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## EDMONTON FREE PRESS

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**THE EDMONTON TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL**

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### LABOR'S HOLIDAY.

On Monday next the holiday of Labor will be celebrated. It was on the 5th of September, 1882 that the first parade of organized Labor took place on this continent, when the Central Union of the Knights of Labor marched through the streets of New York City. In 1884 the Knights paraded again and by resolution of Geo. R. Lloyd, the first Monday in September was set apart for the purpose of such demonstrations. An agitation was immediately started to have the day proclaimed as a legal holiday. Throughout the Dominion of Canada and in all but two of the United States, the first Monday in September is now observed as Labor Day and is a lawful holiday. In the two states mentioned the same day is set apart each year by proclamation of the state authorities.

Organized Labor in Edmonton is this year not staging any demonstration in celebration of the day, partly for the reason that in the past the much abused weather-man has shown his lack of sympathy with Labor by spoiling its holiday. However, even in defiance of the weather-man, we should like to see next year a big old-fashioned demonstration, including a monster parade with all the fixin's.

### INDUSTRIAL ACTION FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

There are a great many people in and out of the Labor movement who disagree with some of the views of Arthur Henderson. One thing, however, Mr. Henderson cannot be accused of, and that is the tendency to be too conservative in his views. In fact the great British Labor leader has more than once been rightly charged with being a radical. His views, then, on industrial action for political purposes, or "direct action" should be of interest at this time.

"First of all," says Mr. Henderson, in writing on the subject, "direct action is unnecessary and dangerous in a country such as ours, with its broadened franchise and where representative institutions count for so much." Mr. Henderson goes on to say that, "To force upon the country by illegitimate means the policy of a section, perhaps a minority of the community, involves the abrogation of Parliamentary Government, establishes the dictatorship of the minority, and might easily destroy eventually all our constitutional liberties. It is, moreover, a two-edged policy. When Labor conquers political power and accepts responsibility for the machinery of government, he cannot see it prepared to permit, say, the followers of Sir Edward Carson, or the medical profession, to set the Executive at defiance by any process of direct action."

In reference to the same subject the words of John R. Clynes are worthy of notice. In addressing the National Federation of General Workers at Manchester, Mr. Clynes said the policy of "direct action" was misnamed because if adopted it would merely bring them, after enormous loss, to a point where they began. Members of the federation would have most to lose and least to gain from a movement which would divert the industrial energies of organized workers towards remodelling political or economic conditions of the people. To strike for a vague, ill-defined, or alien purpose would be to squander the resources of the workers without permitting industrial improvement.

No more enthusiastic advocates of trade unionism could be found anywhere, than the two men quoted above. And yet with a knowledge born of wide experience and intelligent study, they hold the opinion that the workers will be misguided in endeavoring to use their industrial organizations for the attainment of political power. In other words Mr. Henderson and Mr. Clynes, one a radical, the other a conservative, realize that two forms of working class organization are necessary. And while there must be the utmost harmony existing between them, the industrial and political organizations must each function in its own field and in its own way.

The men quoted above have been associated more particularly with the political efforts of British Labor. But we also have a statement from the Grade-union leaders, and the following quotation from the quarterly report of the General Federation of Labor, is given without comment: "Strikes have been precipitated which might have been avoided and union funds have been needlessly dissipated. Some strikes had a distinctly political origin. Political strikes must either fall, or end in revolution. They are not against the capitalists, but against the community. It is not the capitalist who suffers, but the people."

### DAILY PRESS ASSERTION MISLEADING.

"Is the fire department run by the chief or by the firemen's Union? In the opinion of Alderman Esdale it looks as if the Union is running the department." So reads a quotation from the daily press.

The Firemen's Union is not running the department, and has no desire to do so. But the Union does have some jurisdiction over its members, as Alderman Esdale being an ex-union man should know. Outside of exercising that prerogative the Firemen's Union had nothing whatever to do with the Monaghan case which was being discussed when the Alderman made the statement quoted above. Any inference to the effect that the Union was responsible for the dismissal of Mr. Monaghan, is misleading and false. On the contrary the Union officials state that the organization warned the dismissed firemen that he was liable to discipline for breaking a standing rule of the department, which has been in effect for some years. As a matter of fact the Union's connection with the case is contained altogether in that warning, and no other action of any kind has been taken in the matter by the firemen's organization. The Free Press fails to see therefore, what justification there can be for the assertion that the Union is running the department.

### "IF THE MASS MAKE NOT THE MOVEMENT."

We are indebted to one of our readers for a copy of The One Big Union Bulletin published by the Winnipeg Central Labor Council of the O.B.U. In line with all other propaganda of the O.B.U. the Bulletin seeks to justify the movement it represents, by devoting the greater part of its space to attacks on International Trades Unionism and the men representing that movement. Under the caption, "Our Debut," the Bulletin says editorially, "Of course, it must be taken for granted that all the combined weight of A.F. of L., reactionaries, middle-headed would-be labor politicians, Boards of Trade, Citizens' Committees, and other products of a profit producing and mind-destroying competitive system, will be thrown against us. It is well! By our own energy, born of the workers' position; by virtue of the faith which grows daily stronger in the minds of the workers as to the historic mission of the working class, shall we live and advance. Upon our own knowledge and strength we shall rely. All others are but as broken reeds. If the mass make not the movement, then indeed our efforts were useless and our organization an abortion."

