mines of the south, have the men return in a body, thus insuring an adequate supply of coal for Edmonton residents during the coming winter.

APPEARS TOP HEAVY.

Canadians who are properly concerned about the industrial unrest which undoubtedly prevails in this country at the present time, will watch with great interest the results of the National Industrial Conference which opens on Monday next. There will be in all 75 employers' delegates and an equal number representing the employees, together with a third group of about forty persons comprising municipal representatives, members of the royal commission on industrial relations, members of the labor sub-committee of the Dominion cabinet, representatives of returned soldiers, and others. Lacking information to the contrary it must be assumed that the forty members of the conference not representing employers' or employed, will have an equal standing with other delegates. That being the case it must be obvious that the conference is starting out under a handicap. What right, for example, has a reactionary lawyer representing nothing in particular, to participate in a gathering of this kind? If the other non-representative members are of the same type as the western municipal representative, there is some reason for the fear that the conference will be top heavy with an element that may wreck all the honest efforts toward industrial peace.

But notwithstanding the handicap of a non-representative group of members, and the disapproval in many quarters of the manner in which the labor delegates were selected, it is as well to withhold any criticism of the gathering until its failure or success has been proven.

UNIONISM FOR TEACHERS.

With the opening of the schools the financial status of the teachers will again be a burning question with the members of that profession. In the "Bulletin" issued by the Manitoba Federation, a prominent high school teacher of Portage la Prairie relates that he made a find not long ago in the want columns of an American paper. First he read this advertisement:

Wanted—Teacher to teach history, mathematics, psychology, and other branches. Salary, \$65 a month.
 Then his eye caught this advertisement, immediately below the call for an expert in mathematics and psychology:
 Wanted—Colored barber. Salary, \$30 a week.

The lesson is plain. The reason why the barber gets \$120 a month and the teacher \$65 is because he belongs to a Union. Considering the importance of the work and the training required, the teacher is miserably paid. There is no reason that such a condition should prevail, except that the teacher has been slow to grasp the weapon that would

prevent his or her exploitation—trade-unionism. Other wage-earners have proven the value of militant organization and they appeal to the teachers to organize for their own protection and to raise the standard of their calling.

A WISE PLAN.

The decision of the local Labor Party to seek the co-operation of the Trades and Labor Council in the selection of candidates for civic offices, is a wise one. A great measure of the success of the Labor Party in Great Britain has been due to its co-operation with the trade union movement.

It is not necessary that all Labor candidates for public offices should be trade-unionists, but it is imperative that candidates who carry Labor's banner should be acceptable to the industrial movement. The Party is well advised in its endeavor to procure candidates for the coming elections, who will have the confidence of every section of the Organized Labor movement in this city.

SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE.

Judge Robson who is supposed to be conducting an impartial investigation into the causes and results of the general strike, has taken it upon himself to freely condemn the strike leaders as "rascals." Apart from the fact that the term used by the learned judge cannot justly be applied to all the men who took a leading part in the strike, the ordinary person will fail to see the necessity for Judge Robson to make statements of that nature while he is supposed to be conducting an impartial investigation. But now that the precedent has been established, we will expect the judge to summon Barrett, Deacon and the other stand-pat, reactionary metal trade employers who were primarily responsible for the strike, and in a like manner denounce their stubborn, autocratic and antiquated method of dealing with their employes.

PATRONIZE THE LIBRARY.

Some time ago the Calgary librarian complained that the sociological department of the library in that city was not being patronized in proportion to the number of volumes in that section of the institution. A warning was also issued to the effect that if there was not a greater call for books along sociological lines, it would be necessary to curtail expenses and thus reduce the number of new books to be purchased for that department.

Enquiry at the local library reveals the fact that the sociological section of the Edmonton library receives a very fair share of patronage. That is a good sign and without question a large percentage of the writings along economic lines are taken out by trade-unionists. It is quite probable, however, that there are many who do not realize how privileged is the city reader in having an almost exhaustless supply of reading matter obtainable without any direct expense and with very little effort. The library should be well patronized.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

Three months to civic elections. Not too much time for preparation.

