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## BROTHERHOOD STARTS WAR ON THE H.C.L.

### Purchase Several Factories and Will Sell Goods at Reduced Prices to Union Members.

War on the high cost of living was started by the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way and Railway Shop Laborers at Detroit recently with announcement of purchase of several factories the output of which will be sold at "greatly reduced prices" to union members.

The purchase included a underwear factory at Ypsilanti, a glove factory in New York. Negotiations are under way for purchase of two other mills in Toledo, it was said by George Seal, grand secretary of the brotherhood.

These deals represent an output of \$1,000,000 and mark the first step of a campaign authorized by delegates at the recent brotherhood national convention for lowering the cost of living, officials said.

A distributing warehouse will be established in Ypsilanti immediately, another will be opened soon at Toronto and others as needed.

Contracts have been entered into with large manufacturers for cheaper clothing. A Detroit company was given an order for 1,000 dozen pair of overalls.

## SYDNEY MINES CO-OP. SOCIETY ACHIEVES SUCCESS

### Is Result of Development of Steady Application of Principles of Co-Operation

The members of the British-Canadian Co-operative Society Limited, of Sydney Mines, are the Roedale pioneers of Canada. In the co-operative spirit they show, and the economic success they have achieved, they set a splendid example to the workers of this country.

The 33rd quarterly meeting was held recently, at which the directors' report and interim financial statement for the quarter was submitted; the balance sheet being furnished half-yearly.

The sales for the quarter were \$243,315.14. Notwithstanding the industrial depression at Sydney Mines, to which prominence was given in the daily press some time ago, these figures represent the remarkable increase of \$53,122.76 over the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The share and loan capital at the end of the quarter was \$160,082.95, being an average of \$89.43 per member.

During the quarter 102 new members joined and 24 were struck off or withdrew, showing a net increase of 78 and leaving the membership at the end of the term 1,790. A dividend of 12 1/2 per cent. on members' general purchases was declared; non-members in each case being paid half the rates named.

Probably there is not, from coast to coast, any district with a population of from 10,000 to 15,000 with a retail institution of such magnitude or conducted with such success. It is not due to the outstanding genius of any big business man, but is the result of the steady cultivation and collective effort of the members for the common good of the mutual executive and administrative faculties of the common people. What has been done by the working people of the locality in which this society is conducted can be done in any and every community from coast to coast of a similar size if the principles of the co-operative movement are propagated therein, and, as a result, the necessary co-operative spirit is adequately developed.

## COLORADO STATE FED. OF LABOR EXPELLS ONE OF ITS OWN MEMBERS

The executive board of the Colorado State Federation of Labor expelled one of its own members from the board for belonging to the I.W.W. The board was in session at the beginning of last week and affidavits were presented to the effect that D. C. Morren, one of the vice-presidents of the Colorado State Federation of Labor, was paying dues to the I.W.W. and was a member of that organization. As a result, he was expelled from the board by the unanimous vote of the members present. The Colorado State Federation of Labor has repeatedly gone on record to be opposed to the I.W.W., but this is the first instance where one of its officers has been expelled for that offense.

A wave of eight-hour strikes is spreading over Belgium. The legal eight-hour day for mining becomes effective next December and in mechanical construction next March. In other industries it has been fought for, shop by shop, with the employers mobilizing every power to resist the workers.

## PRES. MCCREATH WILL OPEN DISCUSSION AT CAN. CLUB MEETING

President McCreath will open the discussion at the Canadian Club meeting on Tuesday evening in the "Y" hut, when Dr. Michael Clarke and Professor H. E. Gaetz will speak. Dr. Clarke's subject will be "Class Consciousness," and Prof. Gaetz will discuss "Education as it Affects Citizenship."

The meeting is open to the public and the addresses should create a spirited discussion. Labor men and teachers are especially urged to attend and take part in the discussion following the addresses.

## FED. EXECUTIVE WILL CONFER WITH PROV. CABINET

### To Place Before Gov't Desires of Alberta Labor With Respect To Legislation.

The Executive Committee of the Alberta Federation of Labor will meet the Provincial Cabinet on Monday next, January 26th, to place before the government the desires of Alberta labor with respect to new legislation and amendments to acts that are already in force. On Tuesday the Executive will also meet with the Workmen's Compensation Board to suggest amendments to that act.

Among other things, the labor delegation will press for the consolidation of the administration of labor legislation. At present the acts that affect labor are entrusted to several departments for enforcement and the committee will request that a labor department be instituted and until such time as a department of that nature is inaugurated it will be requested that measures for the protection of the workers be enforced by the compensation commission. The labor delegation have a large number of proposals to place before the cabinet that if acted upon by the government will be of considerable benefit to the workers of this province.

