

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



Entered at Ottawa Post Office as Second Class Postage
The Canadian Labor Press
PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS, LIMITED
389 COOPER ST., OTTAWA

A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

BEST SERVICE TO SICK

The ordinary citizen does not want charity or indulgence. He wants a pay envelope or a salary check sufficient to meet his daily needs, with a sufficient margin for emergencies, and he needs to have his emergencies so financed that he can pay for them with that margin.

The above sentiments were expressed by Richard M. Bradley in a speech before the hospital association at Boston in which he scored philanthropic and charity methods in dealing with the sick. The speaker is considered an authority in administering trust funds for charitable and other purposes.

He said the ordinary citizen appreciates endowments of hospitals, but when he has to go to that hospital he wants to go with his head up and on the basis of self-respecting equality, with no favors asked.

The speaker favored voluntary insurance against sickness, as a man takes insurance against fire. He insisted, however, that wages must permit men to carry this insurance.

"Diseases and sickness," he said, "are not expenses that come with regularity, like taxes, rent and food. They strike here and there, but owing to the philanthropic fog that has clouded our financial intellects in this connection, we, as a rule, make no provision for that fact. If a salaried man or mechanic loses his house by fire and has no insurance, he is pitied as a fool by his neighbors, because they are educated to use fire insurance. But let him have two or three capital operations, or a severe epidemic in his family, and it is treated as an act of God.

"The way out for our own organized services, both nursing and hospital, if they would serve the whole people, is to put this emergency service of theirs into such shape that the people can pay for it; in other words, to sell it to the consumers in the form of benefit payments for hospital and nursing service."

Associated with his plan, the speaker said a study of social science shows that with a more enlightened social and industrial system, the dependent class in this country, at least, can be reduced to a comparatively small proportion of the whole and that "it is neither necessary nor desirable to make that class a determining factor in the organized service of the sick."

A BARRIER TO PROGRESS

An obstructionist, according to Webster, is one who hinders progress. Unfortunately such obstructionists are entirely too numerous among wage earners. Instead of investing at least some of the time and effort to further the cause that promotes their own precious interests, they prefer to indulge solely in the easier pastime of criticism and censure. "The weak and insipid white wine makes at length excellent vinegar," it has been said. This truism may be well applied to these critics who have failed to do anything worth while, but who are ever ready to discredit those who have made an earnest effort.

Bulwer Lytton once said that "of all the signs of a corrupt heart and a feeble head; the tendency of incredulity is the surest." Bulwer Lytton, the famous English writer, has been dead for thirty years, but a great many of his original fancies and brilliant epigrams still live and surely apply to many a situation in life and its activities. Particularly does he refer, as quoted above, to the human impediments or obstructionists who will constantly deny the advisability or practicability of any undertaking, but will in no way contribute to the solution of any problem. Obstructionists are about as credulous as the English cottage who was informed that the bellies of Swedish churches are crimson, and who found a contradiction in his own white stepple.

It is as great an error to be incredulous as it is to be credulous. Either extreme lacks wisdom. The individual who is too credulous will get cheated, while the habitually incredulous person cheats himself.

Collective effort has suffered untold harm because of the lack of interest and proper comprehension of habitually incredulous persons who, although ever ready to criticize, censure and doubt, have not raised a finger to make possible the practical solution of any vexing problem. Their lack of confidence and their skepticism have been destructive rather than constructive, because even if they were right at times, they merely advanced theories they themselves would not convert into practice.

Our own movement would have progressed even more rapidly than it has progressed, but for those who are always ready to doubt and detract instead of lending a helping hand toward the growth of our movement and the fulfillment of its mission.

It is high time that the obstructionists, who are in their own way, discard their erroneous prophecies and rather delve into the tell tale records of the past to thoroughly realize the necessity of our movement and the substantial benefits derived therefrom. Comparison between now and then brings forth the convincing evidence of real progress.

The obstructionists in the labor movement is the worst enemy of his own co-workers. He deserves more condemnation than the avaricious and shortsighted employer who at least appreciates his own kind. The obstructionist creates obstacles that ultimately cause his own downfall.

LABOR MINISTERS CHANGED POSITIONS

Hon. James Murdoch, minister of labor, received an ovation from hundreds of persons of Kent, when he went to Chatham. He was greeted by Senator A. B. McColg and many of his old railway friends as he stepped from the train. In the afternoon at a meeting held on his behalf the L.O.O.F. auditorium was filled to capacity and hundreds of persons were unable to gain admittance.

"Life is certainly full of surprises," said Hon. Mr. Murdoch on arising to speak. "Little did I think when going to school in Tilbury, or when I was passing through Chatham as a brakeman on a C.P.R. freight train that one day I would address the citizens of Kent as a cabinet minister and as an aspirant for the honored position of your representative at Ottawa. He referred to the Board of Commerce and set forth his recent campaign arguments regarding that body. He declared that at the present time the cabinet ministers were leaving the habitable haunts of the country by the late government.

