

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS
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Following is brief in an outline of our Policy:

1. The Canadian Labor Press supports the International Trade Union Movement, of which there are approximately three hundred thousand members in Canada.
2. The Canadian Labor Press supports the policy of the present Dominion Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.
3. In the interests of the Canadian Worker, The Canadian Labor Press believes that Canadian industry needs adequate tariff protection.
4. The Canadian Labor Press advocates fair play to employer and employee.
5. The Canadian Labor Press stands for the betterment of Trade Union conditions in Canada and the welfare of our country at large.
6. The Canadian Labor Press is independent in politics and free from any political influences.

Tariff and the Worker

THE time is now opportune for Canadian Labor to realize the requirements of Canadian industry and to mould their actions and influences toward a policy that will assure the proper prosperity of our industries which, it is freely admitted, we are all more or less dependent upon, and in turn Canadian industry is almost wholly dependent upon suitable tariff protection.

Theoretical people often say that the policy of protection is designed for the exclusive benefit of the manufacturer, that it is a scheme to put extra profits in his pocket, that, in this respect it is class legislation and should not be tolerated.

Protection should ensure the greater portion of the Canadian market to Canadian factories, so as to enable them to produce in large quantities and thus lower their costs and, consequently, their selling prices.

Otherwise, the manufacturers of the United States and other countries, with their home markets highly protected by customs tariffs, would dump their surplus production into Canada and drive Canadian factories out of business.

Protection should also bridge the gap between the high wages paid in Canada and the low wages paid in European and Asiatic countries, and also the difference in the par values of currencies.

If the manufacturer is unable to carry on, it should be quite clear that not only will he himself suffer, but that directly and indirectly many other people will be affected.

The ramifications of his difficulties will extend far and wide, so far in fact that it may justly be claimed that the whole fabric of the country's business and social life will be more or less affected.

The question of protection is a national one. It affects labor vitally, as will be observed from a perusal of the articles of prominent labor leaders which have appeared from time to time in the Labor Press. The entire business and financial systems of the country, with their thousands of employes and those dependent on them, are intimately concerned in the question because on the activity and prosperity of industry much of their success depends.

If we cease to have adequate tariff protection for our industries, we, as workers in that industry will cease to have a job.

Unsanitary Camps Rapidly Disappearing

(Continued from page 1)

Inspector White says that his inspectors have been discussing this matter with industry from some years with varying success.

The management seem to have contented themselves with the purchase of reams of tanglefoot and almost every chemical and insect powder obtainable to exterminate the fly, but only after gaining access to the buildings, no thought being given to destroying the breeding places.

Consequently, the provincial inspectors have changed their tactics and are now trying to show the camp managers just how manure and latrines breed flies. Much better results are looked for from this method.

Of 63 cases of typhoid in the camps, 3 developed at the Mattagami Pulp and Paper Mills at Smooth Rock Falls. That was more than a year ago and the sewerage from Timmins, further upstream, where typhoid had existed, was blamed for the outbreak.

It is said that the disposal plant at Timmins was not functioning properly and untreated discharges were let loose. Chlorination of the

water supply and liberal doses of vaccine soon ended the epidemic. But in the meantime the company lost thousands of dollars through no fault of its own.

A Big Population. Information supplied by Crown timber agents and employers showed that 172 lumbering companies were in operation. These control, with jobbers and sub-jobbers, 751 camps and provide employment for 25,595 men.

In addition the inspectors had to deal with: Fifty mining companies employing 2,700 men.

Four paper mills employing 2,775 men.

Fifty-five sawmills employing 3,657 men.

Eighteen construction companies with 82 camps and 5,550 men.

Twenty-six road camps with 875 men.

Two fishing companies with 175 men.

These bring the grand totals up to 243 companies, 960 camps and 44,327 men. These men with their dependents, supply people and summer resorts, made up of 12345 123 12345 resorts, made up a population of 100,000 in the north country.

In which it was stated that contractors on the work should pay \$1.25 an hour to bricklayers. The wage rate was inserted in the contract. In his communication, Mr. Varley contended that the reduction in wage was a direct profit to the contractor of \$1 a day on each man.

Through the terms of the contract, the Government gains nothing and the men lose \$1 a day, which goes to the contractor, whose estimate was based upon the rates of wages in effect October 1st," said Mr. Varley.

At a meeting of wage earners in the Labor Temple, Toronto, Professor Ludwig Silberstein of Rochester, and a noted European savant, gave a scientific address. The lecture dealt in part with a difference in theories held by Prof. Silberstein and Einstein, and the earth's size. It was listened to with considerable interest.

Labor Capitalism

Hamilton, Ont.—When a wage-earner turns wage-payer his point of view shifts. He is apt to view conditions in a different perspective from that to which he has been accustomed, and to see certain facts which he had overlooked, and to see them in new relations. It has frequently been remarked that the most exacting employers are those who have been wage-earners.

