

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

Official Organ Allied Trades and Labor Council of Ottawa. Endorsed by Hamilton District Trades and Labor Council, Hamilton Building Trades Council, Kitchener Twin City Trades and Labor Council, Associated Federal Employees (Every member a subscriber.)

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

PLATFORM OF PRINCIPLES Of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

- 1. Free compulsory education. 2. Legal working day of six hours, and six days to a week. 3. Government inspection of all industries. 4. The abolition of the contract system on all public works. 5. A minimum living wage, based on local conditions. 6. Public ownership of all franchises, such as railways, telegraphs, telephones, water-works, lighting, etc. 7. Tax reform, by lessening taxation on industry and increasing it on land values. 8. Abolition of the Dominion Senate. 9. Exclusion of all Asiatics. 10. The Union Label to be placed on all manufactured goods, where practicable, and all Government and municipal supplies. 11. Abolition of child labor for children under sixteen years, and the establishing of equal pay for equal work for men and women. 12. Abolition of property qualification for all public offices. 13. Voluntary arbitration of labor disputes. 14. Compulsory vote and proportional representation with grouped constituencies and abolition of municipal wards. 15. Direct legislation through the initiative and referendum. 16. Prohibition of prison labor in competition with free labor. 17. Equal suffrage for men and women over 21 years of age.

WHAT HAVE THE UNIONS DONE?

Now and then you hear some man say: "Why should I join the union? What has the union ever done?" When a man asks those questions he displays his ignorance. He demonstrates plainly that he has not even attempted to inform himself as to the accomplishments of the labor movement. As a general rule such a man is one who pays more attention to what the boss says than to anything else and feels that he is pleasing his employer by berating the union, if he would but spend a little time in looking into the subject he would find that the union has done everything for him and that if it were not for the union he would still be working under the same old system of industrial oppression that prevailed until the union came along and made his condition better.

From Many Sources.

"We have grown beyond the swaddling clothes of democracy; we know how to depose monarchs and elect prime ministers, but we are still outside the government and alien to it. It has made labor respected by the public. Labor, today, occupies a higher place in the mind of the American people than it ever did before. Labor keeps the world moving. It fights the battles for humanity. It feeds the millions. Without labor there would be nothing to eat. It protects the weak against the strong. And yet you will hear some man say: "Why should I join the union? What has the union ever done?"

The Associated Federal Employees of Ottawa.

Federal Union No. 66.

A week of excellent progress may be reported. Organization has rapidly gotten on a systematic basis. The membership is increasing satisfactorily and the optimism and determination shown augur well for the future of the Civil Service of Ottawa. The traditional Civil Service attitude towards affiliation with Labor, that "it really isn't done, you know," having been laid respectfully to rest by the fact that "it really has been done," the growth of the union, its membership and confidence, has been so great that problems and difficulties which it was hoped would be strong enough to meet six months from now have been met and overcome without a jar and are now among the things that have been forgotten.

This success in attracting members and inspiring confidence has been due, in large measure, to the determination of the "personal" factor. We have certain principles and aims to fight for. We see clearly the only possible path to success. An organization working on this high plane has neither time nor inclination to indulge in cheap sarcasm. As a result, new members come in with a feeling of supporting certain common principles and objects, without malice to those they leave behind and sure to be welcome from their fellow members.

Progress of the Week. Two general meetings were held last week, on August 23, in the afternoon, and on August 30, in the evening. The first was an adjourned meeting of the former, on Sept. 2. Committees were named on 'Whitley Councils, Salaries, Reorganization, Superannuation, Group Insurance and Publicity. A definite statement as to the date of election of representatives to the General Council seemed desirable and the following resolution was passed: Whereas, it is so obvious as to admit of no argument that the highest authority in any organization is its membership at large, and that hence the most democratic method of conducting its affairs is for the executive to receive its instructions directly from the membership at large; and Whereas, it is so obvious as to admit of no argument that the highest authority in any organization is its membership at large, and that hence the most democratic method of conducting its affairs is for the executive to receive its instructions directly from the membership at large;

Across the Atlantic.

What Our Brethren in the Motherland Are Doing.

OUR WEEKLY BRITISH LETTER. LONDON, England (Saturday). The miners' threatened strike was held under the spirit of compromise now in the air, or being supported by the miners' union, and the workers on the triple alliance, may flame up into anything along the lines of socialization of industries, accompanied by the abolition of the profit system, backed by the united labor organizations of Ottawa, can and will, do to the inflation of prices.

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NOW IN EUROPE. SOVIET IGNORES RIGHTS OF LABOR

Iron Military Discipline and Overtime Imposed.

Russian soviet officials have put human labor under an iron military discipline and declared it to be the property of the State, according to a study by the International Labor Office of the League of Nations. A digest of the study, material for which was gathered by a commission appointed for that purpose, was made public last week. According to the report the original labor programme of the Bolsheviks when they nationalized industries was liberal, providing for the eight-hour day, a living wage, strict regulations regarding women and children workers and other reforms. Nationalization, the report said, was followed by a decrease in production, causing living costs to rise faster than wages. Workers began to leave the cities for the country where food was more plentiful. This movement was followed by official steps including exceptions to the rule against overtime, the organization of labor armies and a declaration that labor is a commodity, the report said, and quoted from Bolshevik authorities: "The fundamental transformation process which we should know and understand is that of goods into men and men into goods."

Another quote from Kukurin, was "Let us not adapt our war apparatus to new work. We must create armies of labor. We must concentrate our forces on the labor front with the maximum amount of tension, with a truly military spirit of implacable decision." The International Labor Office reported a similar document issued by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor. On the basis of his study, Gompers said the Bolshevik system was "monstrous" and held out no hope for labor.

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At Meals and Whenever You Feel Thirsty DRINK Frontenac BEER. It is a Real Beer, superior to all others, a drink that pleases, stimulates and satisfies.

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SILVER. Over 20,000,000,000 dollars worth of silver and gold metal "must be found," says the American Chamber of Commerce in London, to back up the thirty billion dollars worth of paper money issues floating in Europe today, in addition to America's increasing volume of trade with China and India creating an almost unlimited demand for the precious metal. THE FARMER'S DAIRY. Keep the Machinery Going. Quebec Mining Corporation.

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