

## Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

#### REJECTING DECISIONS.

NDER any circumstances and at any time repudiation of settlement of dispute endorsed by selected representatives of the workers is a matter of regret. Happily such incidents are of infrequent occurrence, and to this reason may be ascribed the use that is made of same by the opponents to the workers' cause. It further shows that in the selection of the representatives implicit confidence goes with the selection, and whatever may be the outcome of the final agreement, that those who have advocated the Labor side of the cause are given credit for having sanctioned the best possible results obtainable, even if some are not considered of a just nature, to whom they apply.

In these isolated instances it is sometimes a rather difficult matter to fathom reasons for rejection of leaders' recommendations, realizing full well that those who are benefited by the attendance at conference have a first-hand knowledge of vital information from which to draw conclusions in the making of settlements. An allowance for this position by the majority of the organized workers involved is one of the guarantees of assurance of the final findings being accepted.

In the unanimous award of the McKinnon Arbitration Board, on which J. C. Watters represented the mine workers, appointed to settle the wage dispute between the Dominion Coal Company and their employes, such a case of rejection has actually happened. Involved in this is the open hostility to their counsel, President Baxter and Secretary-treasurer MacLachlan, Whether the award is of such a nature or otherwise to merit this action, is not so much the principle involved as the repudiation of their officers, which is a matter of regret.

One of the causes for this situation may be ascribed to the preaching of these same officers, who on their return home from the Hamilton convention, went out of their way in assailing the selected leaders, and claiming their lack of faith in their integrity. They were thus guilty of peddling just exactly the medicine that is now being returned to them in such copious doses. The chickens have come home to roost, and now may the lesson be seen, that those who seek to lead and hold confidence, must expound this lesson in its general application to International Trade Union movement, and the officers selected constitutionally.

#### OLD AGE PENSIONS.

UITE a number of the international organizations have successfully carried out the old age pension system, and the benefits derived therefrom can be imagined only by those who contribute to such a fund, but the realization is left to those especially who are aided over the stile by such financial assistance as this fund gives not in charity dole, but financial aid to which the recipients are entitled.

The International Typographical Union instituted branch some 13 years ago, considered largely a sten in the nature of experiment, but the success attained in this venture has been rather remarkable. Not only is weekly payment made to the aged of 60 years and over but the incapacitated members whose cases are not suitable for the treatment at the Union Printers' Home, are also given \$6 per week. The members have recently voted favorably to increase the sum to \$6 per week.

At the present time more than 1,200 members are enjoying this financial benefit, but full provision has been made that during the present year the reserve fund will be at the million dollar mark. This proves positively the passing of the experimental stage and permanency assured as long as the necessity exists.

The question of hours and wages does not cover the activities of International Trade Unionism, but as in

The question of hours and wages does not cover the activities of International Trade Unionism, but as in the case of old age pensions the benefit of the member ship from every angle finds a necessity observed and just as surely attended to in practical manner.

FIXED IT UP.

WINSTON CHURCHILL, Secretary of War, has declared that Labor was unfitted to govern the self-activities of the wookwork, such as gallery or work one. "Having apparently heard this voice intellectual workers in Paris have formed an organization recognized by the Labor forces. This new gother is teachers, artists, poets, song writers; journalists and dramatic experts are also eligible. This action will prevent any plagiarist in France from repeating Winston's opinions there.

BENEFITS OF SOVIET?

GEORGE LANSBURY, former Socialist member in the British House of Commons, now visiting in Russia, gives information by his first telegram, and was and want of every description." This news coming from one of their kin, should be sufficient answer to our reactionary friends of the Dominion, who persistently expended to the proposale on the superior of the second will be proposale on the superior of the second will be proposale on the superior of the second will be modified such in comparison with the war time measure as a many of these conventions and and ward of every description." This news coming from one of their kin, should be sufficient answer to our reactionary friends of the Dominion, who persistently expended to the proposale of the proposale

#### Across the Atlantic.

What Our Brothers In the Moth-grand Are Doing.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE. Labor Minister Herne, of ( itain, has introduced an u syment bill in the House of (

#### CHILDREN NEEDED.

CHILDREN NEEDED.

