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## BIG BROTHERHOOD IS SUSPENDED BY AMER. FED. LABOR

### Maintenance of Way Employees Suspension Will Have Effect on Can. Labor Movement.

One of the most important jurisdictional decisions handed down by the American Federation of Labor is that of recent date suspending the International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and Railway Laborers for a refusal to distribute a large number of its members among the various international unions, to which it is claimed they ought to belong.

This decision will have a far-reaching effect upon the Canadian Labor movement, as the local unions of the suspended international organization will also be suspended from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and the Trades and Labor Councils of the different towns and cities. The decision will also have a bearing upon the status of one of the members of the executive council of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, who happens to be a member of one of the suspended locals of the international union.

The International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and Railway Laborers is one of the strongest organizations in the American Federation of Labor and the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. Its membership in the United States and Canada is about 200,000, and about 10,000 of that number are affiliated with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Mr. Allan Barker, the international president, whose salary was increased to \$14,000 a year at the last Detroit convention, has recently resigned owing to some internal dissatisfaction over scale negotiations with the government of the United States. The organization two years ago had a membership of less than 20,000 but during the latter part of 1918 and during 1919 it had phenomenal growth.

At the Detroit Convention last year it was decided to launch out upon a huge scheme of co-operative trading in the interests of the membership, and several factories for the manufacture of woollen goods and gloves have been purchased and are now in operation. It is also the intention to establish retail stores in favorable locations, so that the membership of the union will be in a position to purchase some of the most essential commodities at a greatly reduced price.

The action of the American Federation of Labor will have an important effect upon the local unions of the Maintenance of Way organization in Ontario, says the Industrial Bureau, as there was a movement on foot to call a convention of the representatives of the different unions to consider the advisability of severing their connection with the international union. It is charged by some of the Ontario representatives that the international executive board were too extravagant with the funds of the organization and that a change of policy would have to be made.

## SERIES OF STRIKES RESULT IN INCREASES FOR AUSTRALIANS

Sydney, N.S.W.—As a result of a series of strikes, all branches of labor employed in shipping in Australia have received substantial increases in wages and better conditions of labor. These include the seamen, firemen, engineers, stewards, cooks, butchers, bakers, pantry-men, and others employed on the ships trading to Australia and round the Australian coast. During the time the men were out on strike there was a general tie-up of the shipping. A feature of the strike was the fact that not a single man scabbed during the whole time.

## HEAVY SENTENCES FOR ARMISTICE DAY PARADE MEN CONVICTED

Heavy sentences were given to the seven men convicted at Montevideo, Wash., on March 13, for second degree murder for the slaying of Warren O. Grimm, a Central armistice day parade victim. The seven men, C. C. Blund, Bert Bland, John Lamb, Eugene Barnett, James McInerney, Ray Becker and Britt Smith were each sentenced to not less than 25 nor more than 40 years in the Washington State penitentiary. Lorne Roberts who the jury found insane, was ordered sent to the criminal insane ward at the state penitentiary.

## CIVIL SERVANTS RECEIVE GRANT OF INCREASED BONUS

At a meeting of the government Tuesday afternoon, the civil servants were granted increased bonuses. Married employees will get the principal increase of \$25 a month under the new system or \$300 a year, until they get up to \$2,000. Heretofore, the bonus was only applicable up to \$1,600. The bonus to single people will be increased to \$10 a month, making it \$120 a year up to \$1,270. These bonuses are made in view of the increased cost of living, it is said.

## WINNIPEG COUNCIL SEVERS CONNECTION WITH DEFENCE COM.

### Issues Letter To Let Workers of U.S. and Canada Know Just How Matters Stand

After a long and deliberate debate the report of the executive of the Winnipeg Trades Council upon the trial of the sedition cases, was adopted at the regular meeting of the Council held on April 6th. The following letter submitted in draft form was approved and is finally revised by the executive or ordered for general publication:

April 6th, 1920.  
To Organized Labor, Greeting:—  
The greatest trial ever held in the Manitoba courts is over—sentence has been pronounced and the men are now behind prison bars.

Ever since the arrest last June the organized Labor movement has been restricted in its expressions and in its actions lest they should react upon the individual men who were on trial.

