

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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HERE'S THE SOLUTION

The mad gallop of the Lenin-Trotsky Russian team has excited the minds of the other nations in the endeavor to fathom cause of same. Perhaps the solution is now at hand in the press despatch which states that Russian horses which numbered thirty-six million before the war have practically disappeared, having been eaten by the famished population, it was revealed today in Russian newspapers published in Moscow and received here by the American relief administration.

Meat had grown so scarce, more than a month ago, that it was rationed only to hospital patients. Classes in Moscow University were dismissed by the lecturer because the students were too weak from hunger to continue their work, the papers said. To this horse-eating diet may be ascribed the cause of the runaway.

A CHANGED EXECUTIVE

The Convention of the Trades Congress at Winnipeg is the third visit, the last occasion being Sept. 1914. At that time the executive was composed of three officials, president, vice-president and secretary-treasurer; Alphonse Verville, M.P., had the senior position, Jas. Thompson, vice-president, and P. M. Draper, secretary-treasurer, the latter being the only survivor and still in the ring. Since that period 1914, many passengers have travelled under the badge on the current of River Five and if the sessions next week muster a score of the veterans a hazard guess would be amiss.

TRADES CONGRESS CONVENTION

All eyes of labor organized will be during the coming week a focussed on the sessions of the Dominion Trades Congress at Winnipeg. As the call proclaimed it must be one of the most momentous meetings of labor's parliament that this Dominion has known owing chiefly to the fact of the abnormal conditions in strong evidence both socially and industrially. Making for unsettled mind and strong desire for thought that may bring in its train a measure of opportunity to the worker of the necessities for the employment of the span of life allotted.

As stated by the responsible officials this earlier meeting than anticipated is in part the result of the unrest prevalent added to urging from groups and the onus for remedial action falls on those who have expressed desires even to the extent of holding a special convention. It may be fully anticipated that the voice which called has ideas of remedy and the hope is general, that such may be in evidence.

To discuss unemployment whilst distasteful is an easy undertaking, if remedy was so easily expounded it would relieve a social programme from a standing number. Congress is affording an opportunity for the specialists to write out the prescription of remedy and the same will be loudly acclaimed. It will be the most valued work of the sessions as it is rightly acknowledged to be the most vital disease to be present for treatment.

We may have sufficient faith to feel that it whatever manner this subject is dealt with that the lines of solution will not be of a new variety but rather endorsement of the officers of the congress presentation on this subject previously and aligned with those of the American Federation of Labor. The vitality of the whole matter will be putting same into action and that is where the forces need to be in a solidified position for not only presentation of suggested solution but a force that can command adoption to the machinery that speaks in the finality. There must be an awakening during this period of adversity, the sleep has been too deep.

ANALYZING "OPEN SHOP"

In a pamphlet on "The Open Shop, the American Plan of Employment," which the Canadian employers are attempting to emulate, the Methodist Federation for Social Service says:

"You think it means freedom for the non-union man. Does it? In many places it means that he must sign a contract never to join a union; it means that he is continually watched by spies to see that he never becomes a union man; in the Alabama coal mines it means that he must live behind a stockade and get a pass every time a member of his family goes out. In West Virginia it means that he must be 'protected' from talking to union organizers by gun men and machine guns; it means that he must sign a lease, giving the company the right to come into his house at any time and throw out any guest, lest union men should come in.

"Is this the kind of freedom the flag stands for? You think we are talking about the open shop at its worst! We'll take it at its best.

"It means the absolute right of the employer to hire and fire. No discrimination! He is to run his business without dictation. This is 'individual bargaining.' In pioneer days it worked, but the employers are now almost entirely organized to bargain collectively.

"We can't go back to the old days. Some one is trying to fool you! Today, hiring men as individuals in the big industries means hiring them on the terms the big corporations offer."

Types Convention Has Big Gathering At Quebec

Formally welcomed by Premier L. A. Taschereau, on behalf of the province of Quebec, by Mayor Samson, for the city, by Sir David Watson and Hon. Frank Carrol, for the master printers, of Quebec, J. E. Atkinson, Toronto, president of the Canadian Daily Newspaper Association and by Hon. G. Robertson, federal minister of labor, the sixty-sixth annual convention of the International Typographical Union was opened at Quebec with some four hundred delegates from all parts of Canada and the United States present.

Mr. Taschereau drew attention to the fact that the first newspaper published in the North American continent was published in the city of Quebec. He claimed the laws of Quebec exemplified the belief of its people that capital and labor were essential to the national life of the country.

Addressing the American delegates in particular the Premier said some one at present was laying the foundation of a Chinese trade wall between the United States and Canada. It was not being built from this side of the boundary. This wall threatened to put an end to all trade relations of the two countries. Canada, he reminded his audience, was the best customer of the United States. To his mind this trade barrier would not only be harmful in the trade field, but might cause a break in other relations between the two nations.

Hon. G. Robertson, minister of labor, pointed out that the war times when labor was at a premium, had changed. Now was a time when employers and employees needed to think twice before acting. They belonged to a great and respected trade organization. They must interpret their duties also as members of it in terms of citizenship, and work for good relations between employers and employees. They should struggle to bring about better relations in a systematic way.

