

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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Following is brief in an outline of our Policy:

1. The "Canadian Labor Press" strongly condemns and continually opposes all forms of Communism and Radicalism in Canada.
2. "The Canadian Labor Press" endeavors to present all labor and industrial problems from a commonsense point of view with the idea of closer co-operation and a better understanding between employer and employee.
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.

The City of Toronto and Telephone Rates

AT the present time, an inquiry is being conducted before the Dominion Railway Board for the purpose of investigating the rates paid by telephone users in the City of Toronto. This matter has been dealt with before but has been reopened at the special request of Toronto civic government mainly due to the fact that Controller MacGregor was elected on a platform of lower telephone rates.

Most of us naturally would like to have lower rates to pay for our telephone service, but after all before, reasonable men will start an agitation against any established industry, they will ask themselves if they are receiving value and service for the price they pay. Analyzed, the rates of the Bell Telephone Company in Toronto and indeed through the sphere of their operations in Canada, compare very favorably with other towns and cities of similar size throughout the world. In the City of Glasgow for example, it costs \$40.00 to have a phone installed in one's home as compared with \$3.00 in the City of Toronto. The yearly rental is approximately \$32.00 as compared with approximately \$37.00 in the City of Toronto. However, the cost in Glasgow does not end there as after a certain number of calls, the lessee must pay three cents per call which brings his monthly bill much higher than that of telephone users in Toronto. It should be noted also that the Glasgow telephone service is part of a Government owned nationalized system and according to the claims of the advocates of Nationalization, their rates should be even less than Toronto. This is not, however, the case and as far as service and efficiency are concerned, Toronto has much the better system.

There is an aspect, however, that is very vital to labor and which would be materially affected by any proposed reduction in telephone rates; that is the wages and conditions of telephone employees. Toronto telephone employees have enjoyed for this last five or six years, wages and conditions that have been nothing short of excellent compared with other trades and industries in the city. Even the civic employees in Toronto do not receive as good wages and enjoy as good conditions as telephone workers. In addition the employees of the Bell Telephone Company are encouraged to become partners in the organization by purchase of stock which is sold to them on very easy terms and a large number of up-to-date have taken advantage of this method of becoming identified with the Bell Telephone organization. Any student of industrial affairs knows that employee stockholding, tends to promote industrial harmony, not only in the industry in which the stock is held, but also in other industries by the very force of example. It logically follows then that political agitations against established industries such as this, if successful, will stir up discord that may spread to other industries for industrial discord, like disease, is contagious. The City of Toronto would be much better occupied in giving the Bell Telephone Company every facility and co-operation to create an even better service, if that were possible, for the benefit of the one hundred and fifty thousand telephone users in Toronto. When one realizes that Toronto has one telephone for every four of the city's population, there is brought home the fact of industrial dependence upon the telephone as a necessity in daily life and also the truth that disturbance of the telephone system is something that would paralyze the business world of Toronto. It may be a popular cry for civic politicians to keep pounding public service corporations, but assuredly it is an unsettling thing for the community's good.

The Proper Course

THE Toronto City Council is to be commended for the action taken whereby the proposed purchase of paint from a source outside Canada to be used in the painting of the Canadian National Exhibition, was deferred for further consideration.

The "Canadian Labor Press" feels that not only should Canadian paint be purchased, but also that the paint manufacturing firms in Toronto should be given the preference when supplies are needed for use by City Departments. Toronto paint firms pay no small share of the city's taxation and to say the least, it is only just that when expenditures of this kind are needed, that they should receive recognition.

Even if the price to be paid for Toronto made paints was slightly higher than those of outside firms, it would still be a good policy for the city to purchase it for the obvious reason that it is stimulating employment of the citizens of Toronto, but in actual fact the paint required can be produced as cheaply if not cheaper in the City of Toronto, with as excellent qualities of appearance and durability as any produced outside of Canada.