Now the challenge has been thrown down to Labor by the action of the court and for its own preservation Labor must take it up.

Up to the present the duty of carrying out the work pertaining to the defence, has been in the hands of a committee including amongst its members, representatives of the O.B.U. The result has been discussion rather than action, and the objectives of the shop and factory have continually shown themselves.

Numerous ideas have been from time to time suggested but the Defence Committee being divided as to the application of these ideas, has been powerless to do anything and has failed to give the lead that the rank and file have been looking for.

The huge movement represented by the International organizations, by the American Federation of Labor, by the Trades and Labor Congress and by the Trades and Labor Councils has hardly felt a ripple on its surface and the very strenuous efforts put forward by the Defence Committee have not been proportionate.

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## AUSTRALIAN WORKERS USE BOYCOTT AS MEANS OF COMBATING H.C.L.

Sydney, N.S.W.—As a means of combating the high cost of living in Australia, the workers are resorting to forming anti-profiteering leagues and devising means of putting into operation an effective boycott against those articles that are deemed too high in price. Already the experiment has been tried on perishable goods with much success.

Recently when potatoes were being held by profiteers for higher prices, the workers declined to buy with the result that prices fell 50 per cent within a week. Even then many profiteers had huge losses through their stocks going bad. Boycotts are being tried in other directions with similar success.

## WINNIPEG TRIALS TO BE CONSIDERED BY TRADES CONGRESS

### Trades Congress Will Have Statement To Make at the Proper Time

P. M. Draper, secretary-treasurer of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, reiterated his previous statement that the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress executive would have a statement to make in regard to the Winnipeg strike leaders' trials and conviction at the proper time.

"In the meantime," he asked, "would it be wise, in view of the fact that at the present time there is no law governing sedition in Canada for the workers to ask for one. The whole question of the Winnipeg trials will be considered by the Trades Congress executive shortly after the Easter holidays, and at the proper time a statement will be made worthy of respect not only of Labor and the working people but of Canada as a whole."

He referred to a Bill of Rights for Labor. "Some people have been speaking of a Bill of Rights for Labor, but this is a matter for a convention. Four or five men are not in a position to say what this bill shall be, but at the next convention of the Labor Congress, which will be held at Windsor, the question will be settled," concluded Mr. Draper.

## LOCAL TEAMSTERS HAVE COMPLETED NEGOTIATIONS

### Bread Salesmen and Coal Haulers Get Increases—Cartage Association are Objecting

The local union of the Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers have completed negotiations through their business agent W. G. Murray, for agreements to cover three different sections of their membership.

The bread salesmen have secured a signed agreement with the Master Bakers' association, which also includes a "closed shop" clause. The agreement covers the men going round with the delivery rigs. The wages agreed to are \$25 a week for men with experience and \$25 a week for inexperienced men.

One boy is to be allowed for every seven salesmen, and he is not to be younger than 18 years of age or over 21, and he is also to be paid not less than \$22 a week. Hours are to be from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and for any delivery after 6 o'clock time and a half must be paid. Double time will be paid for Sunday work and work on all general holidays. A weekly half-holiday is to be given, to run concurrently with the half-holiday chosen by the store-keepers.

Stablemen in charge are to be paid \$25 per week, and when required to ride in the barn comfortable quarters are to be provided for them.

After one year's employment all employees are to be entitled to one week's holiday with full pay.

In regard to "closed shop" clause, it is agreed that any employee taken on shall be given one week in which to become a member of the union.

## LABOR CAMPAIGN FOR STATE CONTROL OF LIQUOR IN ENGLAND

London.—The Labor campaign for the state purchase and control of the drink traffic opened a meeting in London at which prominent Labor leaders spoke. J. R. Clynes, M.P., urged the adoption of the nationalization scheme which Labor demanded for all other industries, and opposed prohibition on tactical grounds, saying it would cause internal differences and affect political contests for many years. C. T. Cramp also opposed prohibition saying the true way out of the difficulty would be to eliminate the desire at present existing, to sell the people as much liquor as they would buy irrespective of the results produced. A resolution was passed in support of state purchase and control.

