

Four Laborers Successful

Alberta Strengthens Its Representation

Western prospects for a good political harvest for the farmers had full answer at the recent elections, gaining a clear majority. Labor joined in the gains, though in smaller proportions, in the securing of four seats, Alex Ross of Calgary heading the long list of aspirants at the polls, with a running mate in Fred White, also securing election.

The complete vote in Calgary stands: Ross, Labor, 6,842; Edwards, Ind., 6,141; White, Labor, 5,818; Marshall, Liberal, 5,248; Pearson, Ind., 4,936. These five are elected. The next five in order are: Webster, Liberal, 4,401; Ford, Liberal, 4,328; Costello, Conservative, 4,008; Parkyn, Labor, 3,823, and Adamson, Conservative, 3,501. Ten others also ran.

Premier Stewart has six colleagues in his cabinet. Three of them were defeated by U.F.A. candidates, and three were elected. Hon. Duncan Marshall went down in Olds; Hon. A. McLan in Taber, and Hon. George Smith in Camrose. Hon. J. R. Boyle, Attorney General, was elected in Edmonton, but defeated by a Farmer in Sturgeon. Hon. J. L. Cote won his fight in Grouard, and Hon. C. E. Mitchell in Bow Valley.

TWO WOMEN ELECTED.

Two women were elected out of eight nominees. Mrs. Nellie McClung, the well-known writer, went in with the Government ticket in Edmonton, and Mrs. Walter Parilly, was returned for Lacombe.

Edmonton failed, labor returning five Liberal candidates in a field of 26. Calgary split its vote, sending back two Labor men, two Independents, and one Liberal. Medicine Hat elected a United Farmer man and a Labor candidate who ran on a joint ticket, against two Liberals.

According to rumor there is a possibility that a labor representative will be included in the cabinet and the name of Alex Ross is the one which is finding favor in this direction for the Labor portfolio.

TOM MOORE SPEAKS AT TRADES COUNCIL

With but a fair attendance the executive report whilst of a lengthy nature found general favor with the delegates in attendance and caused little criticism on same. Organizer J. Bruce, of the plumbers and steamfitters, gave a resume of the situation in connection with the strike of his organization, in a convincing and optimistic manner which gained the plaudits of his hearers. A stand firm policy with an ultimate victory was the keynote of his statements which merit approval, delivered in most telling manner, leaving his hearers with no option than to have knowledge that his local at Ottawa would be among the victorious unions.

President Tom Moore, of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, urged the necessity of labor having a representative at the meeting at Toronto on Tuesday, of the Ontario Minimum Wage Board. As one of his reasons he alleged that it was notorious that ridiculously low wages were paid to female employees in many of the local industries and mercantile concerns, in comparison to wages paid in other large cities.

The executive committee was authorized to co-operate with the unions concerned, and to lead financial assistance if required, so that labor shall be represented at this meeting.

At the suggestion of the Ontario Provincial Executive of the I.L.F., the local executive committee of the Trades and Labor Council will act as a special committee for the drafting of recommendations for labor legislation, subject to its approval by the council.

Protest Chinese Plan.

Washington.—President Coopers the house immigration committee against the proposed admission of and other trade unionists protested toatives of the Hawaiian planters are Chinese into Hawaii. Representatives, and urge the passage of a resolution giving the president authority to admit 50,000 Chinese to that island for five years under bond.

At the end of the term the Chinese would be returned, and could then be taken back to Hawaii under the same conditions or other Chinese recruited. An alleged shortage of labor is the basis of this proposed legislation, which is looked upon with friendly eye by every cheap labor advocate, who favors establishing this precedent in America's possessions, and which can be later extended to the main land.

To Unite Timber Workers.

Vancouver.—At a conference of timber workers in this city, it was agreed to launch an organizing drive in this state and Oregon. Wage cuts and the failure of a company "union," known as the loyal league of loggers and timbermen has made it easier to preach trade unionism to these workers.

MORE EMIGRANTS LEAVING BRITAIN NOW THAN BEFORE WAR.

MANCHESTER, Eng.—Lack of employment and the uncertainty of the industrial outlook are assigned as the chief reasons for the huge wave of emigration from Great Britain, which is rising month by month, says the Manchester Evening Chronicle.