DROP WILD PROPAGANDA

Toledo, Ohio.—Business interests have concluded to drop their wild propaganda that the trade union movement is controlled by anti-Americans.

As the unions have refused to retreat from their well known principles the business men now discover that they have libeled these workers.

GENERAL NEW YEAR ATTACK ON THE CALENDAR

Newspapers From North to South Unite in "Knocking" Cumbersome Gregorian Calendar—Pope Benedict's Astronomers' Revision Conference Meets in April—Reforms, Mis-reforms and New Ideas.

That the vastly inconvenient but time-honored calendar which has been used for the past 1900 years will not, in this age of general upsetting of conservatism, much longer escape its fate is indicated by the general discussion of this subject which features the New Year newspapers all over the continent. A correspondent of the New York Herald, a "discussor" of the manner of astronomical calculations by Pope Benedict, following thus in the steps of his great calendar-reformer, the Pope Gregory, who died in 1575, is reported to have said, "The calendar, as it is now, is a piece of machinery which has become antiquated and is in need of a complete overhaul."

Winnipeg Man's Ideas. The New Year has been featured by similar agitation. A Seattle paper in 1919, had a plan for a revision of the calendar based upon a certain practical system worked out by the astronomer, the mathematician, W. Harris, and outlined in his widely-circulated book "The Art of Rapid Computation and Science of Numbers." As this project was in 1922 as the year of change, it may with aptness be set out at length here, as it contained in its original form the suggestions on the lunar month arrangement, Mr. Harris says:

"The 12-month system, with 23 days to each month, has many points in its favor, and much to commend its adoption for universal use at the earliest possible date. This arrangement of 12 months of four weeks each, with seven days to the week, would leave an extra day in each month which could be placed as a holiday to close out the old year or be called New Year's Day and utilized as a holiday to start the new year, thus causing no disarrangement in weekday names or otherwise. The added day for leap year could be like Sunday, and be sandwiched between Saturday at the end of the 26th week and the following Monday, as an extra holiday to be called 'Leap Year Day.'

Merits of 13-Month Plan. After suggesting that the months be re-named "First Month," "Second Month," and so on, Mr. Harris continues: "The change to the proposed system could be so timed that the year would begin on Sunday, the first day of the week. This would be the first day of January, 1922, falls on Sunday, that would seem to lend itself as a favorable date for the inauguration of such change as is outlined. A few of the advantages which can justly be ascribed to this system are: 1—Each month has the same number of days, which will facilitate business calculations. A month will always mean four weeks of seven days each, or 28 days, and not 29, 30 and 31 days. The same date in each month falls on the same day of the week. 2—A printed calendar for each month will not be necessary, as the days of each month would be identical with those of the first month, and when once compiled a calendar would hold good for all future ages without change."

Mr. Harris appends the further suggestion that the year begin at the shortest day, December 21, so that the civil year would be coterminous with the tropical year.

John Allen Wynch, M.D., LL.D., contributes to a New York paper the following interesting remarks on calendars: "Not less important than the world-wide adoption of the metric system for weights, quantities, distances, etc., is the adoption of a uniform standard for the measure of time. Thousands of years before the momentous discovery of Copernicus (1543 A.D.) that the earth revolved around the sun, confirmed as a scientific demonstration by the telescope of Galileo in 1610, man had fixed his measure of time by which the dates of important events might be registered and the ordinary affairs of life systematically conducted."

"The Egyptian calendar of 12 months of 30 days each, approximately 4 1/4 days each year, while the Greeks, with their 12 months of alternating 30 and 29 days, failed to account for 11 1/4 days. The first Roman calendar had 10 months, with 31 days allotted to the first, third, fifth and eighth, and 30 days to the remainder, with 51 days omitted from the reckoning. The Chinese divided their year into 12 months of alternating 31 and 30 days, and an extra month for every 30 years to make up for lost time. The Hebrew calendar was a movable duplex of 353 or 354 or 355 days. The early peoples of Mexico and Yucatan had a solar year of 360 days, and an astrological year of 365 days. The Gregorian Calendar. Julius Caesar, with the aid of a Greek astronomer, corrected each of the calendars of these countries by methods of measuring time by establishing a year of 365 1/4 days, divided into 12 months, and in 1582 Pope Gregory XIII, with insignificant modifications, introduced our present system, known as the 'Gregorian calendar,' with some months of 31 days, others of 30, and one of 28 or 29. Illustrative of the complexities of this calendar, the following rule is given for finding the day of the week for any given date: Take the last two figures of the year, add one-fourth of those, and

Calendar Reform.