The "Canadian Labor Press" has always taken the position that Canadians should purchase Made-in-Canada goods, and if there are any individuals upon whom this responsibility falls heaviest, it is upon the members of public bodies who ought to lead the way in showing an example to the rest of the community. It should be a sound policy for a municipality to lay down the principle that, all things being equal, goods required should be purchased in the municipality and when that cannot be done, should be purchased in Canada. Only when it is utterly impossible to get Canadian made goods, should there be any attempt made to purchase goods made outside Canada. It will surely be obvious that if it is found impossible to purchase particular articles in the Dominion, it will act as a stimulus for the establishment of an industry in Canada producing these particular commodities.

Not Seated as Delegate

Toronto, Ont.—Recommendation by the Credential Committee of the Trades and Labor Council that the name of W. J. Hevey be referred back to Local 58 with the request that another name be submitted as delegate, resulted in considerable discussion at a recent meeting of Labor Council. In answer to query by Delegate Court of the Theatrical Stage Employers' Local as to the reason for the recommendation, Delegate Young for the committee, replied that there was a resolution of Council prohibiting the seating of any delegate officially connected with the Labor leader, a local labor paper.

A standing vote unanimously favored the committee's recommendation regarding Hevey's name, and also that Charles O'Donnell and John Laurier be seated as delegates. A pathetic story of conditions existing in the mine fields of Nova Scotia was related by W. Harper, of Springfield, N. S., representing the International Mine Workers.

Steel Plant Reaps Benefit of Demand

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.—The steel plant of the Algoma Steel Corporation has a contract for chrome steel largely for the Ford Motor Company. It is shipped from the 800 in bars, being rolled in the mill here.

Carbon forging steel for the Ford Company is also being made at the plant here.

Activity continues at the Merchant Mills, which are busy making rail fastenings, such as tie plates and splice bars. The tie plates are being made largely for use on the C. P. R. double-tracking between Fort William and Winnipeg.

Strike Still Unsettled

Toronto, Ont.—Settlement with most of the more important shops is reported by J. B. Salsberg, Canadian organizer in connection with the strike of the local Union No. 41, International Cloth Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers. About 150 men and women are still away from work.

To Hold Conference on Old Age Pensions

Ottawa, Ont.—The House of Commons approved the recommendations of the committee on old age pensions, which recommended a conference between the Federal Government and Provincial Prime Ministers on this question. The report of the committee was adopted only after strenuous opposition by J. S. Woodsworth, Labor, Winnipeg Centre; William Irvine, Labor, East Calgary, and one or two other members. An amendment introduced by Mr. Irvine proposing that the report be referred back to the committee with instructions to inquire into a purely Federal scheme was defeated by a vote of 139 to 17. Mr. Woodsworth, in supporting the amendment, claimed that further conferences would merely be "stalling off" the question. He regarded it as an injustice that a pension of \$10,000 should be paid to Rt. Hon. W. S. Fielding, when other worthy Canadians were denied a mere \$20 a month.

To Build 40 Miles

The immediate undertaking of work of further construction of the North Bay-Cobalt highway was assured by an announcement made recently by Hon. James Lyons. Eighty miles of the road are still to be built and 40 of that stretch are to be done this summer with work starting next month. The contracts for the work are being let in five-mile lengths so that as many different contractors as possible may be given shares of the work and the employment spread over a larger number of men. The road will traverse a densely wooded section and must pass through a very rocky stretch of country. The difficulties of road building are expected to be great and the costs consequently high. An estimate of \$400,000 has been placed upon the 40 miles to be built. This road will form a section of the future Trans-Canada Highway.

Premier of N.S.W. Denounces Reds

Sydney, Australia.—When the new Ministers of the New South Wales Government were sworn, Premier J. T. Lang declared that the Government would not tolerate any Bolshevism, which, he says, "stands for the displacement of our best social and industrial conditions."

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Training Our Canadian Youth

In view of the many complaints voiced through the columns of Dominion newspapers to the effect that Canadian youths, as soon as they leave the high schools, immediately leave for the United States, there to be trained along American lines and take their places at the head of American businesses, the Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited, has decided to give employment to graduates from the Windsor-Walkerville Technical School, train them along Canadian lines with Canadian ideals, and fit them for Canadian business.

