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The only time some members talk loud enough to be heard is when they

### EDMONTON FREE PRESS

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#### THE VISION FROM BELOW

The Free Press finds it difficult to follow the arguments of Mr A. U. G. Bury at the Canadian Club luncheon on Tuesday. The speaker quoted Lincoln's famous definition of democracy-"government of the people, for the people, by the people"-and seemingly agreed that democracy ought to be what the great emancipator be lieved it should be. But continuing his address Mr., Bury proceeds to show that while government "of the people," and "for the people" was good, government "by the people" is dangerous to democracy He did not say so in so many words, but in his condemnation of the referendum and recall he uses arguments designed to leave that im-

The principle argument used against the referendum and recall s that they are destructive of leadership. Mr. Bury said: "Where there is no vision the people perish." But the referendum and recall "You shall get your vision from us. Not from above but from below. Or if you get the melsewhere you must bring them back to us that we may censor and approve or reject them." He succinetly sets forth the view of those who assume the roll of "leaders." They do not propose to represent those "below," they prefer to "lead." In short a perpetuation of the present system of government is desired, whereby "leaders" are developed by the ruling class to take their place in front of the people, not to lead but to retard political levelopment. Vision is of the people and the modification of such has been the chief work of those who-are designated as "leaders." Certainly big men are needed but with their personal fitness they must have the faculty of interpreting the desires of the people for a better world to live in. The recall will have no effect on the representative of the people whose heart and mind are tuned to catch the vision

#### ABOUT NEW UNIONS

Some new Trade Union organizations go off with a bang, so to speak, and attain their highest state of efficiency immediately. Other new unions have a hard row to hoe from the beginning and it becomes necessary to surmount almost insuperable difficulties in order to exist. Officers and prominent members are persecuted and every effort is made to smash the organization. When a union encounters such difficulties, it is going through experiences similar to those of the Labor movement at its birth. And it stands to reason that it those who suffered and bore all manner of persecution because of their activities in the early days of the movement, had become dis-couraged and given up, trade unionism would not be the great force that it is in the world today.

Probably not in every case, but usually, it is well to be suspicious of the movement that starts off with a big hurrah, great enthusiasm and much talk. Numerous instances are on record where organizations so launched have been more successful in their initial stages than at any time later, and in many cases they soon fade and die like the seed that was sown on shallow ground. On the other hand many organizations that have started in a quiet way, experiencing the most bitter opposition from the beginning, and struggling against great persecution, have continued to steadily advance and have eventually become strong, irresistible economic forces that command respect from their membership and the employers with whom they have to deal.

### WHAT ABOUT'SWIMMING POOLS?

The summer weather-we haven't had any spring this yearhaving arrived, the real boys will find their clothes becoming hot and their young bodies will fairly itch for the "swimmin' hole." Is the "swimmin' hole" going to be in existence? Real honest-to-goodness, born in Canada, boys are too great an asset to city and Dominion majority over all other parties? to allow the treacherous mountain fed river to take its deadly toll as it does every year. But boys will swim and the best efforts of parents

to keep them away from the river are sometimes of no avail. Taxes like other things are high. But if by providing swimming phase of the question, swimming pools would be a good investment, free association. for the reason that no other sport will provide more healthful and on the local business men's clubs were recently casting their eyes GOVT TELEPHONE hysique developing exercise than swimming. We noticed that one about them to discover some useful line of endeavor. How about swimming pools?

### DEMOCRACY IN INDUSTRY

The president of the National Board of Farmers' Unions in the nited States made a statement at a conference in Chicago this week that just about touched the heart of the workers' problem. "Why don't the farmers strike as labor is striking?" Mr. Campbell asked. Calgary Given Bonus for Because the farmers have their land and an interest in the general relfare of the country. It is not that they are at heart more patriotic han the industrial worker.

"The thing which will solve the question of labor unrest will be cal employees of the Alberta Govern-o give the laborer an interest in his work, just as the farmer has." ment Telephones to enable them to What will give the worker an interest in his work just as the farmer meet the high cost of living and to corhas? Not paternalistic so-called profit-sharing schemes; not "works-councils" and "shop committees" giving the workers small representation on consultative bodies whose decisions may be vetoed by the capital controlling the industry.

e capital controlling the industry.

Industry is now controlled by and for the benefit of those whose deputy minister of the Department of apital is invested therein. Capital, money, substance, is practically Railways and Telephones, by a delegawithout exception always given the greater consideration in the tion of twelve members, representing conduct of industry. Labor invests humanity, life, in industry and the employees of Edmonton and Ca receives an inadequate return in the form of wages. Capital, invests substance and receives a return in the form of interest or dividends but unlike the life investor, capital controls the conduct of the industry. It is doubtful if economic unrest will ever be eliminated resenting the Edmonton employees and until democracy in industry is established and the industrial activities of the nation are conducted for the benefit of the people and not Sherin, and J. Thompson representing o provide profits for the few.

### EDITOR'S NOTES.

It has been suggested that the real estate people boosted rents to with the result of the appeal. The conditions under whi days of real sport that existed a few years back. And again the will be paid are as follows:

Organization and more organization is the objective of those who under eighteen years of age) receiving would better the toilers lot. While there is a worker unorganized a salary of \$2100 or less, a bonus of there is a weak link in the chain.

Laws that send men to prison for the expression of political ideas receiving a salary of \$1000 per annual hould have no place on the statute books of a democracy. Don't forget that May 31 is the date when good property owning per annur.

Readers of a Labor paper are usually thoughtful readers, and it probably not necessary to urge a careful reading of the articles w running in this paper by Professor citizens should vote on the money by-laws. sprobably not necessary to urge a careful reading of the articles now running in this paper by Professor A. E. Ottewell and Walter Smitter

Without the Labor of the workers, of what use would property payment applies. Bonuses will apply to do something—usually after the meetpay taxes and so indirectly Labor pays all taxes.

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# HUDSON'S BAY CO

The news dispatches have been strangely silent about the New

Employers of labor who continue to oppose the organization of their employees are kicking against the pricks. The workers when they see the need eventually become organized in spite of opposition, be righted through the use of the ballot. Yet five Socialists elected facilities for Edmonton youngsters, one young life will be saved, the and being human they are not likely to be made more reasoable by in New York were refused their seats. It would appear that forces money so spent will not have been wasted. But even apart from that the memory of a struggle with a despotic employer for the right of are at work in Uncle Sam's dominion to drive the people to the use

Of all the schemes to better the working and living conditions South Wales election. Can it, be because Labor has won a clear of the workers, the independent organization of the workpeople themselves is the most satisfactory. No paternalistic plan on the part of the employer can take the place of collective bargaining.

of other methods than that of the ballot box to right political wrongs

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