

LABOR NEWS FROM OAS TO AT

The Associated Federal Employees of Ottawa.

Federal Union No. 66.

REPRESENTATION.

Surveys first line of defense have been down beneath the pen-point of massed opinion, and Democracy, having consolidated the position, is already surging toward the support of the battle, however, not sanguinary, or by any means a outrage. Rather, it was fought with gloves on. The Civil Service Commission, having realized that their strong point had become untenable, reached, with as much delicacy as was consistent with official dignity, for the day. Making an obvious necessity, they capitulated, the attack being followed by a brief-convab between the plenipotentiaries both sides. The campaign for the Civil Servants was waged by the executive of Federal Union 66, while the executive of the Civil Service Association in the hands of the fighting that secured the victory, handled the plenipotentiary end of the business (the powers for which they evidently armed themselves) and received the enemy's submission. But 'twas ever thus. The main point is that the branch representative on the Classification Appeal Board is to be elected by the employees of the branch concerned, and not nominated by the departmental Deputy Minister, as was the case in the past. The first shot, probably from a Remington, was fired by the commission, in their letter to the departments, in which they requested the ministers to nominate a representative. Incidentally, a press writ-up emanating from the commission, and appearing in the Ottawa Citizen, conveyed the impression that the branch representative would be "virtually" nominated by the Deputy Minister. One statement for public consumption and another for the troops. This is the gentle art of propaganda. Not for nothing has the world lived through the great war period. Immediately on receipt by the departments of this communication from the commission, the Federal Union 66 presented a written remonstrance to it, and also published a vigorous protest in the press, both pointing out the manifest unfairness of this form of nomination. The commission, in reply, called for representation in the interests of justice and square dealing to every appellant in the Service, the branch representative receive his authority from the only source that had any right to grant it, i. e., the branch employees. The matter having been given this much publicity, and the action of Federal Union 66 being sufficiently indicative of the direction and velocity of the wind, or, plainly, the reasonable desire of Civil Servants, the C.S.A. therupon "horned in," so to speak, and presented the bill of the commission's award. The said commission is to be congratulated for its decision to abandon the somewhat arrogant and autocratic stand, and to meet the just and unanimously voiced claims of Civil Servants in this regard, yet a degree of surprise is felt for which their earlier actions had afforded but very little hope.

"Union Fair is a Force." Combination is a great thing. It is a considerable and rapidly growing number of labor there would have been no real employees' representation on the Classification Appeal Board. The first objective of Federal Union 66 is the Board of Hearing. This has, as at present constituted, a spirit of democracy pervading it as Germany had when the British army was retreating from Mons. Therefore, this Board of Hearing will almost certainly play a fairly prominent part in reclassification, owing to the somewhat unusual construction of the Appeal Board, where the appointing vote (the departmental representative being merely on it in attendance or in a sort of advisory capacity). Appeals, therefore, will be heard unanimously, vetoed with equal conclusiveness, or handed to the Board of Hearing on a Scotch verdict, by the disagreement of the branch representative. Otherwise the commission's—a fifty-fifty split. This it will be readily observable, is a sort of neck or nothing business, and if the gentlemanly organization branch of the commission runs true to form it is to be feared that there will be considerably more neck than neck about it. Facts then, being as they are, it is essential that the Board of Hearing should be really representative in its constitution. It should be in effect a Whitley Council Board. Otherwise this will be the probable trend of its deliberations: "Our representative on the Appeal Board turned this particular appeal down, when it was made that member who rendered the vote abortive). The branch representative, it is true, favored it, but then, in a case of doubt, the employee would probably get the benefit of it from his own nominee. Therefore, we may consider the poll as standing thus: Against, 1 vote; for, one-half a vote (in value). Under course, it seems unlikely that the higher tribunal will uphold many appeals upon the merits of which the other has agreed to differ, or to uphold anything except the decision of their own man from the Organization Branch. As it is at present constituted, the Board of Hearing is not really representative of anything but the Civil Service Commission and what is euphemistically termed "constituted authority." This condition of affairs must be altered. The Union is now taking preliminary steps toward urging a proper readjustment, and in its communication with the authorities the matter is

is hoped that '66' will be able to make a definite and encouraging announcement within the course of the next few days. Employees must have representation on this board, if there is to be any prospect of a fair, equitable and satisfactory solution of this monumental classification middle.