Labor organizations which have embarked upon capitalistic enterprises do not make the most generous employers. This fact is conspicuously in evidence at the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor. Here was a quarrel on between the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and United Mine Workers, and the latter organization has brought the dispute to the convention in the hope that it may be adjusted. The Railway Brotherhood is one of the most powerful and wealthy of labor organizations. It has established banks and is operating them, and it is interested in great financial corporations. One of its enterprises is coal mining. It owns and operates several coal mines. One of these mines, operated by a dummy company called the Coal River Mining Company of which Warren S. Stone, president of the Locomotive Brotherhood, is chairman, is having trouble with its mine workers. It is charged that the company has "arbitrarily refused" to meet representatives of the Mine Workers' Union to discuss the terms of a new contract, and even that it has dismissed from its service several workers for no other reason than because they had joined the miners' union. It is charged also that such is the bad feeling between the mine workers and another company owned by the Locomotive Brotherhood that it has been deemed prudent to employ "armed guards" to protect the company's property.

It is evident that, as organized workers negotiating with the railway companies about wage scales and working conditions, the locomotive engineers take a different view of the industrial situation from the view they take as employers of labor. As workers, they see clearly what they believe to be their own rights as wage-earners, and see rather dimly the difficulties in the way of according them what they believe to be their rights. As employers, they see the difficulties very clearly and are inclined to question the justice of the demands made by the employes.

To adjust such disputes as this one, which has been laid before the A. F. of L.—to adjust them in a way that is just to both parties to the dispute—it is necessary to be able to visualize in this proper perspective both the rights of the workers and the difficulties in the way of granting them what they demand. And the double experience gained by the members of labor organizations which, like the locomotive engineers are also capitalistic organizations should qualify them to serve as arbitrators in disputes between employers and workers. Not, of course, between their own organization and the railway companies, but disputes in which they are not financially interested.

WHY NOT AN EMBARGO

To The Editor: A million cords of Pulp wood, exported at \$10.00 per cord, brings Canada \$10,000,000, which is equal to 1-5 of a cent per pound, and once out of Canadian territory, we never get anything more from it. If manufactured here into crude sheep-skin stock, it would export at 30c per pound or \$150,000,000, or if further refined into newsprint, it would export at 6c per pound or 300,000,000 of dollars, and sell just as rapidly in newsprint as in Pulp wood, in the one case bringing us \$10,000,000, distributed among the timber owner, and 25,000 settlers, in the other case the \$10,000,000 would be distributed to the limit owners and settlers just the same, and in addition, half of the remaining \$250,000,000 would be distributed among the laborers, mechanics and artisans of Canada and the other half in overheads. Surely this is a sufficient reason for an immediate embargo on Pulp wood, until it is manufactured, at least up to the newsprint stage and perhaps to the next stage of commercial paper at 13c per pound, or book print at from 25c to 50c per pound.

Periodically all my life, I have heard public men of all descriptions say, if we could ever reach a favorable trade balance in Canada, that is exporting more than we import, we would all be an easy street. But now that we have attained that stage, the street don't seem very easy yet. I judge the reason for this is, that we are exporting too much of our natural products and raw materials for a mere song, instead of convert-

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ing them into finished products, or approaching thereto, which sell equally as well or better, after having distributed hundreds of millions of dollars to our farmers, workmen, business men and industrial concerns. Instead of exporting our saw logs along the Pacific coast at say \$20.00 per M., why not manufacture them here, the first saw cut making them worth double the money \$40.00, and the further conversion into more nearly finished products, such as knock down furniture, doors, etc., making it worth a hundred dollars and more per M.

Our wheat exported at say 2c per pound in normal times instead of flour at 3c per pound or shredded wheat, corn flakes, etc., at from 10c to 15c per pound, thus requiring our Pulp wood products for wrapping and cartons for shipping. Our Mineral and Fishing products the same.

Canada boasts of nature having endowed her with everything she needs, so if circumstances make it necessary we would be self contained, and self reliant in the matter of food, fuel, clothing, fruit, vegetables, implements, vehicles, minerals, both for fuel, construction, etc., in fact everything humanity needs to make a happy, prosperous and contented people, of ten times our present population.

I believe everyone of our 9,000,000 population of to-day believes this, and if so, why do we lack the courage of putting an embargo on the exportation of our products both natural and artificial, until approaching finished products, "fearing retaliation," which would never come, but if by chance it should, it would probably prove the greatest blessing which ever overtook us.

Yours truly,
W. O. SEALEY,
61 Hunter St. West.
Hamilton, Ont., Jan. 24, 1925.

THE END OF THE DAY

Here lies the lovely day,
The friends are gone away,
The still white blind is drawn
Until to-morrow's dawn,
And just one effort more
You must make ready for.

Prepare your bed for rest,
But ere you do that best
Lay things now left to do,
Bring, bring your prayers with you
Again, for God to keep,
And then lie down and sleep.
—TOMFOOL,
—In "Daily Herald"

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Copies of the Regulations issued by the Department of Education may be obtained from the Deputy Minister of Education, Toronto, Toronto, December, 1924.

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