

# Saskatchewan Labor's Realm

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## Saskatchewan Labor's Realm

Weekly Labor and Social Reform Newspaper.

Justice, Truth, Fraternity. "Labor Omnia Vincit."  
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### Independent Politics

The great Independent Political Convention, which will be commenced at 10 a.m. on the morning of the 10th day of June, and which will remain in session for two days, bids fair to be one of the largest and most influential gatherings of the disciples of the policy of direct representation of the producers by the producers that has ever been held, and will mark a new epoch in the history of Canadian politics.

The Convention will comprise delegates from the Comrades of Equity, the Producers' Union of Battleford District, the Farmers' Political Association of Assiniboia, and the Canadian Society of Equity of Alberta, as well as the delegates of the Local Independent Labor Party.

A mass meeting of all interested in the principles of equity, that is the producers throughout the Province, will be held at night, when speeches will be delivered by prominent men in the labor world.

All intending delegates are advised to secure Standard Certificates from their railway agents, so as to ensure single fare rate being obtained.

The Convention will be held in the Trades Hall, Scarth St., and particulars with regard to the meeting will be published later. If ever the cry of Carl Marx "Workers of the world unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains" was true, it is true now. The defeat of the labor movement in the past is but an incentive to renewed action now, and when farmers and workers of the cities have found common ground on which to unite for political welfare, the result is sure, and monopolists and exploiters may tremble, for their power is almost at an end.

### Notice to Local Union Secretaries

Will the Secretaries of all local unions please take notice that the meetings of the Regina Trades and Labor Council will in future be held on the first and third Friday in the month instead of the second and fourth Saturday as heretofore?

The attendance of the delegates from some of the unions has fallen off considerably of late, and it is a duty each union owes itself to see that it is fully and properly represented at the meetings of the Council. If the delegates appointed to look after the interests of the union persistently neglect that duty, it is up to the local unions to appoint new delegates who can be depended upon to attend to the same.

Secretaries of local unions are therefore earnestly requested to notify their members of the change of meeting night, and it is hoped that in future the attendance of delegates from some of the locals will be greatly improved.

A cordial invitation is extended to all members of organized labor in the city to attend the meetings of the Council. Although they have no voice in the meetings, they will nevertheless be able to know the business which is being done, and as they have a voice in their own unions, probably some of the measures under consideration will be fully discussed, and the delegates from the several unions will be placed in a more advantageous position of knowing the minds of the unions they represent.

The Council will welcome the presence

of all union men at its meetings, as there is no business discussed which is not their concern, and in which they are as a consequence directly interested.

### Notes and Comments.

The following interesting extract from a local Real Estate Gazette is good:

"It also affords much satisfaction to note that while the wages of the artisan and skilled mechanic are still maintained at the level of the prosperous period, there has been a considerable reduction in the price of some building material, especially the common grades of lumber, and as labor in the city is plentiful, the outlook for the building trade is of the most cheering description. In the City of Regina 480 building permits were issued during the month of February."

The large number of unemployed artisans will surely be very pleased to know about those 480 permits that were issued in February, but they are infinitely more interested in knowing when there is likely to be a start made on the buildings. Labor is plentiful, heaven knows, too plentiful, as any poor, deluded building trades worker coming here just now would realize to his sorrow. Men want to know where the buildings are where workmen are wanted NOW.

Skilled carpenters have been offered 25c. an hour. Wages maintained, eh? Laborers doing bricklayers work. Conditions do look good!!

You are your brother's keeper, and his comfort, welfare and material progress as a man is your concern. A living wage for a fair day's work is the birth-right of all men, and he who wantonly denies that to his fellow man is unfit for human society, and deserves to be branded with the mark of Cain.

Brandon Labor Organizations are booming just now, and in a very short time the whole of the workers in every branch of industry will be identified with labor unions. At the last meeting of the Brandon Trades Council, the Y.M.C.A. were severely criticised for placing an order for a \$1000 worth of printing with a Winnipeg non-union firm. Hundreds of working men in Brandon are good union men, and it is an insult to their principles to expect them to patronise a carnival or anything else on which the work has been done by non-union men. Working men have made many sacrifices for their convictions, and have done too much for the social and moral uplift of working men to lay down the standard now, and accept without demur a return to the old order of things. And any institution, especially a Church institution, which hopes to receive the co-operation of the great army of organized labor, will have to give a guarantee that it is doing its share in the fight for improved conditions and social salvation of humanity or become a dead issue, and perish for lack of support from those whom it should be the first to help.