OTTAWA.

WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL CLASSES.

On Tuesday evening, December 7th, all workers and others interested in education are requested to attend an open meeting of the Workers' Educational Association in the Carnegie Library at 8 o'clock. Classes will be as follows: Economics, tutor—Prof. S. A. Cudmore, B.A. (Oxon); Canadian history, tutor—Prof. Adam Shortt, LL.D.; English literature, Mr. W. J. Sykes, M.A.; and Dr. Siemon. The purpose of the association is to provide definite instruction in the respective subjects. The duration of the courses will be fifteen weeks. A fee of one dollar is charged for each course of 15 lectures. It is suggested that those intending to join should limit their choice by subjects to two, (but this is not obligatory) in order that the maximum of time may be given by them to study.

CANADIAN HISTORY.

Tutor—Prof. Adam Shortt, LL.D. (Glasgow, Edinburgh and Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.). The object of the course is to present the more important stages in the development of Canada in its political, social and economic interests. The lecturers will present and discuss such matters as the settlement of the country and the founding of its institutions, local and general; the relations of the provincial authorities to the Imperial Government, and the gradual development of the responsible colonial Government; the beginning and growth of Canadian industry and commerce, with the accompanying facilities for transportation and exchange; the development of the social and intellectual life of the people; the growth of urban centres and the development of municipal institutions with their respective problems; the Confederation of Canada and the expansion of its National Institutions. To furnish a background and basis of connection between the lectures, it is necessary to prescribe a definite text-book for common reference. This will be: "The High School Canadian History," by Prof. W. L. Grant. This, it is hoped, will be supplemented by additional reading material. A syllabus of the special subjects to be taken up in each lecture will be furnished to those attending the course. The course comprises 15 lectures.

ECONOMICS.

Tutor—Prof. S. A. Cudmore, B.A. (Oxon) and formerly assistant professor in Political Science for ten years at Toronto University. Syllabus. The course of lectures to be given in the Elements of Economics will commence with an explanation of the elementary terms used in second year of the course. This will be followed by a treatment of production and its factors, and the growth of production in Canada—first the development of Canadian economic life. The subject of exchange will next be treated, including the process of price fixation, the use of a medium of exchange, banking and international trade. The important part of industry into rent, interest, wages and profits will then be considered, and finally, the various theories as to the economic functions of the Government will be discussed, and a commencement made upon the study of public finance. Opportunity will also be afforded, as far as time permits, for the discussion of special topics to be selected by the class.

ENGLISH.

Tutors—Mr. W. J. Sykes, M.A., and Dr. Siemon. Syllabus. The plan of the course is to have each lecture deal with a definite text which has been read in preparation. The texts will cost about 35c each. Shakespeare, Julius Caesar; Milton, Paradise Lost; Keats, Ode on the Immortality of Ode to Duty; Michael Burke, Speech on Conciliation with America; Eliot, Silas Marner; Carlyle, The Hero as a Marching Soldier; Tennyson, Lotus-Eaters; Ulysses.

TRADES COUNCIL.

The Allied Trades and Labor Association held a regular meeting on Friday last decided that the officers should present the views of the association before the Tariff Commission, and that the views be along the lines as outlined by the Windsor convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. The appeal of the Trades and Labor Congress, asking the co-operation of the association, and all local labor unions, in child welfare work, and the application of the Adolescent School Attendance Act, was heartily endorsed. Organized labor, as represented by the association, is of the opinion that before any plebiscite or by-law for the purchase of the street rail-

way be submitted, that a stated price for its purchase should be made known for the guidance of the public. The executive committee submitted a resolution to this effect which was carried unanimously.

A resolution of sympathy with the directors of St. Anthony's Hospital, adopted on the suggestion of the executive, who pointed out that the directorate had often shown most friendly co-operation with the labor movement.

A letter was read from the Independent Labor Party asking the co-operation of the association in the holding of a convention shortly which is being called for the purpose of selecting candidates for municipal office.

