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WELL ATTENDED MEETING TRADES COUNCIL MONDAY

Personal Covenant in Mortgages and Committee Appointments Features of Meeting.

Recording its opposition to the personal covenant in mortgages, the appointment of standing committees by President McCreath and the latter's report on the Paternity Act were among the most interesting features of a well attended meeting of the Trades and Labor Council on Monday last.

Delegate Clark, seconded by Delegate Latham introduced the following resolution in connection with the personal covenant.

That all personal covenants should be eliminated from all mortgages and that this Trades and Labor Council do all in its power to make this resolution effective.

Delegate Clark explained that he understood there was a movement on foot among real estate agents and others interested, to have a personal covenant clause made effective in Alberta.

That all personal covenants should be eliminated from all mortgages and that this Trades and Labor Council do all in its power to make this resolution effective.

From the same source came two resolutions which had been passed by a convention in Winnipeg, one supporting B. B. Russell and the other calling on all workers to take a strike vote in protest to the procedure of the court in the Russell trial and as a means of securing the freedom of Russell.

There was a division on the first resolution. Delegate Clark moved to lay on the table, pointing out that it was not the aim but the principle involved that should govern the council's action.

President McCreath reported as to his activities in connection with the Factories Act commission. He stated that at the meeting recently held in Calgary, some of the employer members of the commissions were disposed to ignore the powers of the commissions to decide on minimum wages and maximum hours that should be established under the act.

Unfair Movie Theaters The musicians' union announced to the council by letter that the Princess and the Strand moving picture theatres were unfair to union labor and on no

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DR. MICHAEL CLARKE OF RED DEER AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

"Class Consciousness and Paternalism" is to be the subject of an address to be given by Dr. Michael Clarke, M.P. of Red Deer, in First Baptist Church on Monday evening, February 9th.

SCHOOL BOARD RAISES SALARIES OF H.S. TEACHERS

Schedule Fixed at \$2000 With Annual Increments of \$150 to \$2900

The salaries of the High School Teachers of Edmonton were last week increased, scale being fixed to run \$2,000 to \$2,900. At the meeting of the School Board whereat the discussion of the increased scale took place, the chairman, Dr. Crang, said he was in favor of giving a good minimum rather than making a big maximum.

This was objected to on the grounds that the \$2,000 minimum was more than the teachers were asking for. The Alliance asked for a minimum of \$2000 per annum with annual increments of \$150 to a maximum of \$2900.

MANTOBA LABOR ASKS CABINET FOR ADVANCED LAWS

Adult Suffrage in Elections and Compulsory School Age from 14 to 16 Years.

Representatives of the Manitoba Federation of Labor on Monday waited on the Manitoba Provincial Cabinet for the purpose of submitting to them proposed legislative reforms which they believe to be in the interests of Labor in that province.

MONDAY MORNING SAW TWO STRIKES IN EFFECT IN MONTREAL

Monday morning two strikes were in effect in Montreal. The employees of water-proof making establishments, to the number of about six hundred are asking higher wages and recognition of the union.

INDICTED COMMUNISTS WILL ALL STAND TRIAL AT CHICAGO

Indictments against 85 alleged leaders of the Communist party have been made, and also indictment of 40 men and women charged with being high in the councils of the Communist Labor party have been made.

Among those to be tried are Mrs. Rose Pastor Stokes, wife of J. G. Phelps Stokes, a millionaire; Nicholas I. Hourwich, editor in chief of Novyoyer, a Russian newspaper published in New York; Charles E. Ruthenberg, Cleveland, national secretary of the Communist party; Louis E. C. Fraina, editor in chief of the Communist party publication; Isaac E. Ferguson, chief counsel for the Communist party, and Alexander Stokkhitzy, who is reported to have forfeited his bonds and fled to Mexico.

ROBT. HEWITT PLEASUED WITH LOCAL MOVEMENT

Railway Carmen Official Impressed With Progressive Character of Edmonton Labor.

Edmonton Labor men are most enthusiastic about the splendid condition of the movement in this city. Publicly and privately, in season and out of season, they have proclaimed that organized Labor in Edmonton is in a stronger, healthier and all-round more satisfactory condition than ever before.

But to prove that we are not just being carried away by the exuberance of our own verbosity, we have the opinion of an outsider as to how Edmonton stacks up against the rest of Canada in trade union matters.

Edmonton, Alta., Jan. 29, 1920. Dear Sir: I have been in your city for the past ten days in the interests of the R.R.C. of A. Am leaving for points West tomorrow and feel that I should not go away without giving some expression of my impression of the activities of Labor in this city, and extending my congratulations to Labor on being able to support such a champion of their cause as the Free Press.