Mr. Justice Darling made strong comments recently when W. O. Gardiner (49), of Southampton, was sentenced to 12 years' penal servitude for performing an illegal operation on a young Southampton girl. Seatences of five years and 18 months, respectively, were passed in C. W. Eassom (42) and George Titman (24) for aiding and betting. "I am very glad," continued his lordship, "that these cases, disgusting as they are, have been made so public. Those who have as many enemies as the British Empire must, for their own safety, have pretty of people, plenty of children, to meet those enemies in the gate."

#### FARMERS LEARN.

PARMERS LEARN.

Speaking to branch members at Eckington, W. B. Bancroft, organizer of the British Agricultural Laborers' Union, disclosed an extraordinary effort of the farmers of Derbyshire to oppose the shorter working week.

These gentry contended that farms could not be carried on at less than 63 and 65 hours. Told that they would have to submit to the 54 hours in operation or pay overtime, they promptly reduced the hours. The farms are still working!

of the firm announced, to give the Government sufficient time to consider the demands of the miners.

SACKED IF JOINED UNION.

I have just interviewed Mr. F. Wakefield, the Nottingham lacemaker, 74 years of age, says a special correspondent of the Daliy Herald, who excited the corament of Mr. Justice McCardie when he stated in the Divorce Court receptly that he worked till 11 o'clock at night.

Mr. Wakefield told me that 55 years ago he was taken to a private house under conditions of great secrecy, and initiated into the Lacemakers' Union. Discovery meant the fack in those days, but there is no such thing as a non-unionist now.

This veteran recalls the days when inachinery was introduced into the lace trade. He served for 59 years with one firm, and was presented with a gold watch at the end of that period.

Pormetion of a national labor for ex-officers and regreiting the large number of employers who council has been announced official.

APPRENTICES ARE
HELPED IN BRITAIN
Although comparatively little has been heard about the work, no fawer than 40 separate schemes, including between 790 and 800 trades, are in operation in Great Britain for assisting young fellows whose apprenticeships were interrupted by the war. Some 23,000 apprentices are taking advantage of the conditions offered by the government through the Ministry of Labor and about 800 are accepted weekly. In a certain protection of foreign workers. been heard about the work, no fawer than 40 separate schemes, including between 7:00 and 500 trades, are in operation in Great Britain for assisting young fellows whose apprenticeships were interrupted by the war. Some 23,000 apprentices are taking advantage of the conditions offered by the government through the Ministry of Labor and about 300 are accepted weekly. In a certain number of cases the difficulty is to find an employer to take the place of one who has gone out of business.

-Explaining the object and score of the scheme, an official of the Ministry of Labor informed a press representative that each industry was asked to prepare a scheme for itself, embodying certain minimum conditions, for the purpose of facilitating the completion of apprenticeships.

"It was feit," he proceeded, "that

ips.
"It was feit," he proceeded, "that see young men must be helped, not erely in return for the sacrifices ey made for the country, but also the interests of the nation. We nnot afford to allow partially-nined men to drift into the ranks the inskilled, as many would have en forced to drift if there had



BURNING THE BRIDGE BEHIND HIM.

the apprentice's enlistment.

"4. Payment to the apprentice's who has reached 21 years of age, or the age when his original apprenticeship should have terminated, of not less than three-fourths of the journeymen's wage for the first half of the training, and five-sixths for the remainder.

"5. The state to pay one-third of the journeyman's wage in respect of each man coming under the preceding paragraph.

"Where necessary special conditions are included, So far nearly \$80

Derbyshire to oppose the shorter working week.

These gentry contended that farms could not be carried on at less than 63 and 65 hours. Told that they would have to submit to the 54 hours in operation or pay overtime, they promptly reduced the hours. The farms are still working?

Mr. Bancroft pointed out that the rate was 37s 6d for 48 hours, with overtime at 10½ per hour and is 0½d far Sunday labor.

FRENCH MINERS POSTPONE STRIKE.

The Council of the French National Federation of miners has decided to postpone the strike called for March first. This action was taken, it is announced, to give the Government sufficient time to consider the demands of the miners.

SACKED IF JOINED UNION.

I have just interviewed Mr. F. Wakefield, the Nottingham lacemaker, 74 years of age, says a special conditions as favorable as those mentioned.

"At the same time there are about 2,000 apprentices for whom employers can continue to conditions as favorable as those mentioned."