I am told that on the Clyde alone the emigrants from our shores aggregate fully 2,000 a week! The numbers proceeding from Liverpool and even from London are larger than any recorded in the years immediately preceding the war. The effect of this big outflow of the population will, it is said, be strikingly reflected in the census figures when the first totals are revealed before the end of August. Seeing that unemployment is apparently a world-wide evil at the present time, these hopeful emigrants will find themselves better off in other lands than in their own homeland.



MR. JAS. O'KELLY, President Local No. 2 Provincial Federation of Ontario Firefighters.

STRIKEBREAKING CREW RECALLS PIRATE DAYS

New York.—According to cable dispatches from Italy, passengers on the American steamer Pechonatas will long remember their voyage from this city to Naples. The thrilling tale would have a fitting climax if it stated that the vessel was completely manned by strikebreakers, recruited by the sea service bureau of the United States shipping board.

On leaving New York the strikebreakers in the engine room had trouble with the machinery, and the vessel was forced to put into Boston, where she collided with a pier. Starting across the Atlantic, she drifted in mid-ocean for days in an effort to repair the machinery, finally landing at the Azores, where the engines were patched up. Naples was reached after 43 days at sea.

Cables from Italy state that the crew was insubordinate and that the engine room was half filled with water which caused the ship to list, bringing additional terror to passengers. The dining-room spoons were stolen, axes were discovered in the dynamo, the rudder was disabled, and fresh water spout opened. On one occasion two port holes were opened and the rushing water destroyed a large quantity of supplies.

2,042 FAMILIES STILL RECEIVING AID AT TORONTO

Toronto.—A total of 2,042 families in the city are now receiving assistance, it was stated last week at the meeting of the Board of Management of the House of Industry. The report of the annual ward showed 251 persons sheltered 5,747 nights and received 12,426 meals. Twenty-two per cent of the cases were from outside points, the balance being residents of Toronto.

Unionists Enjoyed.

New York.—Officers of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union have been joined by Supreme Court Justice Donnelly from interfering with the business of Cohen, Friedlander & Martin, cloak manufacturers of Toledo, Ohio. Following a strike, the firm shut down its Ohio plant to act as jobbers, arranging for the manufacture and purchase of clothes in New York. Unionists in this city refused to do work for the Ohio firm and Justice Donnelly holds this is a secondary boycott.

Wage Cuts No Solution

New York.—When wages of steel workers were cut 20 per cent, a few weeks ago it was claimed that this the mills are now stabilized. Today the mills are operating but from 20 to 30 per cent of their capacity and additional wage cuts are hinted. The same argument is again being used to support this plan.

Winning 44-Hour Week.

From Indianapolis comes a report that the 44-hour week has been established by 335 locals chartered by union, reports officers of that organization. This union has joined with other printing trade unions to enforce a 44-hour week pledge made by employers in 1919, to become effective in May, 1921. The employers violated their agreement, and are backed by other anti-union influences.

British Railway Workers Defeat Direct Action

Newcastle, England.—The National Union of Railwaymen's conference, after prolonged and heated discussion, last week, adopted by a vote of 60 to 20, a resolution endorsing the action of the executive committee of the union in cancelling the railway strike which was projected to assist the striking miners during the coal stoppage. The result of the vote was received with much cheering, it being considered a distinct triumph for the executive committee and the constitutionalists over those favoring direct action.

Secretary of Labor Makes a Reply

A McLeelan, Secretary of Sydney Lodge No. 1, A.A.S.T.W., replies to a communication addressed by a steel worker in which the latter appealed to Dominion Iron and Steel employees for a display of loyalty toward the management. Mr. McLeelan says:

"Another saviour of the working man has appeared in our midst, this time a 'Prominent Steelworker.' A short time ago the workers were told that 'their wages were inflated,' now they are told that they are striking on the job and that they must speed up and next week no doubt we will be told something else."