The young men will be given a thorough training by experts over an apprenticeship period of three years. They will be given the choice of three departments, namely, tool and die, electrical and sheet metal. During the apprenticeship they will receive a wage of 40 cents an hour for the first year, 50 cents for the second and 60 cents for the third. Fourteen of this year's graduating class have accepted the offer, and will commence their intensive training course at an early date.

Every opportunity will be given the young Canadians to remain with the large organization, and the fact that the executives of the company today have, with few exceptions, come through the ranks is expected to be a great inducement to the boys to put forth their best efforts.

British Mines Face Crisis

London, Eng.—It is probable that very shortly will see another condition of tension in the coal trade of Gt. Britain. The miners' federation is considering the report of the joint committee on the recent enquiry of the coal situation as between the mine owners and the miners, and the federation will shortly have before it the mine owners' proposals.

These proposals, it is understood, definitely provide for the restoration of the eight-hour day, with six hours of work on Saturday, making a total of 46 working hours each week, and the minimum wage to remain as it is at present. At present seven



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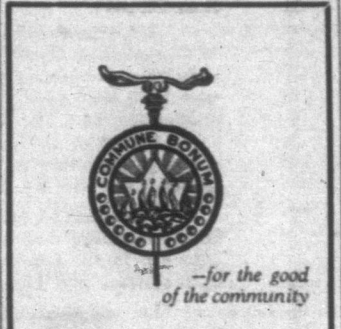
A study of expenditures by hundreds of families shows that food costs 43%, miscellaneous 25%, rent 17%, clothes 13% and the telephone less than 2%.



Each new subscriber adds to the value of YOUR telephone

hours is the statutory working day for miners

The secretary of the miners' federation, A. J. Cook, declares that he will ruthlessly oppose the employers' proposed restoration of the eight-hour day. Cook, however, is suffering from a nervous breakdown and has gone abroad so the final decision of the federation on the questions at issue possibly may be reached in his absence.



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If your gas service is not giving you good results, get in touch with us immediately and tell us where you think the trouble is. Once we are in possession of the facts we will do our utmost to remedy conditions and to retain your good will.

ONTARIO'S MINERALS

The outstanding metallic products of Ontario are silver, nickel and gold. The gross value of these to the end of 1924 follows:—silver, \$234,352,000; nickel, \$197,600,000; and gold \$154,419,000. Of silver, the production in 1924 was 9,961,315 ounces, or over fifty per cent of that from all Canada. The Cobalt silver mines have been in operation for over twenty years, and to the end of 1924, along with outlying areas such as Gowganda and South Lorrain, have yielded over 350 million ounces, worth approximately \$260,000,000. The yield is now at the rate of about 10,000,000 ounces per year.

Ontario is the only producer of nickel in the Dominion, and supplies ninety per cent of the world's requirements of this metal. Post-war depression has passed away, and in 1924 the nickel mining industry functioned on better than a pre-war scale. The nickel deposits of Sudbury yield large quantities of copper as a by-product, also important quantities of platinum metals.

Of gold, Ontario's production in 1924 was over eighty per cent of the entire output of Canada, and had a value of \$25,669,262. The increase in output over 1923 exceeded 5 1/2 million dollars. At the present time, the yield is approximately 2 1/2 million dollars per month, principally from Porcupine and Kirkland Lake, or more than one-half that of the entire United States.

The metal mines of Ontario occur in the pre-Cambrian formations which cover seventy per cent of the entire northland. Only the southern fringe of these formations has been penetrated. The development of new mining areas means the expenditure of money for supplies and labour, and the new wealth created is gradually distributed to all classes of the community.

The Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway represents an asset of 33 million dollars, and the Ontario Government shows its faith in the north country by providing branch lines where business warrants. In 1924 the Larder Lake Branch 22.5 miles and South Lorrain Branch of 12 miles, were completed. Mine products represented last year 22 per cent of the railway's tonnage.

For lists of publications, maps of mining areas, geological reports and other information, apply to

HON. CHARLES MCCREA, Minister of Mines
THOS. W. GIBSON, Deputy Minister of Mines
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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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