Other speakers received from Delegates McRae with regard to the advisability of acquiring a Labor Temple, in which he reviewed suitable properties and voiced the opinion that organized labor should have a home of its own, and that as soon as possible.

PLANT AND KENT WILL CONTEST MAYORALTY.

Mayor Harold Fisher, who has held the office of Chief Magistrate for four successive terms, announced on Tuesday that he would not be a candidate for office at the forthcoming municipal elections. Controller Frank Plant and Joseph Kent, who have been prominent in civic politics for a number of years, have definitely announced their candidature for the mayoralty.

L. T. U. LOSERS FAITHFUL MEMBER.

Mr. William Joseph Binks, 397 Nepean street, affectionately known by members of the Independent Printing Bureau as "Father," died last week at the age of 75 after a lingering illness of many months. Mr. Binks had been a printer by trade from boyhood. Born at Woolwich, England, on August 23, 1845, he came to Canada when he was 12 years old. Shortly afterwards he commenced work with the printing firm of McLean and Rogers, which was later taken over by the Government and formed into the Controller's Printing Bureau. He was a veteran of the Fenian Raid.

L.P. GENERAL MEETING.

A full attendance of all members of the Independent Labor party of Ottawa is requested for the general meeting on Sunday afternoon, November 28th, at three o'clock. Important questions relative to the forthcoming civic elections will be discussed. It is expected that the convention for the selection of candidates will be held in the Market Hall on Tuesday evening, November 30. All trade unionists are invited to attend.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES INSTALL NEW OFFICERS.

Installation of newly elected officers was the principal business of the first annual general meeting of the Associated Federal Employees of Ottawa Union, 66, in St. Patrick's Hall, Friday night. Mr. Frank James, retiring president, outlined the work accomplished by the union since its inception, and expressed his belief that success in even greater measure would attend the activities of the organization under direction of the new officials. Mr. F. W. Patterson, the new president, stated that he had every confidence of ultimate success in the principles for which the union stood, providing individual members worked enthusiastically for the betterment of the service as a whole. He drew attention to the fact that there were now five provincial organizations of federal employees, and that the near future the Federal civil service would be organized solidly, and affiliated with Labor throughout Canada. Membership had grown rapidly, he said, and sincere effort on the part of members of the union would result in the union becoming representative of the majority of the service in fact, as it is in principle, as demonstrated by the recent plebiscite. The adoption of the Whitley Council scheme was enthusiastically endorsed by the meeting. The report of the financial committee showed a handsome surplus in the bank. Local No. 788, steam and operating engineers' union, contemplates holding a Christmas drawing to help some members who are financially embarrassed. Business Agent Howard Longfellow, who is the prime mover in the undertaking, has a number of members in the union have only worked nine weeks since the strike of engineers last May. Last year local No. 28, iron molders' union, raised nearly \$1,500 from the prize drawing to aid striking molders and coremakers. Assistance will be solicited from the central union. It is thought the engineers will donate a union made overcoat and several chickens, geese and turkeys to be drawn for, from which a tidy sum would be realized, giving the unfortunate members a money Christmas gift, which would be much appreciated.

ENGINEERS MAY HAVE DRAWING.

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MICHAEL CAIN TO CONTEST DALHOUSIE WARD.

Mr. Michael Cain was nominated for aldermanic honors in Dalhousie Ward at the Independent Labor Party convention in St. Anthony's church last Monday night. Mr. Pymon Rows was the only other nominee, and a ballot was taken which gave Mr. Cain 45 votes to Mr. Rows's 25. Mr. R. Mackie presided.

HAMILTON.

HAMILTON TRADES COUNCIL.

The Hamilton Trades and Labor Council last Friday night endorsed the stand taken by the board of control in connection with the charges of Miss Ella Reynolds, a member of the library board. The delegates also commended the controller for having asked for the last report of the provincial inspector of public libraries on the public libraries here.

WALLACE V. JOYCE.