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## HOTEL AND RESTAURANT WORKERS TO SUBMIT NEW AGREEMENT

Mr. Wm. McKenzie, of Vancouver, representative for the four western provinces, of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Union, was a visitor in Edmonton last week. Mr. McKenzie addressed a meeting of the Edmonton local on conditions throughout the west.

The local union here is submitting a new agreement to the employers on the 19th of this month, and no difficulty is expected in coming to a satisfactory terms.

## PROGRESS OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN

### Victories of Labor at Polls Express Deep Psychological Changes in England

(By Felix Morley)  
Staff Writer The Federated Press.

FACTORS OF POLITICAL SUCCESS.  
London.—The recent by-election results in England are something far more significant than a swing of the political pendulum. The smashing victories which the British labor movement is now recording at the polls really express two deep psychological changes in this country. The first of these is the growing political consciousness of the trade unions. The second is the growing realization on the part of the so-called middle classes that the Labor party alone gives positive and definite promise of a better England.

Workers of hand and brain alike are rallying to their party—the Labor party—in tens of thousands. In ever-increasing numbers they are expressing through the ballot their demand for national and international justice.

The above is part of the answer given by Edgerton P. Wake, national agent of the Labor party, when I asked him to account for the recent remarkable triumphs of the political labor movement in Great Britain. Wake's office and the speeches of his duties are closely akin to those of the Republican or Democratic national party chairman in the United States. He is the general entrusted with all the major organization work of the British Labor party and his efforts are said to be largely responsible for the singularly efficient political machine which labor has built up since the last general election. Yet to make a personal comparison between Wake and, say, Will Hays, would be much like comparing Abraham with Uncle Joe Cannon. Like a majority of the British labor leaders, the vision of their national agent is focussed on the horizon of humanity and not of politics.

Much of the present landslide to the Labor party is due to the clear-out platform of policy on which every election campaign is fought. This program, generally known as "Labor and the New Social order," was affirmed by the national executive committee of the party when Labor withdrew from the coalition government at the end of the war.

The natural Coalition party and the Independent Liberals both take stands. The Labor platform provides in brief: For a peace of reconciliation, leading to a world without military alliances, economic barriers, or secret diplomacy; for immediate peace with soviet Russia; for a repudiation of imperialism based on force, and for complete self-control in Ireland, India, Egypt, and other subject peoples under the British empire; for nationalization of the land and the socialization with democratic control of all vital public services, such as mining, railroads, shipping, canals, electric power supply, and milk distribution; for the conscription of wealth to pay war debts, and for limitation of armaments; for the democratization of education; for the complete abolition of military conscription, whether or not veiled as "universal military training;" for the immediate repeal of all legislation restricting civil or industrial liberty, including amnesty for all political prisoners; for putting in hand urgently needed public works as a safeguard against unemployment, including the building of "at least a million new houses" at the state's expense, these to be let to the workers in congested districts at moderate rents; and for local option in the liquor traffic.

This platform has a direct appeal to the war-awakened social consciousness of England and is in large part responsible for the present successes of the Labor party. It is not as completely Socialist as some desire, but it certainly provides a handful of stout coffins for capitalism. It compares with the vague formulae of conservatives and liberals as day compares with night, and it has the outstanding virtue of being a program indorsed ungrudgingly by every element in the labor movement, without the internal splits which are the most potent weapon in the armory of the common foe.

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## MACHINISTS HAVE BUILT UP A BIG ORGANIZATION

### Local Unions Chartered By the Organization in Dominion Now Number 114

Some idea of the immense headway that has been made by the International Association of Machinists in Canada during the past year, and more particularly during the last six months, may be gleaned from the fact that the number of local unions chartered by the organization in the Dominion now number 114, allotted in the various provinces as follows:

Ontario leads with 58; Quebec, 16; British Columbia, 8; Saskatchewan, 7; Nova Scotia, 7; and Manitoba, Alberta and New Brunswick each have 6.

These are the official statistics of the organization, as shown in its official directory, two months ago and as new lodges are organized every month in Canada the number will be even larger than the 114 credited to them. There is not a city in the country without its I.A.M. local, and the pace set has been so fast that soon there will not be a fair-sized town in which enough machinists are employed to secure a charter that will not also be in line, and what is more, the International has been doing things on this side of the International border line since the year 1920 started in.