I had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council on the night of my arrival, and was both pleased and surprised to see the largely attended meeting and the large amount of good sound business being transacted.

A cold blustery January, it is said, is the fore-runner of an early spring.

We are pleased to take this opportunity of congratulating Bro. Bill of No. 1, on his progress with the dance known as "The little brown jug."

The first meeting of this year was held on Wednesday night last, January 28th, a successful session resulting. After the usual business of the lodge being transacted the officers for the year were installed by Bro. Hewitt as follows:

Twelve new members were duly admitted to the brotherhood at this meeting, which speaks well for our organization.

WISCONSIN SANITARIUM ADOPTS EIGHT HOUR DAY FOR NURSES

In a letter to sanitarians in Wisconsin the industrial commission says that one of the largest sanitariums in that state has adopted the eight-hour day for all attendants and that the sanitarium has reported to the commission that shorter shifts are practicable.

TRIPLE ALLIANCE WILL MEET IN SEATTLE THIS MONTH

A meeting of the triple alliance, composed of trade unionists, members of the railroad brotherhoods and farmers, will be held in Seattle February 14 for the purpose of perfecting the organization of this political movement.

O.B.U. TO ESTABLISH HEADQUARTERS IN U.S. INDUSTRIAL CENTRES

It has been announced that a campaign for new members will be launched by One Big Union officials in large industrial centres in the United States. The cities which have been suggested as United States headquarters are Denver, Butte and San Francisco.

NEWS OF THE LOCAL UNIONS

CIVIC SERVICE UNION No. 52

On Saturday, January 31, the wedding took place between Bro. Bill Guthrie and Marion, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. McKay, at the residence of the parents of the bride. She was prettily attired in blue taffeta and carried a large bouquet of white roses.

The assessor's department should feel proud of the art that was displayed by one of the employees at the Social Hall of St. Luke's Church. The part of "Susan" in the laughable sketch "Turn him out" was well portrayed.

The Sisters (4th floor) tired of the inactivity of the Social committee, arranged a hen party. It was a one-sided affair—nothing to cackle about.

Who was the brother who, on being pressed to sing at his wedding feast, sang with great feeling "Gone are the days when my heart was young and gay"?

Miss Alberg made a trip to Vegreville last Saturday.

For real, first hand knowledge on how to thaw out frozen water pipes go to Bro. A. Templeton. Experience is a grim teacher.

February 13th is the regular meeting night.

FIRE FIGHTERS' LOCAL 209

The leaf is the staff of life, but the life of the staff of the Fire Department has not been one continual leaf this winter.

Oh Tom, bless the May buds, nice and new, which just have come, ha, ha, we mean the kind of buds that cool for happy pa and ma.

The stork arrived at the home of Bro. Clague on No. 5 on the 25th ult., carrying a huge basket, which contained a lovely boy. Mrs. and Mr. Clague are receiving congratulations on the new arrival.

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BROTHERHOOD OF RAILWAY CARMEN LOCAL 998

The first meeting of this year was held on Wednesday night last, January 28th, a successful session resulting. After the usual business of the lodge being transacted the officers for the year were installed by Bro. Hewitt as follows:

Twelve new members were duly admitted to the brotherhood at this meeting, which speaks well for our organization.

It is whispered round that Bro. Cavley now on leave, and at present in the old country, has resigned from the Brotherhood of Bachelors and joined the Benedict club. He has the best wishes of all.

FARMILO ORGANIZES RETAIL CLERKS AT FERNIE, B.C.

The editor of the Free Press is in receipt of a wire from Mr. Farmilo who is now at Fernie, B.C. The wire is dated February 5, and is as follows: "Organized Retail Clerks at Fernie; 90 per cent strong."

INDUSTRIAL PRESS IN TORONTO INSTITUTE FIVE-DAY WORK WEEK

The proprietors of the Industrial Technical Press, Toronto, have decided to hereafter close down business entirely on Saturday, and put into operation a five-day work week of 46 1/2 hours, in their plant.

LABOR PARTY MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Dominion Labor Party will take place on Tuesday evening next in the large hall at Labor headquarters. Important business will be dealt with and a large attendance is desired.

C.N.R. MACHINISTS

Local 817 I.A. of M. meets on February 13th at 8 p.m. Don't forget. Visiting members are always welcome, and it is in the interest of all I.A. of M. members to use this privilege.