## WOULD PLACE DOM. LABOR LEGISLATION ON HIGHER PLANE

### Conference Between Government, Employers and Labor Representatives Is Planned.

The Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council is now communicating with western councils in regard to preparing a program which they believe would place Dominion labor legislation on a higher plane. To promote unification of labor laws, a national movement to be participated in by all trades and labor councils of Canada, is planned. A conference at an early date between the government, employers and labor representatives from all sections of the country is among the steps contemplated.

## GENERAL PROTEST STRIKE FAVORED BY WPEG LABOR

### Closed Meeting of Labor Bodies Held Under Auspices of Labor Defence League.

At a closed meeting of Winnipeg local labor bodies, held last Sunday, under the auspices of the Labor Defence League, a vote favoring a general strike throughout the Dominion of Canada as a protest against the trial and conviction of R. B. Russell, strike leader, was adopted, according to an announcement made by H. Kempster, business agent. It was decided however, to bring the matter to the attention of British Labor leaders. Another meeting to discuss the matter will be held this Friday.

## POLICE ASSOCIATION ASK FLAT INCREASE OF \$20 PER MONTH

A flat increase of \$20 per month instead of a percentage increase of wages, is what the city police association have asked the police commission. Their former request for the percentage increase of wages has been withdrawn. John Watson, formerly of the uniform force, was appointed by the police commission as a permanent member of the detective staff. Detective Earl C. Lane has resigned his position and will go east.

In Omaha, Neb., street car men have secured a new wage rate that means an additional \$340 a year for each of these workers. The schedule calls for 51 cents an hour the first three months, 53 cents the next nine months, and 55 cents thereafter. Other employees received substantial increases.

## ROBERT MCCREATH AGAIN PRESIDENT TRADES COUNCIL

### Delegate Gerrie Is Choice For Vice-Pres., With J. J. McCormack as Secretary

An exceptionally large number of delegates were in attendance at the meeting of the Trades and Labor Council on Monday evening last when the election of officers for the coming year was the principal business before the meeting.

For president, R. McCreath was nominated for re-election by Del. Roper. The nomination was received enthusiastically and no others were made. President McCreath stated that he had intended to take no office for the next year, but since the council had unanimously selected him again he would consent to act.

For vice-president, Delegates Gerrie, Clark, Campbell, Owens and Latham were nominated, but Messrs. Clarke, Campbell and Owens declined to stand, leaving the contest to Del. Latham, president of the Plumbers and Gasfitters union and Del. Gerrie of the Brotherhood of Carpenters. The vote cast was in favor of Del. Gerrie.

For sergeant-at-arms, Del. Daley accepted nomination and it was left at that.



ROBERT MCCREATH Re-elected President of Trades and Labor Council.

That the trustees elected are Frank Field of the Civic Service union, H. Clarke of the Musicians, J. A. S. Smith of the Carpenters. For vice-president to represent the council in the Alberta Federation of Labor, A. Farnilo was unanimously elected on. As to the several standing committees, which are appointed by the president, this duty was left till next meeting, when President McCreath will have the list ready. Two officers elected were then obligated and installed by Del. Francis. Delegates Wright, Mathison and H. J. Smith acted as scrutineers during the voting.

Proceeding the election of officers, on motion of Delegates Gerrie and Clark the Executive Committee report was read, in which it was recommended that the present arrangement regarding secretarial work be continued. This recommendation was adopted and A. Farnilo will remain general secretary with J. J. McCormack as assistant secretary.

A communication was received from the Edmonton Association of Building and Construction Industries relative to proposed additional buildings in connection with Alberta University. The letter contained the information that the university authorities have asked a Montreal firm of architects to prepare plans and specifications for the proposed buildings and Alberta architects had not been given any opportunity to submit plans. It was requested that the Trades and Labor Council should endorse a resolution calling on the government to provide that all work in connection with university buildings should be executed by Alberta contractors.

There was some discussion on the matter, and Delegate Geary moved that the resolution be referred to the Executive Committee to ascertain the position of the Builders' Association relative to the payment of union wages. Delegate Geary pointed out that on two previous jobs at the University where local contractors had the work, union conditions were not observed, while an American firm of contractors had been "fair" to the building tradesmen. The suggestion that the matter be referred to the executive was adopted.

## Violations of Factory Act

A communication was received from Mr. J. N. McLeod, chief inspector under the Factories Act regarding violations of the act in Edmonton. Mr. McLeod admitted that violations had taken place, but it was decided not to prosecute at that time. After some discussion it was decided to hand the letter to President McCreath, who is the labor member of the Edmonton advisory commission, which was to meet on Tuesday.

(Continued from page 4.)