"At the same time there are about 2,000 apprentices for whom employers cannot be found, but in nearly ere cannot be found, but in nearly

#### PRAISE AND RECOGNITION FROM A HIGH SOURCE.

year 1919, has this to say: Labor was the rock upon which

ur preparation and supplies deficient. Acting with closest accord with the Department of Labor, it was the privilege of the Navy to all of the country, but also in the interests of the nation. We cannot afford to allow partially-trained men to drift into the ranks of the unskilled, as many would have been forced to drift if there had been no such assistance forthcoming. Every scheme provides for at least these five things:

"I. An apprentice who was in his last year on enlistment to be treated as though his apprenticeship had terminated and paid as a journeyman.

"2. The completion of the apprentice's training.

"3. The reduction by not less than one-third of the time spent in the British forces, of the period which

#### Notes Of Particular Interest To Ex-Service Trade Unionists,

place foreign labor by ex-service

EARL HAIG URGES "VETS"
TO COMBINE.

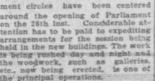
While Earl Haig is pleading all over the country for employment for ex-officers and regretting the large number of employers who have not done their duty in this respect, he also frankly refers to "a certain number of rotters who are doing great harm, fellows, who won't work or are unemployable."

Marshal Haig says the ex-officers' association is on the watch for such to show them up. He adds: "I am confident we shall get what we want better by combining than by listening to the promises of this or that political party."

AMERICAN LEGION WANTS
LARGER GOVERNMENT
GRATUITY.

The United States is going to see a bigger gratuity drive on the part of the returned soldiers. Reversing the position taken at the caucus in St. Louis recently, the executive committee of the American Legion has come out flat-footed for "adjusted compensation" for service men in the late war. Pressure will be brough to bear on congress.

### POLITICS and PEOPLE THROUGH THE TELESCOPE OF LABOR



### Service Button Workers.

EX-SERVICE MEN ARE NOW BEING EMPLOYED.

Labor conditions throughout Canada, are improving insofar as the ex-service man is concerned. Reports of the Information and Service Branch of the Department of Soldiere' Civil Re-establishment, show a reduction in the number of

NINETY-FOUR PER CENT.
SOLDIERS REHABILITATED
Ninety-four per cent of the exsoldiers' graduated from the vocational training classes of the sol-

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#### 30 Days Hard Labor

66 J UST a minute, your wor-

A N Officer in uniform steps forward, and holds a quiet conversation with the magistrate and other court officials.

T HE story is simple and oft repeated. Just a lad in this case from N—. Got into fast company. Gambled, took money from employers. Hoped to win and pay it back.

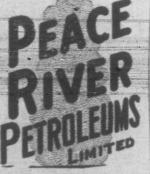
F OUND out - arrested and

of course he's sorry—but the Officer' has sized him up. Believes he has the stuff to make a man of. Knows that a fall sentence may only harden him and start him toward continued criminality.

THE Officer in uniform was the Salvation Army Probationer. By manly counsel, supervision and prayer he enables the lad to regain control of himself and get another start, free from the stigma of a prison sentence.

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# Here's To Woman. BRITISH WOMAN'S OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE. Miss Mary Macarthur, secretary of the National Federation of Wenden Workers of Great Britain, upon her return to England after attendance of the Conference of Wenders of the Conference of Wenders of the Conference of Westernamer of the Conference of Conference of



Japanese Government, personally have been the thanked Miss Macarthur for the glory of our crepart British women had taken in yearn for the getting women represented. If it freedom of the had not been for their action, the told Miss Macarthur, the Japanese Government would never have our own dear thought of sending a woman to the

THE PRAYER FOR WOMEN WHO TOIL.

O God, we pray Thee for our sisters who are leaving the ancient shelter of the home to earn their wage in the factory and the store and the press of modern life. Save them from the strain of unremitting toil that would unfit them for the holy duties of home and motherhood which the future may lay upon them. Give them grace to cherish, under the new surroundings, the old sweetness and gentleness of womanhood, and in the rough mingling of life, to keep their lives untarnished. Save them from the terrors of ufter want. Teach them to stand loyally by their sisters, that by united action they may better their common lot. If it must be s. that our women toil like men, help us still to reverence in them the mothers of the future. But make us determined to shield them from unequal burdens, that the women of our nation be not drained of strength and hope for the enrichment of a few, lest our homes grow poor in the wifely sweetness and motherly love which

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