In the light of the letters revealed at the recent investigation in Winnipeg, relative to "packing" the Calgary convention with "reds," and the proposal to, if necessary "buy" credentials in order to "capture or kill" the Trades Congress, the final sentence of the quotation from the Bulletin is likely to be taken with the proverbial grain of salt. The ordinary worker will wonder wherein is the necessity of "packing" conventions or of "buying" credentials if the mass is making the movement."

### LAWLESSNESS NOT WELCOMED.

The U.M.W.A. is endeavoring along legitimate lines to reorganize District 18 and to have Alberta miners return to work under the agreement which exists between the Operators and the District. But

on no account must any lawlessness that has occurred be charged to the Miners' International. Trades Unionism cannot afford under any circumstances to be associated with a procedure such as occurred in the Drumheller Valley, with the evident approval of the authorities. The U.M.W.A. welcomes no such demonstration of physical force in its behalf. It is safe also to predict that the men who were responsible for the organization of acts of aggression against O.B.U. leaders, will be the first to attack the International Union which they are now pretending to befriend.

The best welfare of the Miners is being served by the U.M.W.A. in the present crisis. That fact, and that alone, is responsible for the way in which hundreds of the Alberta Mine Workers are daily signing up with the International Union.

### SENTIMENT AGAINST GOVERNMENT.

There is every outward indication that there is a growing sentiment in Great Britain, in opposition to the Coalition Government.

The five by-elections since the general election have shown the following remarkable figures:

Anti-Coalition vote, 37,810; Coalition vote, 33,680. Anti-Coalition majority, 4,130.

In the same constituencies at the general election the figures were: Coalition vote, 54,000; Anti-Coalition vote, 26,589. Coalition majority, 27,411.

The opponents of the government and particularly the Labor Party leaders claim that the by-election results clearly indicate that the government would be defeated at the polls if an election were to be held at this time. It is stated by the Labor leaders that at the general election the government was returned by its appeals to passion and not on the merits of its programme.

### TRADES' COUNCIL ON TUESDAY.

The regular meeting night of the Trades and Labor Council falling on the holiday, the meeting has been called for Tuesday evening next, September 2nd.

Among other important matters for consideration of the delegates, is the convention call of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. It is not necessary to point out how important will be the convention of the Congress this year and it is to be hoped that Edmonton may be represented by a delegate from the local central body. At any rate the matter is of such importance that every delegate to the Council should put forth an effort to be in his place on Tuesday evening.

### EDITOR'S NOTES.

In some quarters it is claimed that industry cannot continue to meet the demands of Labor for a wage that will enable the worker to enjoy the comforts of modern life. Such a statement can only be justified by the assumption that the population of the world is insufficient to produce what is required for its use. A ridiculous assumption to say the least.

It is generally believed that the Bolsheviki government of Russia is not democratic. But it is difficult to see where there is any relief for the Russian people if they place themselves under the power of the adventurer Kolchak and the reactionaries who are supporting him.

The action of the British government in suppressing the National Police Union by Act of Parliament was met by an indignant protest from Labor members in the house. The National Union will be replaced, according to the bill, by a federation, the first election of which will be carried out, and the first meetings convened, by the authorities. Mr. Jack Jones, Labor member, in speaking on the bill, reminded the House that nothing was done for the grievance of the police until the formation of, and strong action by, the Union. The proposed Federation was "a spoon-fed Union." It was the worst possible way of dealing with British citizens. But it was the best way to make them rebellious. "The right to strike is that which differentiates the worker from the slave," said Mr. Jones.

Take one well-developed back-bone, one head full of honest convictions, season to taste with liberal portions of intelligence, tact and common sense, add a goodly quantity of the milk of human kindness and bake in the oven of experience for varying lengths of time according to the fierceness of the fire encountered. Result: A well-rounded trade-unionist. (Copyright applied for).

While our eyes are fixed on the evil practices of the eastern profiteers, our own incinerator we learn is being used to destroy fruit in order to keep the price out of reach of the ordinary buyer. Let us start to clean up in Jerusalem first.

### REGINA TRADES AND LABOR WOKED UP MONDAY NIGHT

Regina Trades and Labor is the latest to desert the ranks of the One Big Union. Monday evening at the most largely attended meeting in recent months they voted 25 to 1 to reaffirm their allegiance to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, thus reversing the stand taken two months ago, when the O.B.U. principle was favored. The president and secretary both One Big Unionists, resigned and a returned soldier, A. E. Stirling, an international crafts advocate was elected president.