On November 24, Wallace meets Joyce at the Toronto Arena. Every union man in Toronto is asked to attend the boxing tournament. The Grand Army of United Veterans have done everything possible to make this boxing tournament the outstanding success of the season. The preliminaries are exceptionally good, and the main bout will be the greatest fight ever seen

in the city of Toronto. Both Wallace and Joyce are in the best of form. Wallace might well be about 11 pounds and Joyce 122 pounds. Joyce, under terms of contract, has to weigh 122 pounds at 6 o'clock, November 25.

The preliminaries will be: Joe Dawson, of Milwaukee, vs. Harry Bingham, of Hamilton; 6 rounds. Young Ernie, of Hamilton, vs. the Haystack Worker; 2 rounds. Trooper Hughes, of Oshawa, vs. Tiger Smith, of Hamilton; 6 rounds. Jack McCracken, vs. Scotty Limer; 6 rounds. Tax McEwen, vs. Soldier Jones; 6 rounds.

EASTERN CANADA.

MORE COAL PRODUCTION.

Weldon-Henderson, Limited, a new coal corporation recently formed to carry on mining operations at Minto, N.B., is preparing materially to increase its output. The present output is about 50 tons daily and by early in the next year it is expected to have the quantity increased to between 125 and 150 tons daily and to make further increases later. Miners' houses are being built.

ST. JOHN HOTEL EMPLOYEES HONOR ORGANIZER.

At St. John last week the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Union gave a complimentary banquet for Mr. Dorman, organizer, and members of the local Trades and Labor Council. Mr. Dorman, who had been in St. John for a few months, has left for New Hampshire.

EASTERN TRAINMEN ELECT NEW OFFICIALS.

At the first meeting in Fredericton last week, the sub-provincial board of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen elected officers for the coming year as follows: Chairman, A. W. French, St. John; vice-chairman, A. M. Vandine, Aroostook Junction; secretary, C. C. Stevenson, Moncton. The meeting went off record as favoring the advancement of the age of compulsory education in the province from 14 to 16 years, and thought more trust officers should be appointed to look after truants.

LAYING OFF STEEL WORKERS.

Four hundred steel workers are being laid off at the Sydney Mines plant of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company. Lack of steel orders is given as the reason of the move. It being stated that restoration of normal conditions will depend entirely upon the success of the company in placing future orders for steel products.

HALIFAX LONGSHOREMEN PREPARE NEW AGREEMENT.

Representatives of the various unions striking conditions at Halifax, including the longshoremen, freight checkers, caulkers and ship carpenters, met in the waterfront council rooms in Canterbury street, last week, to consider the present wage-schedule and working conditions with the intention of preparing a definite proposal to place before the shipping interests. The improvement of working conditions was the main consideration before the meeting as members of some of the organizations frankly say that they believe there is slight possibility of an increase in the wage sched-

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ule, C. G. Langbein presided at the meeting which was well attended. No statement was made at the close of the session.

WESTERN CANADA.

EDMONTON HAS COMPLETE STATE FOR CIVIC ELECTIONS.

For Mayor: Joseph A. Clarke, For Alderman: Alfred Farnio, S. J. McCoppen, George Latham, Daniel K. Knott and W. G. Murray. For School Trustees: Dr. Frank W. Crang and J. W. H. Williams. The above gentlemen were nominated on Friday evening, November 25, to represent Edmonton Labor in the coming civic elections. The meeting composed of members of the Dominion Labor Party and the local Trades and Labor Council was one of great enthusiasm and unanimity. It was probably the largest Labor political convention ever held in the city.

LABOUR DEMANDS TO BE PRESENTED.

The program of labor legislation that will be put before the Manitoba Provincial Government at the coming session by the Winnipeg Trades and Labor council will be taken up immediately after the civic election, Alderman Ernest Robinson, secretary, said this week.

JOINT COUNCIL OF INDUSTRY SALARIES.

The chairman of the Manitoba Joint Council of Industry will receive a salary of \$3,000 a year; the secretary, \$2,400 a year; and the members of the council, \$10 per sitting, according to a decision reached by the provincial cabinet last week.

BRANDON HAS LABOR SLATE.

The Labor party has completed its slate for the forthcoming civic elections. Six candidates have been endorsed by them, three for aldermen and three for school trustees.

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