Astronomers called together by Julius Caesar devised a good and scientific calendar, but three policy of Roman emperors to make those civil utilities which met the needs of a propaganda of their (the emperors) greatness, played havoc with the Julian calendar. Its story, and the account of the work of the nations on calendar reform, are told in the following article by Samuel L. Barton.

The Roman Emperor, Julius Caesar, found the calendar of his time so illogical and confused that he determined to make it new. He sought the advice of Egyptian astronomer Sosigenes. They established the calendar which, with a few modifications is in use today. One modification is the months alternating 31 days and 30 days, except that February had but 28 instead of 29 days in ordinary years. The seventh month of 31 days, was named July, in honor of Julius Caesar. His successor, Augustus, named the eighth month in honor of himself, and in order that it should not have fewer days than the month of Julius increased its length from 30 days to 31 days, taking a day from February for the purpose. Then, in order to avoid three consecutive months of 31 days, September was shortened to 30 days and the remaining month alternating from that point as they flow on.

In the way the comparatively simple calendar of Sosigenes was upset and a complexity introduced into the calendar which has remained there these 2,000 years, forcing millions to learn that "thirty days hath September." There has been much agitation for relief from this unscientific calendar.

Those seeking a change naturally look to astronomers for leadership and advice. If the change is to be made it must be by agreement between nearly all of the nations. The matter stands thus: In July, 1919, the representatives of astronomy in the allied and associated nations met in Brussels to create the International Astronomical Union. Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy and the United States were represented. Calendar reform was not the principal purpose of the union, but it is the subject we are now discussing. Thirty-two committees were constituted for various duties, the last one of which was for the committee on reform of the calendar. Cardinal Mercier, who was made honorary chairman; Bignonard, a Frenchman, the chairman; Campbell and Crawford

of the American section of the committee, New Proposed Calendar. In addition to the international union there is an American section of the union with its corresponding committee. Jacoby serves in addition to the two above named on the committee on the reform of the calendar. This American committee expects to suggest to the international committee the following reformed calendar: The year is to begin with New Year's Day, a day with no other title. It is not January 1 nor is it named as a day of the week. If the day before it is Sunday, December 31, the day following is Monday, January 1. This is followed by four quarters of three months each, the first and second months to consist of 30 days and the third of 31 days. This accounts for the 365 days of an ordinary year. In leap year another day is added, preferably at the end of the year, and this day, like New Year's day, is not a day of week or month. This may be called a leap day. The calendar in prime would appear as shown.

The following advantages may be noted: The quarters are of equal length; the extra day, the 31st, always falls on Sunday, making the same number of week days in each month. The 1st, 13th and 26th, important business days, always fall on week days; holidays fixed by date, such as Easter, always fall on the same day of the week. The calendar is the same for any year. It seems likely that the new calendar is adopted a fixed date will be set for Easter. This has also been urged.

NEW YORK GARMENT WORKERS RETURN TO WORK

Fifty-five thousand garment workers of the Metropolitan district were ready to resume work in hundreds of shops which have been closed since November, when they struck in protest against institution of a piece-work system. The tie-up came to an end this week when the Cloak, Suit and Shirt Manufacturers Protective Association notified the workmen that the shops would reopen in obedience to an order of the State Supreme Court. The strikers voted to go back to work.

MANITOBA LABOR GROUP OPPOSES SALARY REDUCTIONS

In opposing a reduction in salaries of Manitoba civil servants, the Labor group of the Provincial Legislature declared in a decision they had arrived at that any projected salary reductions in the service should be made on Ministers, Deputy Ministers, members of the Legislature, and high paid officials of the Government.

PROPOSED BY REFORM COMMITTEE

New Years Day	January	February	March
First Quarter	April	May	June
Second Quarter	July	August	September
Third Quarter	October	November	December
Fourth Quarter			
Leap Day			

Monday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Thursday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Friday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Saturday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Sunday	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31

The calendar proposed by the American section of the International Astronomical Union.

SEMI-FINISH does all the washing and most of the ironing.

SEMI-FINISHED
TORONTO WET WASH LAUNDRY CO. LTD.
551 WILMINGTON

Phone Parkdale 5250. 1123-1125 Dundas St. West, Toronto, Ont.

EUGENE F. PHILLIPS ELECTRICAL WORKS, LIMITED

BARE AND ATED ELECTRIC WIRES. General Office and Factory—Montreal, Canada. Branch Offices—Halifax, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver.

OGDENSBURG COAL & TOWING CO. LTD.

134 McCORD STREET, MONTREAL. ITS FOR DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA and WESTERN COAL. THE STANDARD ANTHRACITE.

FUNERAL CHAPEL HORSE & MOTOR EQUIPMENT

UNDERTAKER
WM. WRAY
EMBALMER

UPTOWN 2867 617 UNIVERSITY ST., MONTREAL

MONTREAL DAIRY COMPANY LIMITED

290 Papineau Ave. BUTTER — CHEESE — SWEET CREAM — ICE CREAM "Always The Best" Tel: East 1618-7019-1561 East



"My Back Is So Bad"

PAINS in the small of the back, lumbago, rheumatism, pains in the limbs all tell of defective kidneys.