The Shop Committee is taking up a matter of no small importance with the officers of the road. The systemizing of the education of the apprentices to the craft is a matter that has long been neglected and should be thoroughly gone into by the committee. The haphazard and unsystematic method of producing mechanics used by the local shops works out to the detriment of both the trade and the industry.

All credit for the move is given to the apprentices as a matter of fact, but considering that the initiation is the outcome of having put the apprentices on rough work by the shop foreman, when the refusal of rough work or dirty work belonging to the trade by a member of the I.A. of M. makes him liable to a fine by the lodge, the credit is minimized. On the other hand, all of the boys have already put in the term specified in the schedule agreement with the railroads on this same rough work, and they do not relish the order of the shop foreman superseding the agreement, putting them back at a job, the favor of which is cheap labor.

Just imagine being kicked by one of the apprentices—or the Baby Doll!

How about the conditions in the round house? Are you satisfied? The Shop Committee are not hearing much these days; they are too busy working to notice the weather.

Gros. Boh. Davis and Sam McLaughery are on the sick list. Show your brotherhood. Show your brotherhood.

Let's hear some news of Bro. Joe Walker. Isn't any member corresponding with him?

Start the ball rolling now. What are you going to ask for at the next agreement negotiations? Think of these questions. What was your standard of living in 1913 as compared with the present? How much could you save out of your wages in 1913?

What about your children's future? Would they have to sell papers on the street if you pegged out now?

What about your future—your old age? If you carry insurance for the protection of your family are you able to meet the premiums, and if you do meet the premiums when due, are you lowering your standard of living?

Also instruct your delegates to the Trades and Labor Council to start something if these questions hurt. Legislate, boys, legislate!

SAMUEL GOMPERS OPPOSES COMPULSORY HEALTH INSURANCE

Samuel Gompers, in speaking before the national civic federation, attacked compulsory health insurance, a bill for which is now before the United States Senate. Mr. Gompers said he was unalterably opposed to the principle of compulsory health insurance, and did not favor giving even the government additional powers over the lives and normal activities of its people.

DEBS AND KATE O'HARA OKLAHOMA SOCIALISTS' CHOICE FOR PRESIDENCY

Okahoma Socialists in convention unanimously endorsed Eugene V. Debs, now serving a twenty year sentence in the federal prison at Atlanta, Georgia, on conviction of sedition, for president of the United States. Kate Richards O'Hara, at present confined in the Missouri State prison, was endorsed for vice-president.

That customary energetic and active law of supply and demand is still looting on the job.

GARMENT WORKERS OF U.S. AND CANADA GET SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE

As the result of a conference between representatives of the United Garment Workers of America and the Union Garment Manufacturers' association of America, an increase in wages has been granted to approximately 100,000 garment workers in the United States and Canada. Piece workers are to receive a 20 per cent increase and cutters an advance of \$6 per week, effective on February 15.

TEXTILE CONCERNS IGNORE ORDER OF COMMERCE BOARD

Board Declares It Will Resort To Means Available To Punish Non-Compliance.

Some time ago the Canadian Board of Commerce issued questionnaires to the textile manufacturers for the purpose of getting at the high cost of clothing. It seems these questionnaires have been ignored by the textile manufacturers, up to January 31 no firms having complied with the terms of the questionnaires.

The commerce board, in a statement issued Monday, announced that it will not submit to having their requests ignored by the manufacturers, and states that unless proper steps are taken by the manufacturers to request an extension of time for the answering of the questionnaire, the board will resort to means available to compel compliance with its order and to punish non-compliance.

The board is now giving until February 10 for formal application for extension of time and all applications must be supported by affidavit or statutory declaration. Otherwise officers of the defaulting companies will be prosecuted.

It is pointed out that those in default are guilty of an indictable offence and company directors and officers cumulatively are liable to a fine of \$5,000 or to imprisonment not exceeding two years. The companies have also been advised that in addition to prosecution, they, their office staffs and books and records, will be subpoenaed to Ottawa for a public investigation and the necessary information will be extracted by that means.

The board has power to enter the premises and seize the books and records of these companies, which action, if the board decides that it is being attempted to frustrate its efforts, it will not hesitate to take.

The board has notified the companies concerned that it will impose upon them severely such costs as the securing of the necessary legal and accountancy expert assistance that may entail in the event of it being necessary for the board to resort to processes mentioned. The board is satisfied that no serious attempt has as yet been made to comply with the terms of its questionnaires. It is resolved that its lawful demands shall be complied with.

