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EDMONTON FREE PRESS

THE EDMONTON TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

Issued at Edmonton, Alberta, Every Saturday ELMER E. ROPER, Editor Adams Building Phone 5595

VOL. 2, No. 5

WHAT IS "BONE-DRY"?

Under the Liquor Act of this province, the importation of alcoholic liquors is not prohibited. The right to impose such prohibition ies with the federal government, and under its auspices a referendum will be taken during the coming summer to determine the will of Alberta people on the question of importation. The only question that will be asked the electors is whether or not they want importation stopped.

Something else hinges on the vote, however, because of a statement made by Premier Stewart in the local legislature. The Premier stated to the house that if there was an overwhelming vote in favor of prohibiting importation, he would accept it as a desire on the part of the people for "bone-dry" legislation and his Government

would act accordingly.

The question agitating many minds is: What is "bone-dry"? The Premier himself has intimated that he will give out a formal statement as to his interpretation of the term, and in the meantime we have the privilege of having our own opinions as to what "bone-dry" means. Very many ardent prohibitionists would be dismayed f the Premier made a statement to the effect that he would prohibi the use of liquor for medicinal purposes, and it is safe to say that many who would otherwise vote against the privilege of private importation would not do so if their vote was to be interpreted as in favor of prohibiting the doctors to prescribe liquor as a medicine in the same manner as they would give any other poisonous drug. Moreover, it is doubtful if the province would have the legal power to take such action. The Free Press is going to make the prediction that when the Premier makes his statement it will interpret "bonedry" as the absolute prohibition of alcoholic liquors as a beverage but will put the booze in the drug class where it belongs.

THE WOMEN'S PLATFORM.

On the Woman's Page of this issue will be found the proposed Women's Platform which is being submitted to the Local Council by the National Council of Women. The proposals are worthy of consideration and, taken as a whole, are so progressive in their character that they might have emanated from the Labor Movement, the birthplace of forward looking policies.

The minimum wage, eight hour day, collective bargaining, equal pay for equal work, mothers' pensions, are some of the women's proposals that are in line with Labor's requests. The adoption of such a program by a national women's organization should give a decided impetus to the political organization of Labor. It is to be hoped that the local body takes favorable action on the proposed platform, and in the event of such action the women of this city would be most consistent in throwing in their political lot with the Labor Party, the political organization whose program is based on humanitarian mes such as contained in the proposed women's platform.

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PEOPLE

Commencing in this issue the Free Press is running a series of articles on University Extension Work, by Prof. A. E. Ottewell, head of the department of extension, University of Alberta. We wish to commend these articles to the very special attention of our readers, as they will contain valuable information as to the history of university extension work and its value to the workers. Mr. Ottewell will before the series is completed tell Free Press readers what is being done in this line at the local university and what is contemplated in the way of extending the usefulness of the institution in the direction of making it "the University of the people

The subject of Education, and especially adult education, is ocupying the foremost place in the agitation by the workers for a larger life. In Britain especially, as Prof. Ottewell will no doubt show, the Labor movement is making the extension of educational opportunities one of its greatest objectives. And the influence of Labor's educational policy in the old land has had a wonderful effect on the progress of the movement. Labor in Edmonton and Alberta is keenly interested in the educational problems of the country, and adult education, and continuation classes for those who have been compelled to leave school at an early age, have been repeatedly appealed for by the trade unionists of this province. Prof. Ottewell's articles, therefore, will be followed with interest by Labor mer throughout Alberta.

WORKING CLASS PATRIOTISM

The quotation, "Patriotism is the last resort of scoundrels" has een made use of with some frequency during the last few years, but it has probably not been overworked or used without justification in many cases. It is surprising too the number of otherwise level-headed people who mistake fanaticism and violent prejudice

And while the proof of patriotism does not lie in the ease and ency with which the claiming patriot proclaims his love of countries with which the claiming patriot proclaims his love of countries. Auxiliary of the fluency with which the claiming patriot proclaims his love of country, neither do the violent mouthings of a person engaged in the activities of any movement, prove such a one to be the most loyal to the movement. In the working class movement, the workers must

the movement. In the working class movement, the workers must not be misled by the ease with which individuals can deliver themselves of unlimited numbers of empty platitudes. The great need of the working masses is solidarity. And any man, or set of men, whose machinations divide the workers and dissipate their strength, are disloyal to the working class however forceful and violent may be their claim to understand and sympathize with the workers' needs.