Poisons are being left in the blood which cause pains and aches. The kidneys, liver and bowels must be aroused to action by such treatment as Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

There is no time for delay when the kidneys go wrong, for such developments as hardening of the arteries and Bright's disease are the natural result.

One pill a dose, 25 cents a box, all dealers, or Edgemoon, Bates & Co., Ltd., Toronto.

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills

COFT, filtered water used exclusively in all departments.

ELECTRICITY Operates the Seasoam

The up-to-date housewife demands that all the work in her kitchen be done at the same time and in the same place. She has perfected the Seasoam electric range and she is satisfied with this demand.

The Seasoam was operated by electric lighting. It has a built-in electric range and electric oven. It is a complete kitchen in one.

Write for literature to: DOWNWELL, LEE & CO. Limited, 100 St. James Street, Toronto, Ont.

160-ACRES—With season's crops, comfortable buildings, 30 cows and calves, 5 horses, tools, implements, etc.; in prosperous district, convenient school, stores, churches, advantages; rich, black-loam tillage; 35-cow pasture, new farm house overlooking lake; substantial barn, poultry house, etc. To close out \$4,300 takes all, less than half cash, easy terms. Details page 34 Illus. Catalog. Canadian Farm Bargains. FREE STOUT FARM AGENCY, 200 St. James Street, Toronto, Ont., Can.

RECORD FOR CANADIAN FAILURES

The Canadian commercial casualty list for the year 1921, figures for which have now been compiled by H. G. Dun & Company, reach an altogether unprecedented total as regards liabilities. In point of actual number of bankruptcies, the years 1914 and 1915 still exceed any other period, but the \$7,239,111 total liabilities involved in last year's failures stand 75 per cent. higher than the best record total of \$4,162,321, recorded in 1915.

In 1921 there were 2,531 failures, against 1,978 in 1920, and 2,838 in 1919, the record year of financial disaster. By provinces the failures last year totalled: Ontario, 579; Quebec, 1,012; British Columbia, 154; Nova Scotia, 54; Newfoundland, 78; Manitoba, 153; New Brunswick, 51; Prince Edward Island, 7; Alberta, 192; Saskatchewan, 192.

BRANTFORD FIRM ADDING TO LIST

The Verity Firm Company announced that within the next few days from 50 to 100 additional men would be placed on the pay roll, the news coming as a cheering break in the industrial depression. The company has had a hundred men employed for some time.

Advertising induces a real sale

But "Quality" alone makes permanent custom

"SALADA"
TEA
Once tried, is never forsaken
Sealed packets only Black, Green or mixed

A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT

Your old garments CLEANED or DYED will save many dollars and add to your wardrobe many delightful changes.

Wagon Service—Up 7640
TOILET LAUNDRIES Limited
DYERS and DRY CLEANERS
425 Richmond Street Montreal

JOLIETTE CASTINGS & FORGINGS, Limited

Steal and Manganese Castings
TRANSPORTATION BUILDING, MONTREAL. Works: JOLIETTE, QUE.

GRENVILLE CRUSHED ROCK CO., Limited

SMITHS FALLS, ONT.

IF YOU EAT DOWN TOWN

What more can you desire than Good Food, well cooked and quickly served at PRE-WAR PRICES. You'll find all this at the SHEFFIELD LUNCH, LTD.

COR. YONGE AND ADELAIDE STS. TORONTO

LAPORTE MARTIN, LTEE

IMPORTERS. WHOLESALE GROCERS AND WINE MERCHANTS. 584 St. Paul St. W. Montreal, Que.

Safe Milk for INFANTS and INVALIDS

Nourishing, Digestible, No Cooking. For Infants, Invalids and Growing Children. Rich Milk, Malted Grain Extract in Powder.

The Independent Order of Foresters

Furnishes a Complete System of Insurance. POLICIES issued by the Society are for the protection of your family and cannot be bought, sold or pledged. Benefits are payable to the Beneficiary in case of death, or to the member or one of his legal disability, or to the member attaining seventy years of age.

POLICIES ISSUED FROM \$500 TO \$5,000

Total Benefits Paid, 70 MILLION DOLLARS

For further information and literature apply to Temple Building, Toronto, Canada. GEO. E. BAILEY, Secretary. W. H. HUNTER, President. G. B. COTTRELL, Treasurer.

P. E. Corse's

GUARANTEED. Parlaton Corset Mfg. Co., Ltd. Montreal, Quebec, Toronto

The News Pulp & Paper Co., Limited

MANUFACTURERS OF PULP AND PAPER. MONTREAL, QUE.