"It is amusing to the workers to get those lectures from time to time, especially the men who are getting 27 cents per hour and to the 'Prominent Steelworker' who wants to say that we do all the talking and fighting in the open and to prove his sincerity in the matter we would suggest that he likewise. We have considerable discussion in our meetings on the employment situation and for his information we may say that we have paid out to our members since last November in the shape of sick and unemployment benefits about \$200,000. We would be pleased to have 'Prominent Steelworker' join our ranks where he would be in a better position to drive home his arguments."

"As far as we are concerned we insist on our members giving a fair day's work, because in doing this puts us in a better position to demand a fair day's pay."

"During the past few years we haven't embarrassed the company with any radical demands, we also have been honest, fair and above board in all our dealings with our employers, and we defy successful contradiction of the above statement by 'prominent Steelworker' or any of the company officials. But, not withstanding our moderate policy, we have today a number of members including Recording Secretary, on the street out of a job. It is our opinion that these men have been dealt with unjustly by the officials of the Company."

Defy R.R. Labor Board.

Chicago.—The Pennsylvania railroad has notified the railroad labor board that it will ignore its order which extends the operation of the national agreement. The labor board operates by authority of the Cummins-Eck law, and workers are assured at the time of its passage, that this machinery would smooth out all differences between employers and employees.

For several months the railroads have conducted an agitation for the abolishment of the national agreement, and this was finally ordered by the board with the understanding that roads perfect methods to handle disputes. Because of the failure of many roads to comply with the latter provision, the labor board ordered an extension of the national agreement.

The company's attitude is in line with the Atlantic, Birmingham and Atlantic railroad, orders by the labor board to comply with the Cummins-Eck law and not reduce wages until same was considered by the board. The railroad was thrown in to the hands of a receiver by a federal judge who ordered wage reductions, and a strike has been on for several months.

Deflation Struck the Workers First According to Boot and Shoe Workers

Two Years Ago the Talk Was of Reconstruction—One Year Ago the Title Was Changed to Deflation.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The talk two years ago of reconstruction has now been changed to even deflation, according to the report of the executive committee of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union to the fifteenth convention, which met here recently. The report shows how the cry for greater production has been supplanted by one of deflation and shows how it struck the workers first. The report says:

"Two years ago business in all lines was at flood tide. The call was for greater production. The appeal to labor was 'Produce, Produce.' Prices and wages were still rising. The discharged service men were absorbed into industry and still the call was for more goods to replenish depleted stocks.

"But, in the early months of 1920 deflation set in. Some called it a buyer's strike in revolt against high prices at retail. Retailers stopped buying from manufacturers and thousands of them cancelled orders they had given and even shipped back goods then on their shelves. Whatever causes, financial, economic, political or otherwise, were at the bottom of the stoppage of business, the wheels of industry slackened, and the same workers who a few weeks previously had been employed to produce more, were thrown into enforced idleness. This condition has continued with variations in spots. The last twelve months have seen the worst that our shoe industry has ever known and our members have suffered accordingly.

"Two years ago the talk was of reconstruction. One year ago the title was changed to deflation. All inflated values were to be wiped out by a restriction of credit. Our banks called it deflation. Deflation struck labor first by throwing workers out of employment for long periods. Some employers then took advantage of the opportunity to reduce wages on the theory that there had been a large decrease in the cost of living.

"Your general officers have taken the position that up to the present time there has been no justification for reductions in wages of shoe workers.

"We have called attention to the fact that, while wholesale prices of the necessities of life are claimed to have declined 30 per cent, the decline in the retail price is only 17 per cent, and that because retail prices have not declined in proportion to wholesale prices, the purchasing power of the wages of shoe workers is less today than it was before the war."

"The workers in other countries appear to be confronted with similar conditions. Recent reports from France show that in that country while wholesale prices have declined 32 per cent, retail prices have declined but 15 per cent. It is only just to say that war prices of necessities of life rose much higher in France than here in America or in Canada.

"The best argument that our employers can seem to make for a reduction in wages is to point to an unreasoned reduction in the cost of living. They overlook the fact that shoeworkers are organized to improve their condition. Some of the wage settlements we have received would undoubtedly have been had there been no war. We are in no mood to permit any wage changes that would make the day's work of a shoemaker less than the necessities or comforts of life than it would be before the war."