The role of reason will guide the International Typographical Union, now in the midst of a fight for recognition by employers of its forty-four hour week proposal, in all its deliberations and policies, John McFarland, New York president, announced when he opened the sixty-sixth annual convention of that body. He was replying to a speech of Hon. G. D. Robertson, federal minister of labor, who, in welcoming the delegates to the convention in Canada, had urged them to work for good relations between employer and employees, and strive to achieve them in a systematic manner. Mr. McFarland also said that the union regarded the amicable relations that had existed for many years between its representatives and the publishers as an asset, and he expressed the hope that they would continue for

generations to come. He made this announcement in answer to a speech made by J. E. Atkinson, Toronto, representing the Canadian Daily Newspaper Association, who had drawn attention to the benefits the union had secured by arbitration, and had pointed out that the publishers found the present boundaries in which disputes with employees could be discussed amicable to narrow.

The first test of strength between a pro-administration and an anti-administration element in the International Typographical Union came at this afternoon's session of its annual convention, in session at the Drill Hall. The administration faction won out. The acts made an attempt to change the time-honored custom of allowing the president to nominate committees. The issue was joined specifically on the question of the selection by the executive committee of the appeals committee. C. J. Coregan, of New York, when the president asked if there were any objections to his naming the committee, entered a protest, and moved that the committee be elected by the convention. He was supported by A. Goldberg, of Minneapolis, Minn., who argued that there was nothing in American or British jurisprudence to justify a judge selecting the jury which was to pass on his decisions. President McFarland himself objected to being made to pick the men for the committees.

Those in favor of continuing the customary procedure included John W. Hays, secretary-treasurer of the union; D. L. Campbell, Norfolk, Va.; John A. Phillips, Philadelphia, and Charles Hertenstein, St. Louis, Mo. The motion was defeated by 175 to 106, and the president picked the committee. The president also nominated a 44-hour committee, which is composed of men from cities where strikes are in progress, on this proposition, and which will act in an advisory capacity to the executive committee in its conduct of the struggle, and committee on a shorter day, which will report to the convention on the progress made towards securing this end generally.

The question of a new draft of an arbitration agreement between the International Typographical Union and the Newspaper Publishers' Association will likely be referred by the annual convention of the former body, to the executive committee for action, announced Walter Barrett, first vice-president of the International Typographical Union. This matter will be one of the most important to be dealt with at the convention. Mr. Barrett said that the new draft will then be the subject of negotiations between the executive committee and the publishers' association. Mr. Barrett continued: "There has already been a meet-

ing between the executive of the International Typographical Union and the committee appointed by the Newspaper Publishers' Association and the question of the continuance of the arbitration agreement that has been in effect since 1901 was discussed. The publishers' proposal regarding a new arbitration agreement was not accepted by the representatives of the union.

"The I. T. U., however, stands absolutely for the principle of arbitration in settlement of industrial disputes and will continue to do so whether or not arbitration agreement is accepted by American Newspaper Publishers' Association. For twenty years amicable relations have existed between the A.N.P.A. and the I.T.U., because of the arbitration agreement that will expire in April, 1922, and so far as the office of the I.T.U. are concerned they are satisfied that the present agreement will be continued or will be modified in such a manner as will be satisfactory to both parties. So far the I.T.U. has not asked for any modifications of the present agreement which has made for peace in the industry."

Brotherhood of Railway Carmen in Convention

After being officially welcomed by Hon. W. R. Rollo, provincial minister of labor, Tom Moore, president of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, and Mayor T. L. Church, of the city of Toronto, the International Brotherhood of Railway Carmen today got quickly down to the business of their convention at Toronto.

The reports of the credentials' committee and the appointment of convention committees took up a large part of the morning. President Martin F. Ryan, and General Secretary F. William Weeks, of Chicago, laid the program before the convention this afternoon.

Among the visitors to the sessions are Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, Warren F. Stone, president of the Electrical Workers, Wm. Johnson, international president of the Machinists,



AND ENJOY ITS LINGERING FLAVOR

Many After Elusive Job

Labor conditions in the West are serious if the applications for two vacancies in the Civil Service are any indication. Two Indian agents for Fort Steele, B.C., were required at a salary of \$1,980 a year each, and the applications number 76, of which no fewer than 51 were returned Soldiers. The Civil Service Advisory Board finally selected five from the applicants and recommended two for the positions, the remaining being put on the reserve list. Included in the list of applicants were one major-general, three lieutenant-colonels, and several majors.

PREDICT SUGAR SURPLUS

Washington.—The Federal Sugar Refining Company announces that more than 2,000,000 tons of sugar, or half a year's supply for this country, will be carried over into next year's stocks here and in Cuba. It is stated that refiners will be forced to reduce their prices or to accumulate stocks.

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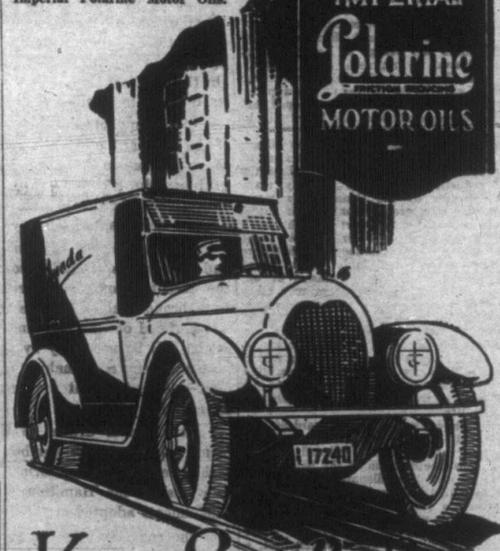
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