There is a safe standard by which the workers can judge the faithfulness or otherwise of those who may be active in working class organizations. That is by what is being accomplished. The man who is obtaining something for the workers, or who is intensifying the solidarity of their organizations, is justifying the confidence placed in him. But the individual whose activities consist of airing his irrelevant, however plausible, theories, and the one who would sacrifice the workers' organizations in order to satisfy personal amsacrifice the workers' organizations in order to satisfy personal ambitions, are betraying the confidence placed in them, and are, unconsciously or otherwise, aiding the workers' enemies. Solidarity is the workers' immediate and vital need and the true working class International Association in the west the workers' immediate and vital need and the true working class from which the women's auxiliaries patriot is the one whose efforts are directed unreservedly in that also suffered severely, and in a response

and has his being in the slander and villification of those who are accomplishing something other than the delivery of wild harangues against everything and everybody. (By the way, collections must LAM, has a band of splendid workers, have fallen off in the east.)

The progress of the workers depends entirely upon solidarity, she reports that everywhere the economically and politically. Progress in the organization of those now not organized is the biggest job the Labor movement has on its

nds.

about it. The newspapers have sought to create the impression that the I.L.P.
U.F.O. could not pull together, and were Shorter hours and higher pay are not an that the worker so greatly pleased, when she info but time for leisure and a larger share of what they produce is greatly pleased, when she info them of the true state of affairs.

We invite you to witness, with our compliments, The Magnificent HUDSON'S BAY MOVING PICTURE Production

THE ROMANCE OF THE FAR FUR COUNTRY

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SCENES

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- Evening Prayers, Baffin Island.
- Icebergs in Hudson Straits.
- H. B. Ship Nascopie Icebound.
- Trapping Fur-bearing Animals.
- Buffeted by Wind, Wave and Ice off Labrador.

And many, many other scenes woven into a picture of Ines-timable interest with a high educational value as well.

Ever since you were knee-high you've revelled in Rex Beach's stirring tales of the fierce Northland. You've battled with the Arctic elements, you've plowed through untravelled wastes and exulted in the wild lure of it all with Robert Service.

-James Oliver Curwood's and G. D. Roberts' Animal Stories have thrilled you to the marrow. You've visualized the exploits of Hudson's Bay men and their native friends. as told by Agnes C. Laut, Dr. Bryce and Cowie. But now this fascinating "Far Fur Country," unvarnished, in all its engrossing romance, is coming to Edmonton-to pass before you upon a living silver page instead of a printed one—to entertain you as you have seldom been entertained before. It took seven eventful months for the photographer, H. M. Wyckoff, to cover the thousands of miles of territory and secure the photos. This wonderful film condenses the whole great adventure into a couple of hours' unique enjoyment. which you can have with the compliments of the Hudson's Bay Company during its 250th Anniversary Celebration.

For the convenience of the public, we have made arrangements with the "Song Shop," opposite Pantages, for the disposition of tickets.

Tickets are good only for the time and day specified. There will be two performances in the Afternoon and two in the Evening. The first three performances each day have been reserved for school children.

The Theatre will be cleared at the conclusion of each show.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 6th, 7th, and 8th. Distribution of Tickets, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Song Shop

EDMONTON SCHOOL CHILDREN

ration of the 250th anniversary of the Hudson's Bay Co., the Educational and Instructive Film

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Free at the Allen Theatre, May 6th and 7th, Thursday and Friday

ree performances each day for school children at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The Edmonton School Board has approved of the educational extainment and holiday periods will be allowed in the city schools so that all the children may take advantage of the opportunity of seeing wonderful film of the Northland.



MRS. W. F. SINGER REPORTS ON TOUR WEST. PROVINCES

Ladies' Auxiliary of the I. A. of M.

Delegates to the Trades and Labor Council should keep the first and third Monday of each month free from other engagements. Attendance at the regular meetings has dropped off some in the last two or three months, and this should not be.

Winnipeg Labor men are not wise in taking seriously the slander-ous mouthings of a former Edmontonian. They should by this time be aware that the particular individual referred to lives and moves and has his being in the slander and villification of those who are who are infusing new life into the or-

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