Hull Firefighters Granted a Federal Board

The Hull firefighters are congratulating themselves on the victory they have achieved in having a federal board of conciliation granted by the Department of Labour of Ottawa.

It was at first feared by the Fire Laddies that the City Council would have the policemen coupled up with the firemen on the board, but however, this has been offset by the efforts of the officers of the Firefighters International Union, and the sobbies are to look after themselves.

Continental Unemployment

Canada is having company in its unfortunate out-of-work, as according to a Washington dispatch unemployment is on the increase in the United States, according to the department of labor.

Pay roll figures for the month ending June 30 were collected from 1,428 firms in 65 industrial centres. Each centre normally employs more than 300 men, or a total of 1,900,000. These figures show a net decrease of the pay rolls of 4,414, or 2.3 per cent. The decrease since January 31 is 101,000, or 6.2 per cent.

Freedom in Porto Rico.

San Juan, Porto Rico.—The tobacco trust's lookout of 10,000 cigar workers, launched last December in an effort to reduce wages and smash unionism, is still on.

Armed policemen await the word of trust underlings to club and shoot down the workers. Men and women have been railroaded to jail by the hundreds, wounded by gas shots and sentenced to long terms in jail for alleged misdemeanors. In many instances they have been refused bail and denied consultation with friends and attorneys. Homes of the strikers have been raided, and they have been attacked on the streets without warrent by policemen.

Despite these outrages, which are intended to break the workers' spirit, they are as determined as last December. The Cigar Makers' International union is standing behind the strikers.

IS GRAND OLD MOTHER OF LABOR

In the ranks of labor, the name of Mother Jones is a household word on this continent, and she has no competitors for the designation of the Grand Old Woman of Labor. The latest organization to receive her assistance was the Chicago bakers, who are out on strike and at their meeting on July 9th a renewal of her acquaintance was made for an hour.

Mother Jones, although going on ninety-two years of age, when arriving at Chicago and hearing that the bakers are struggling for living wages, consented to at once address a meeting of striking bakers.

"The marvelous mother for an hour and a half kept her audience spell-bound and especially appealed to the brothers to stand pat with their organization and to not return to work; also to not listen to the appeals of the lap-dogs of the employers who make promises which they never intend to keep."

Referring to the present crisis and the attitude of the employers and politicians, she called special attention to the economic movement in which the great power of Labor is contained, and that as long as political interest is at hand under the present system of society, the workers must not give their vote to the tools of capital, who betray them in every instance, but must vote into politics men of their own rank and file.

Mother Jones pointed out how the present crisis was manufactured by Capital for the purpose of curtailing the gains made by the workers in the past few years, and that it is up to the workers not to be cowardly in their action but to show their strength and determination; that as the creators of wealth they have a right to share at least in living conditions; that the War may be over but the dissatisfied grumbling will go on and the worker will continue to make demands until he enjoys the democracy which was proclaimed; and as the electric current starts machinery whirring, just so should the electric vibration animate every worker to go forward, and to strike like a thunder bolt to make free men out of slaves.

The present system may try to make laws to take away all liberties of the workers, but this will only serve to rally the men and women around the banner for which our forefathers shed their blood and established freedom.

She appealed to the brothers to not show weakness or cowardice but to fight to the bitter end until our aspirations and needs are again established. This only can be done through united determination.

Every sentence of her address was vociferously applauded, the men raised the roof from the house, and when leaving the hall the men cheered and saluted her with a promise of loyalty and fighting spirit forever.

Mother Jones' entire life has been one of continuous and long-suffering sacrifice; she has done nothing but good to humanity; divided everything with those who were worst to be oppressed; was always ready to help the down-trodden where the fight was thickest and to extend in every possible direction the practices of democracy.

Movie Operators Gain.

Moving picture operators have secured settlements with several theatres at Detroit, after conducting a vigorous contest against these concerns.

Philadelphia.—A state report on the textile industry of this city shows that last year's wages of 85,000 employees averaged approximately \$1,100 or a little over \$20 a week. The total pay roll was \$95,901,700.

The 1920 pay roll for 7,239 salaried employees totalled \$30,260,100, or an approximate average of \$2,600 a year.