

# Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

Entered at Toronto Post Office as Second Class Postage.  
**THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS**

THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS  
PUBLISHED BY THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS, LIMITED  
A NATIONAL, SANE LABOR PAPER

Ottawa Office:  
151 Queen Street  
Phone: Queen 751

Toronto Office:  
79 Adelaide St. East  
Phone: Main 4122

Following in brief, is 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.

## Public Borrowings on Too Large a Scale

It is not hard to understand the serious financial predicament that Canada is in at the present time, and the reason for so much unemployment and difficulties which our manufacturers are up against when it is realized that the funded debts of the Dominion, Provinces and Municipalities increased from \$801,870,587 in 1913 to \$3,604,600,603 in 1919. This was due in large measure to the war, but by 1924 they had risen to \$4,236,538,435, made up as follows: Dominion, \$2,512,126,559; Provincial, \$674,411,876, and Municipal and miscellaneous, \$1,050,000,000; during the past five years the Provincial debts have doubled. The funded debts of the governing bodies now amount to 19 per cent. of the national wealth, and 17 per cent. of the national income.

These figures tell their own story and a startling one of hardships and burdens which Canadians are finding difficult to carry. Is it any wonder that our skilled mechanics are leaving the country in large numbers for other fields where the taxes are within reason and the wage returns are good? And is it also any wonder that it is now difficult to interest foreign capital in our resources for the reason that it would be taxed too heavy?

Hundreds of manufacturers have failed during the past year through the unfair competition and heavy taxes. Our Government knows that Canada is at a big disadvantage in every way—geographically, population, finances and exorbitant taxes, and yet does not extend the helping hand that would assist in relieving the pressure to some extent and that "helping hand" is a protective tariff of a sufficient nature to help us past the danger zone. A tariff that would help Canadian industry onto its feet would by the same token, help to rid Canada of her large national debt. Our Government seems to look upon Canadian industry as a dread disease and a handicap which is to be kept down and suppressed as much as possible rather than as an integral and important part of the country. Would it not be feasible and wise to invest a little confidence and thought in the welfare of our industries so that they in turn could help to pay off our debts which would relieve heavy taxes and bring back prosperity to our country?

## Manitoba Second to None in Labor Laws

Manitoba is second to no province in Canada or state in the union insofar as labor legislation is concerned, particularly in regard to workmen's compensation, unemployment relief, free government employment service, fair and minimum wages and boiler and factory inspection, declared Deputy Minister of Public Works, D. L. McLean, on his return from attending the annual convention of the International Association of Government Labor Officials of the United States and Canada held in Chicago recently.

## Postal Strikers Back at Work

(Continued from page 1)

gave assent to the agreement in behalf of employees afflicted like himself. Scarce had this man finished that the voice of a woman was heard above the din. She said: "Let's sing the Dooxology to express our thanks that the strike is settled." In a moment the whole audience rose and sang, "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow," and followed this with the National Anthem.

### Paraded to Work

Just before the meeting adjourned Chairman Hull explained that everyone present would form up outside the hall, each one with the branch of service to which he or she belonged, and that all would march to the Union Station to sign on for duty. That, he said, was part of the conditions of settlement. All obeyed orders, and shortly after 6.30, when the church bells were ringing, the strikers, more than 1,400 strong, headed by two men bearing "Union Jacks," two pipers and a drummer, marched from the Labor Temple to Station "A" to sign on. This closed the strike, and now the citizens of Toronto will be receiving their mail as usual. It will take some days to clean things up, it is pointed out, but if the citizens will co-operate by deferring mailing of letters and other matter not absolutely necessary until after Dominion Day the employees will be able, by working night and day, to have the service in normal condition this week.

### Hit at Montreal

Montreal, Que.—Postmaster Guadet, replying to a telephone message here Sunday night from Charles E. Trudeau, of the strike executive, to the

effect that the strike was ended and that all strikers would report for duty en bloc by four o'clock Sunday, said:

"I have received no instructions to permit strikers to return and register. I am postmaster here and I am the one directing affairs. I forbid you from entering the post office. Don't forget that entering the post office will be considered by me as house-breaking (violation de domicile)."

A telegram was at once despatched to G. R. Jackson, president of the Dominion Postal Employees' Federation, informing him of this position of affairs here. Mr. Jackson replied stating he had been in communication with Ottawa and that instructions to Mr. Guadet to permit the men to return and register would be issued on Monday, June 30th.

Mr. Trudeau's telephone message followed on receipt of telegrams from Toronto headquarters stating that the strike was ended and that the men should report for duty and register by four o'clock Monday, June 30th.

### Windsor Strike Ended

Windsor, Ont.—Windsor's postal strike has ended. The men received telegraphic orders from Toronto Sunday to return to work on the terms offered them by the Government and will report for duty as new men on June 30th. No hint of any special departure from the scale of \$85 a month offered for new men was contained in the instructions received, but the men are hopeful that they eventually will be reinstated.

All will be sworn in by Postmaster Joseph P. Casgrain as new employees. Some of the sorting clerks will return to work at midnight in an effort to get a start at untangling the great mass of mail matter that has accumulated since the strikers quit work on June 18th.