The C.P.R. shops at Winnipeg resumed full operation on Monday last under the same schedules and conditions which had been in force heretofore. Owing to the reference of the dispute to investigation under the Lemieux act, no change in working conditions could be enforced.

The joint conference board, representing eight organizations, has been in session in Winnipeg all week. Mr. Jas. Somerville, the representative for the unions on the investigation board, has been in Toronto, but has been keeping in touch with the local board and making efforts to select a name for the chairmanship of the board which would be acceptable to the other side. So far no selection has been made. Mr. Somerville will be in Winnipeg at the end of the week.

Owing to the fact that there is a general movement on the part of the railway companies all over the continent to curb the strength of the railway organizations, and that in the south the train brotherhoods have been receiving special attention, it is concluded that the Canadian brotherhoods will also come in for attention if the shop organizations get the worst of the present attack. With these eventualities in view it is not unlikely that an understanding will shortly be arrived at between the train and shop organizations on the Canadian roads.

## Socialism in the Old Countries

The workers of the world are still striving for the recognition of their rights, and from the reports that come across the ocean, the great movement towards the betterment of the social conditions of the laborer seems to be still gaining headway.

### HORRORS IN RUSSIA

Words are powerless to describe the horrors both in town and country in Russia. All the prisons are crowded with suspects. The gaol at Tschigwin, which was built to receive 66, now holds no less than 200 occupants. At Simferopol there are 500 instead of 250; and at Tschernigog 450 instead of 100. Overcrowding brings its direful consequences in prison, as in slum. Typhoid fever has made some of these houses of detention as revolting and loathsome as was the Black Hole of Calcutta. In desperation some of the prisoners—men who a few months ago were dreaming of some Socialist commonwealth of the future have committed suicide, while others, revolting against their oppressors, have met their death on the scaffold.

### TROUBLES IN PRUSSIA

Discontent reigns in Polish Prussia, and troops are being poured into the country to protect Germans against the attacks of the Poles, among whom they live and move. The Government are getting alarmed at the possible results of the Bill which they have passed, rendering possible the expropriation of the lands of

the persecuted people. What the Kaiser does in the name of national justice might become a precedent for a Socialist Government in the future, and so the rulers of Prussia are trying to intimidate the Poles into giving up their lands by a voluntary arrangement.

### HOW SOCIALISM GROWS

Socialism grows apace in Italy, and its triumphs are not simply won in the towns, but also among the agricultural laborers. A few days ago there was held at Reggio d' Emilia the third Socialist Agricultural Congress. Four-hundred delegates were present, representing about 106,153 members; and from their reports it is plain that the next Congress will witness a very great increase in the number of Italian Socialists. There are over five-and-a-half million workers on the land in Italy, as compared with two-and-a-half in the towns; but even the herculean task of influencing these "voiceless millions" is looked upon as by no means a hopeless one.

### RADICALISM ON ITS TRIAL

In France the Radical Ministry lives on, but its position is sensibly weakened. It does not make much progress with the Nationalisation of the Western Railways, and it imposes its own definition of patriotism on all the members of its Civil Service. The Labor Minister has given notice of a Bill for a Permanent Conciliation Board to settle any industrial differences in the mining industry. This Board will consist of representatives of masters and men, but the actual details have not yet been placed before the Chambers.

### UNDER THE CZAR

In Finland the first democratic Diet has had but a brief run. The Diet, which is the most democratic assembly of its kind in all Europe, and includes thirteen women members, soon came into conflict with the Senate, or Cabinet or Executive, which was conservative in the extreme, its members being nominated by the Czar. On March 27 the Diet took the drastic course of adopting a resolution censuring the Executive, which thereon resigned, and the result is that the Czar has issued a decree for the dissolution of the Diet. In June a general election will take place, and next August the new Diet will assemble. Let us hope it will be even more democratic than its predecessor.



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