## CONFERENCE FOR UNIFICATION OF ALL LABOR LAWS

### J. A. Kinney Named As Representative of Alberta's Employees

A conference for the purpose of coordinating and unifying Labor laws will be held in Ottawa April 26. The conference will be composed of one representative of the government, one of the employers and one of the employees from each province. These will meet with a representative of the Dominion government and a representative of Labor and one of the employing interests of the whole of Canada. The list of names of the representatives is as follows:

For the whole Dominion, government representative, F. A. Acland, deputy minister of labor, Ottawa; employers' representative, J. G. Merriek, Toronto; Ottawa substitute, Arthur Martel, Montreal.

The western representatives for Manitoba are: Government representative, E. McGrath, Winnipeg; employers' representative, H. E. Lyall, Winnipeg; employees' representative, E. Robinson, Winnipeg.

For Saskatchewan: Government representative, T. A. Molloy, Regina; employers' representative, James Priel, Saskatoon; employees' representative, James Somerville, Moose Jaw.

For Alberta: Government representative, John T. Stirling, Edmonton; employers' representative, Walter F. McNeill, Calgary; employees' representative, James A. Kinney, Edmonton.

For British Columbia: Government representative to be added by subsequent order; employers' representative, John J. Coughlan, Vancouver; employees' representative, James H. McVetty, Vancouver.

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## EDWARD F. GRABLE IS SUCCESSOR TO BARKER IN R.E. UNION

Detroit, Mich.—Edward F. Grable, for several years one of the grand vice-presidents of the United of the United Brotherhood Maintenance of Way and Railway Shop Union, has been elected grand president to succeed Allen Barker who resigned a week ago. A. L. Lynch, a member of the executive board, was chosen vice-president. The election was conducted at a special meeting of the executive board called for that purpose.

## CALGARY VETS TO PICKET OFFICE OF S. S. BOARD

### As Protest Against Dominion Government Putting H.B.R. Lands Up For Sale

Veterans of the great war will picket the offices of the soldier land settlement board at Calgary, next week, it is reported. They will urge returned soldiers not to purchase the Hudson's Bay Reserve lands, which were thrown open for sale to returned soldiers recently.

It was decided to adopt these measures as a protest against the Dominion government putting lands up for sale which reverted back to the crown without any cost whatever. The secretary of the land committee of the G.W.V.A. was ordered to send telegrams to all G.W.V.A. locals in Alberta advising them of the Calgary veterans' action and asking for their support. The following resolution was also passed:

"Whereas the Calgary Great War Veterans have repeatedly demanded that the government throw open for homestead and soldier grant, such crown lands as from time to time become available and whereas the public has been assured by press propaganda that every effort is being made by the department to provide every returned soldier (who so desires) with 160 acres of free land as a soldier grant, and whereas the government through the medium of the soldier settlement board are now offering for sale to returned men, Hudson's Bay reserve lands, which have reverted to the crown without cost;

"Therefore, be it resolved as a public meeting of returned soldiers and citizens, held in the Parrot Hall on Friday evening, that we protest in the strongest possible manner against the government repudiating their promise to the men while overseas, by withholding crown lands from homestead and soldier grant entry, and offering the same for sale to returned soldiers, and be it further resolved that we are of the opinion that we keep faith with the boys, these same Hudson's Bay reserve lands and all other crown lands which from time to time become available, should be thrown open for free homestead entry."

## BRITISH LABOR MOVEMENT INTERESTS THE WHOLE WORLD

After British labor began its great campaign for nationalization of the mines, the capitalists organized in defence, and in recent weeks, in the press, on the platform and in other ways the public have been hearing both sides of the question. Labor's decision at the recent conference not to resort to a strike must be regarded as a direct result of this campaign, says the Workers' Weekly. The conclusion which the decision forces is that the rank and file of the Labor movement have thrown the weight of their influence with those who favor parliamentary action and against those who advocated a more drastic policy. The decision expresses the confidence of Labor on its ability to achieve by peaceful means the great industrial revolution which both elements in the party are agreed must be brought about. The whole world is interested in this British Labor movement. British Labor is not red, and is directed by men of great ability, who are giving their best thought to the solution of great problems, which, sooner or later, will be presented to the people of this continent.