A Trade Union is only of value to its membership while it can demonstrate its ability to better the workers' industrial and social standing.

By their fruits ye shall know them. We have not heard of any case where the Q.B.U. has bettered the conditions of its membership. On the other hand many International Unions we could name have increased the wages, and shortened the working day of their members during the last few months.

We don't pretend to understand how the article, from which we here quote, crept into the Financial Post, but here is the quotation: "Wall Street, too, simply devours the theory that prices are to remain at the present level, for if this be true it means immense industrial profits for evermore, and a continued bull market in which it will always be easy to make money."

When it was found by government investigation that the packers in the United States were fleecing the consuming public, a bill was introduced in Congress to regulate the packing industry. The "big five," and other pirates who are beginning to read the handwriting on the wall, are setting up a howl about the "stifling, throttling legislation" which will not permit them to continue their evil practices.

It is true that Marx believed that in the process of social revolution, proletarian dominion of society would, during the transitory period, be preliminary to the abolition of all class rule of every kind. But it is not honest for the Bolsheviks to claim the sanction of his teaching for the seizure of political power as in Russia by a small class, consisting of about 6 per cent. of the population, and the imposition by force of its rule upon the majority of the population that is either unwilling or passive. Marx believed that the social revolution was a historical necessity which would come when the proletariat comprised an overwhelming majority of the people.

We suppose that some readers must like the piffle that is appearing in certain newspapers and periodicals about the "extravagance" of the workers. Here is a quotation from an article which recently appeared in the New York Evening Post: "Men who work in factories and do rough work are buying silk shirts and silk underwear. Their wives are wearing hosiery that costs \$2.50 to \$3.50. More automobiles are owned by the working classes than ever before. Even Chicago barbers are riding in Packard cars." The average wage-earner who is receiving \$40 per week or less, knows that such stories are pure bunk, conceived in the imagination of some people whose means allow them to have the luxuries which they believe only their privileged selves should possess.

DISRUPTION AND FAILURE, SEQUEL TO EMOTION

(Continued from Page 1)
 a social life without trial and tribulation, that seems to have been the notion of the "One Big Union" advocates.

Let us remember that there is no short cut to anything save trouble. There is no easy road for trade unionists to travel, save the road to destruction. Let us immediately forget that you can put on a ready made organization like putting on a new suit of clothes; that there is going to be a great white way down which working people are to parade to freedom from industrial oppression. The Trades Unionists of this continent have established their own institutions to deal with the facts and conditions which make the struggle, and will not be swerved from the right road by any catchy slogan or formula. Let me close this short article with a quotation from the American Federationist: "The world has known powerful emotional movements. The more powerful the emotion the more temporary power the emotional movement has had. But in every case, sooner or later, with the cooling of the emotion, and the disagreements of the emotionalists, disruption and failure has been the sequel."

GREAT GAME OF PASSING THE BUCK GOES MERRILY ON

Every one is claiming an alibi at the high cost investigation conducted by the senate agricultural committee in the United States.

Wholesalers blame the fellow above, who, in turn, blames the retailer, while that abused person holds up his hands and invites a thorough search.

At one of the hearings a St. Louis, Mo., meat dealer said he never heard of profiteering in meats, although he did agree that profiteering in shoes was possible.

And the great American game of "passing the buck" goes merrily on, with everyone denouncing the profiteer.

A Newspaper Writers' Union has been formed in Fresno, Cal., to be chartered by the International Typographical Union. Practically every eligible worker signed the charter application.

Movements founded upon reason, and mindful at all times of the actual facts of life have come through centuries, working and exerting their steady and ordered influence upon the progress of society."

There is nothing about the present situation to alter the case. Dreams are with us all; but he who attempts while dreaming to make dreams come true is doomed to sad and bitter disappointment.

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