### NO DELIVERY OF MAIL BY CARRIER ON LABOR DAY

Monday, September 1st, being Labor Day and a Statutory Holiday, there will be no delivery of mail by letter carrier whatever. The General Delivery, Postage Stamp Wicket and Registration Wicket will be open between 8 and 10 a.m.

Outgoing mail on the north side of the river will be collected at 10 a.m. and 11:30 p.m.; on the south side of the river at 4 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mail for dispatch will be closed at 12 noon.

The Wisconsin State Industrial Commission has ruled that when employers pay the minimum wage, as provided by law, they can not include tips received by the employee. The commission also rules that it will not postpone enforcement of the wage law, despite claims of employers that the new order will prove a burden to them.

## WANTED

Stationary Engineers and Firemen to rally to the Brotherhood that is in formation, meeting in Labor Hall every 2nd and 4th Thursday.

J. ANTROBUS,  
Secretary.  
Box 337, North Edmonton.



### MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE FEES

1. \$5 in case of a motorcycle, and for any other motor vehicle according to the length of wheel base in inches as follows:

For motor vehicles not exceeding 100 inches	\$15.00
Exceeding 100 inches but not exceeding 105 inches	17.50
Exceeding 105 inches but not exceeding 110 inches	20.00
Exceeding 110 inches but not exceeding 115 inches	22.50
Exceeding 115 inches but not exceeding 120 inches	25.00
Exceeding 120 inches but not exceeding 125 inches	27.50
Exceeding 125 inches but not exceeding 130 inches	30.00
Exceeding 130 inches but not exceeding 135 inches	32.50
For every motor vehicle exceeding 135 inches	35.00

2. The foregoing fees shall include the cost of one set of number plates.

3. The fee, payable after October 1 in any year, shall be one-half of the fee above prescribed.

4. Fire engines and fire patrol apparatus, police patrol and municipal owned ambulances shall be exempt from payment of the above fees, but such motor vehicles shall be registered and number plates issued on payment of fee of one dollar for each pair of number plates on filing of the statement required under section 3 of "The Motor Vehicle Act."

E. TROWBRIDGE,  
Deputy Provincial Secretary.  
Edmonton, April 24th, 1919.

## The Ready-to-Wear Section Now Showing

## New Suits, Coats, Dresses, Skirts and Furs for Fall

There's an atmosphere of autumn in our ready-to-wear section this week. New goods arriving with their suggestions of new styles to be.

New York is sponsor for most of these dainty new things and such exclusive fabrics and styles as only this store will show.

New fabrics include Duset de Laine, velours, silvertones, serges, tricootines, camelion cord, tinseltone and soft plushes. The most handsome shades in Coats and Suits are shown and many of these have dainty trimming of fur. Many belted models are seen among the new Coats while the modified Dolman effects are also popular. The prices on these lovely and exclusive wraps run from

\$25.00 to \$175.00

## NEW FALL BOOTS for MEN

A Shipment of the Famous "Astoria" Footwear Just Arrived

We have just opened up some of the smartest lines this celebrated factory has ever turned out, and that is saying a good deal. There are no less than seven distinct styles in Tan and nine in Black. The leathers are vic kid, gunmetal, velour calf and tan calf with flexible or cushion sole. All sizes. Men! take our advice—Buy your Fall Footwear Now, as these lines having been purchased some considerable time ago are unbeatable values. Priced at

\$10.00, \$10.50, \$12.00, \$12.50  
(Main Floor)

## Children's Foot Form Shoes

ALLOW THE FEET TO GROW NATURALLY

Cushion Welta, the smoothest and softest insoles it is possible to make. Better for the feet and easier on the stockings.

Sizes 3 to 6 Price \$2.25 Sizes 7 to 8 Price \$3.45 Sizes 9 to 10 1/2 Price \$2.85  
7 1/2 Price \$2.25 8 Price \$3.45 10 1/2 Price \$2.85

It will pay you to compare these prices.

## HUDSON'S BAY CO.

## Children's School Shoes

In a few days you will be getting the children ready for school. You will no doubt be starting them out with new shoes. Our stock of children's shoes is complete and we believe it will pay you to see our stock before buying elsewhere.

Boys' extra value school shoes; uppers are of best quality tan grain leather; blucher shape with bellows tongue, double toe cap, good weight soles and low heels.

Sizes 11 to 13. Special \$4.50 Sizes 1 to 5. Special \$5.25

Boys' fine school shoes, uppers of good box calf leather, with neat round toe; good weight soles and low heels.

Sizes 11 to 13. Special \$4.95 Sizes 1 to 5. Special \$5.95

Misses' high top lace shoes, made of good quality kid; good shape last. A real good school shoe. Sizes 11 to 2. Special \$4.95

Girls' special school shoes; uppers of good box calf leather, medium weight soles and low heels.

Sizes 11 to 2. Special \$3.75 Sizes 8 to 10 1/2. Special \$3.00

## DOMINION SHOE STORE

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Store Open Saturdays until 6 p.m.

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