## PRINTING PRESSMEN AT ST. JOHN, N.B. GET NEW SCALE

Following on the settlement with the Typographical Union, the employing printers of St. John, N.B., have entered into a new agreement with the Printing Pressmen and Assistants Union for a new scale of wages which carries with it an increase of \$9 a week. The new scale is as follows:

Web or Newspaper Pressmen (night)—Man in charge, \$35; second pressman and stereotyper, \$32; assistants, \$31. (Day)—Man in charge, \$32; second pressman and stereotyper, \$30; assistants, \$28. Job Pressmen, Cylinder, \$30; Platen Pressmen, on 4 presses, \$30; on 3 presses, \$28; on 2 presses, \$26; feeder and assistants, \$20. The contract runs for a period of one year.

## PEOPLE'S CHURCH AT CALGARY WAS OPENED SUNDAY

### Addressed By Number of Prominent Adherents on Aims and Objects of Church

All People's Church was informally opened last Sunday night in Calgary when about 200 adherents of the newly organized institution gathered in the Bijou theatre there. Harry Pryde acted as chairman and Ald. A. G. Braeth, Mrs. Carson, Ald. Fred White, Mr. Castles and R. H. Parkyn, president of the forum, gave brief addresses on the aims and objects of the church. If substantial financial support can be obtained, a paid leader will be obtained and musicians will be employed.

Alderman Braeth, in his address declared, "The social system today is sick unto death, and we must discuss the disease, not the remedy at first. We all feel that we are responsible for the conditions under which we are living. Our social needs form a social responsibility that must be assumed. We must have liberty of thought and the free expression of thought to determine our destiny." He concluded by saying, "Be united and treat your fellowmen as brothers."

Mrs. Carson, in referring to the capitalist churches, the capitalist system of education, and capitalist ethics generally, declared that it was some years since she had commenced to realize that something was wrong with the churches. "Children are growing up with the idea that to be successful they must make money," she said. "Wealthy men in the churches are placed on the board of management and made elders."

"What finally drove me out of the capitalist church was its attitude during the war. The churches became recruiting stations and the ministers recruiting agents, exerting every effort to send young men to butcher other young men and sending young men out, although they knew of the degrading influence. No effort was made by the churches to bridge the gap that divided one group of men from another and no effort was made to probe beneath the surface to discover the real cause of the war. From a lack of vision the capitalist church is perishing. We must have a church whose objective is social justice. The capitalist church may boast of its members who gave thousands to the forward movement, but only the labor church can boast that its members are willing to go behind prison bars for the cause of humanity."

Alderman White appealed for financial support for the church.

"Many find no guidance or enlightenment in the orthodox churches," said Mr. Castles. "There are twelve religious sects in Calgary, but even with the forward movement one cannot tell in which direction they are going." Mr. Castles remarked that during a discussion, a missionary's wife said that "if there were no poor the rich would be unable to exercise charity."

Mr. Parkyn, referring to tag days held for obtaining funds for a children's shelter and other purposes, said: "Money may be voted by law to breed horses, but when it comes to the children we have to send our wives and sisters on the streets to beg for them." He also said that the Dominion government had set aside money for the purpose of finding out the best method of raising foxes, and for establishing oyster beds, but when asked to set aside money for the conservation of human life, said that it hadn't any money available.

## ALL EIGHT BY-LAWS WERE DEFEATED IN MON. PLEBISCITE

### Less Than One Thousand of Possible Six Thousand Ratepayers Turned Out to Vote

The eight by-laws submitted to the burgesses last Monday in Edmonton were all defeated, none of them securing the necessary two-thirds vote. The vote on the telephone bylaw lacked 94 vote on the telephone bylaw lacked 94 thirds, while the vote on the power plant extensions was nearly two to one against. The total vote cast was just under one thousand out of a possible six thousand ratepayers in the city.

MAY STRIKE FOR 8 HOURS  
Spokane, Wash.—Eight hours' work in the lumber industry and a membership of 120,000 by the end of the year is the goal of the International Union of Timber Workers, which closed its annual convention in the city. A strike on May 1 will be called if necessary to establish the eight-hour day in the middle west. The convention arranged for a special organizing campaign in the southern camps and mills where 75 per cent of these employees are colored.