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### Criticized Works Department

Ald. Marshall's complaint was that men were employed to put down sidewalks in the city who were not citizens and not even boarders in the city, and he made a motion that no person be given a job by the city unless he lived or paid board in the city. It was defeated.

Ald. Moore, chairman of the Board of Works, admitted that two men, non-residents of the city, were on the city's pay roll, but felt there was a reason for it. The work they were doing was really contract work, he contended, and it was the board's endeavor to have the work done in the best interests of the citizens. One man owned a cement mixer which he used in his work, and the other man was his assistant. Ald. Moore did not think there was anyone in the city out of work.

Ald. Marshall retorted that the city had a cement mixer that was idle most of the time.

Ald. Ballantyne said that the Board of Works has discussed the question, and the opinion was that the proper course had been followed. Ald. Marshall, he said, was a member of the Board of Works last year when the same practice was in force and he had made no objection. Why should he do so now, he queried.

### Labor Body After Wage Enforcement

Wants Appointment of Third Inspector Under Act With Office in Saskatoon

Saskatoon, Sask.—A third inspector to assist in enforcing the Saskatchewan Minimum Wage Act is desired by the Saskatchewan Trades and Labor Council. At the present time there are two for the whole province who take various districts for inspection alternately. The council believes that one inspector should be kept busy in northern Saskatchewan and would have him stationed at Saskatoon. To this end, Gerald Deatry, secretary of the council, wrote to the chairman of the Minimum Wage Board. The letter also contained the council's endorsement of the board's activities in the past—taking issue with ex-Alderman Perry of Regina, who said that at the recent sitting, the board favored the employing class. A 48-hour week will also be advocated, and the letter will contain a suggestion that at future meetings, more employers should be present.

### International Congress of Printers

The General Council of the International Secretariat of Printers has resolved to hold the Ninth International Printers' Congress at Hamburg immediately after the Congress of the German Printers' Union. It will open on September 5th.

The following are some of the items on the agenda: A discussion of the question of mutual agreements, and of affiliation fees; the eight-hour day; the offset question.

### Raising of the Boycott of Remy

The Executive of the International Union of Federations of Workers in the Food and Drink Trades decided on January 22nd to raise the boycott pronounced on Remy A. G. of Wygmael, Belgium, for their dismissal of 57 workers. A few weeks ago the Board of Directors of the company cancelled its previous decision not to reinstate these workers, stating that some of the workers in question have been taken back, and others, who are older, have been pensioned.

### Ready to Discuss Fees for Patients

Compensation Board Chairman Declares Misunderstanding Exists

Toronto, Ont.—Speaking on the subject of hospital rates recently, Samuel Price, chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board stated that there was a decided lack of information concerning the matter of hospital rates paid by the board.

"The statement that the hospital is receiving only \$2.00 from Workmen's Compensation cases, while it is claimed that patients cost \$2.50 a day, is unfair," he said. "The hospitals get \$2.50 per day for Compensation Board patients. What the actual cost per day may be for any hospital is a matter depending upon the hospital management, and it would be difficult, if not impossible, for the Board to adjust its rate throughout the Province to what each of the many hospitals might allege to be its cost rate, nor would it seem equitable that a hospital that was efficiently run should receive a less rate than one that was extravagantly or wastefully managed."

### Labor Questions Occupied Council

Shown Little Outside Labor Was Employed At Guelph

Stratford, Ont.—"Foreign Labor" occupied the boards at the City Council meeting for a short time last night, when Ald. Buller asked for information as to who were being employed by the Godson Construction Company in their work here, and Ald. Marshall protested that non-residents of Stratford were on the pay roll of the Board of Works.

Ald. Buller said it had been brought to his attention that the majority of men employed by this company in its pavement work here had been imported. This he did not feel was a square deal, believing that Stratford men should be given the preference.

City Engineer Manson replied that

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For high ideals—for general Made-in-Canada prosperity—Don't forget to say that all may hear: "Made-in-Canada goods for me every time!"

### Ready to Discuss Rates

"The Board," Mr. Price stated, "had always been ready to discuss the matter of rates with the hospital management or with anyone interested, and an agreement entered into with the Toronto General Hospital was, according to its Superintendent, still satisfactory."

"The Board, however, was bound by the provisions of the Act it was administering, which provided that the fees or charges for such medical aid shall not be more than would be properly and reasonably charged to the workmen if himself paying the bill." As much as this provision warranted, the Board was paying.

### "Paying More Than City"

The Compensation Board, Mr. Price contents, is paying more for its cases than the city is paying for its own employees.

"If the Workmen's Compensation Board is entitled, as seems not to be, to have been questioned, to obtain the necessary hospital service at the rates which others are asked to pay, why should it not, even apart from the statutory provision above quoted, avail itself of these rates? Workmen who are Compensation Board cases surely have not less rights than other workmen and residents of the city, and if the rates

he had inquired into this matter, not because he had heard any complaints, but because it was his policy to check up. The company, he explained, had brought 10 men to the city, pivot men, who were almost indispensable in the organization. In addition any Stratford man who sought work or anyone who had been sent by the city to get work had received it. Moreover, Mr. Manson was given to understand by the foreman in charge that as soon as the good weather comes it will be necessary to go outside the city to secure men for their was not a sufficient number available here.

The explanation was satisfactory to Ald. Buller.

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