COCHRANE NOW HAS UNITED FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVE STORE

The Cochrane U.F.A. Co-operative Association, Ltd., composed of members of the Bransly Ridge, Cochrane and Dog Pond locals, on Monday purchased the general store of R. A. Webster, at Cochrane, and will carry on a general store business, and also undertake the marketing of various farm products. The former owner, Mr. Webster will be manager.

The Co-operative Association hope in the near future to begin to handle live stock on a considerable scale. A large number of shares at \$25 a share have been sold. The co-operative principle will be preserved in all transactions, stockholders obtaining a return on their capital and dividends being distributed in proportion to the purchases made by the various members. Every member of the association will have equal voting power.

LABOR MEETINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

- February 8, Sunday—Dominion Express Employees No. 14.
- February 9, Monday—Boilermakers No. 279.
- February 10th, Tuesday—Dominion Labor Party; Machinists "Old Fort" No. 1266; Bookbinders No. 188.
- February 11th, Wednesday—Garment Workers No. 129; Electrical Workers No. 544; Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers No. 514.
- February 12th, Thursday—Civic Employees No. 30; Stationary Engineers and Firemen; Retail Clerks' Protective Association.
- February 13, Friday—Machinists No. 817; Civic Service Union No. 52.

LEGISLATIVE REFORMS WHICH LABOR DESIRES

Amendments and Complete Acts Submitted to Provincial Cabinet

The most important of the amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act, which were submitted to the Provincial Cabinet by representatives of the Alberta Federation of Labor, are as follows:

Section 34, Sub-Sec. (a) to read: "If a workman is disabled he shall be paid from the day of the accident," instead of from the fourth day after.

We request that the scale of indemnities be increased at least 100c, and that there be no maximum specified. We also ask that the scope of the Act be widened to include all wage earners. (We call your attention to Agricultural Help, Retail Clerks, Janitors, Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Casual Labor, etc., for whom at the present time no protection is afforded).

We require an amendment that will give the Board power to compel employers to equip their plants with such appliances as will prevent injury to the health of employees from poisonous gases, fumes, acids, etc., and also to prohibit the employment of anyone in shops or places where danger of such injury exists.

We urge that the Board assume responsibility for the administration of the Medical Aid Plan. We further urge that provision be made for furnishing adequate treatment for sickness and accidents for all wage workers and further that this be extended to include the wives and children of wage workers. That collections be made from wages of workers to meet the cost of administering this.

We urge that provision be made for the first aid appliances, of a kind to be approved by the Board, being installed in all places of industry that come within the scope of the Act.

Amendments to Coal Mines Act.

- Amend Section 17, clause (e) by striking the words "selected by the mines of each sub-district."
- Amend Section 9 to provide for a maximum work day of 8 hours for all men employed in and around mines.
- Amend Section 34 to provide for pay days being every alternate Saturday.
- Amend Section 35 by adding after the word "them," the words "on a mine run basis to be paid in legal currency."
- Amend Section 58 by adding the following to be known as clause (7), "In all rooms and other working places canvas shall be kept not less than twelve feet from the working face for the purpose of ventilation."
- That regulations providing for the use of electric safety lamps in all gaseous mines be adopted.
- That regulations governing the use of explosive be made more elastic to meet the requirements of hard coal needing the use of extra powder, same to be left to the discretion of the shot lighter and approved by the Inspector of Mines.
- Amend regulations governing wash houses and lockers by striking out the words "on a price agreed upon between the men and employer" and substituting therefor the words "free of charge."
- That the Coal Mines Act be so amended as will provide that no person shall be employed at the mining of coal who has not first obtained a certificate of competency from a board of Examiners, such Board to be composed of a member selected by the miners, another by the Government, compensation for the work of the said Board to be provided by the Government.

Amendments to the Factories Act.

- Amend Section 9 by adding after the word "penalties" the words "salary or damages incurred by said traveling persons, either for labor or accident to persons employed in this Province."
- Amend Section 26 to provide for a maximum work day of 8 hours for five days of the week, with a further provision for a half-holiday on the other work day of the week, with a further provision for a maximum number of hours of forty-four (44) per week.
- Amend Schedule A. to include all persons employed back of the curtain line in all theatres and open air stages in parks and fair grounds; also persons engaged in the projection rooms of theatres.
- Widen the scope of the Act to include all persons employed in Hotels, and Drug Stores throughout the Province.
- An Act Respecting Allowances to Parents and Children.
- This Act shall be cited as the Children's Welfare Act.
- Interpretation.
- There shall be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council a commission of three persons, the duties of which shall be to study and once in

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