## NEWS OF THE LOCAL UNIONS

### CIVIC SERVICE UNION No. 52

Your delegates to the Trades and Labor Council were impressed with the humanitarian spirit, which was the dominating feature of the Convention at Calgary as displayed in the recommendations by resolutions to the Federal and Provincial Governments for the adjustment and enactment of laws that are essential for a twentieth century society. It is felt that the administration of any advanced legislation requires a more complete demonstration than is apparent for the benefits to be experienced that are incorporated in the statutes.

Two of your delegates will serve on the executive committee of the Trades and Labor Council this year and your union will have representation also on the local branch of the Dominion Labor Party, your president and vice-president having been elected to important offices.

Bro. Kinnear has recovered from his sickness and is at work again. He has acquired the habit of reading from right to left.

### PLUMBERS AND STEAM FITTERS LOCAL No. 685

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cooper, the occasion being a visit by the stork, January 16. Here's hoping your troubles may all be little ones, Jack.

The delegate to the Alberta Federation of Labor will make a report at the regular meeting this Friday, January 23rd.

As there is a large amount of business before this meeting, all members are requested to be on time.

### C.N.R. EMPLOYEES FEDERATION.

The regular monthly meeting of the federation was held in Labor Hall, January 15, with delegates present from the Machinists, Bellmokers, Carriers and Pipefitters.

J. A. Kinney of the Workmen's Compensation Board was present to explain the Compensation act and as the C.N.R. employees were more interested owing to deductions made in their last pay checks a number of questions were asked and satisfactorily answered by Bro. Kinney.

It was brought to the attention of the Federation that a large number of railroad workers are not covered by this Compensation Act and it is up to the different locals to take this question up at their next meeting and appoint delegates who could appear before the Provincial Premier and ask to be covered by this act.

A number of questions were asked in regard to our new agreement and the committee was given instructions to take these up with the proper authorities and come to an understanding on same. The secretary made a report in regard to the special collection which was taken up for the payment of C.N.R. employees who worked on behalf of the Labor movement during the last civic elections.

### RAILWAY AND STEAMSHIP CLEERKS No. 648

At the regular meeting of the International Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, held in the Labor Hall, Purvis Building, on Thursday, January 15th, the following officers for the year were elected: Pres. J. A. Joslin; Vice-Pres. W. Price; Rec. Sec. P. Hawcroft; Fin. Sec. T. C. Makepeace; Sergeant-at-Arms, O. Holden; Executive Committee, F. Hawcroft, T. Hopkins, R. Lofthouse; Organization Committee, F. Hawcroft, T. Barrow, E. M. Sissons. The following delegates were appointed to the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council: F. M. Sissons, J. Leonard, P. Astelstine.

The past year proved to be a most successful one for this international organization and lodges have been established at the following points, in Western Canada, Fort William, Kenora, Winnipeg, Brandon, Broadview, Weyburn, Regina, Saskatchewan, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Calgary, Edmonton, Revelstoke, Cranbrook, Nelson, Vancouver, and Victoria.

### HAMILTON CARPENTERS ASKING INCREASE FROM 65 TO 90 CENTS

Carpenters in Hamilton, Ont., are asking that wages be increased from 45 cents to 90 cents an hour.

### FEDERATED ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS, BRANCH 15

The regular meeting of Branch 15, Federated Association of Letter Carriers, was held in the Trades and Labor Hall on Tuesday, January 13. It was one of the largest attended and most enthusiastic meetings that the branch has had for some time, and may be taken as a hopeful sign of the anticipated success of the present year. There was a very heavy agenda of business, which included the installation of officers, the report of our delegate to the Alberta Federation of Labor Convention of Calgary, and the election of a delegate to the convention of the Federated Association of Letter Carriers at Peterboro, Ontario. E. A. Figg, the retiring president, installed the officers for the present year, as follows: W. H. Belcher, president; P. H. Davies, 1st Vice-President; D. Collier, 2nd Vice-President; Alex. D. Campbell, Secretary-Treasurer, and Jas. Phillips, Financial-Secretary.

A very interesting and instructive feature of the meeting was the report of our delegate to the Alberta Federation of Labor Convention, particularly that part of the report which dealt with the attitude of organized labor to our association, and it was very gratifying to know that we have such strong and active support from that body. A very hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Bro. Belcher for the work he had so ably performed. Alex. D. Campbell, the secretary-treasurer of the branch, was elected as delegate to the convention of our association at Peterboro, Ontario, and Jas. Phillips, the financial secretary of the branch, as the alternate delegate.

The branch is holding a whist drive and dance in the Separate School Hall on Thursday, February 12, when we hope to renew the acquaintance of our many friends and supporters at that time.

### BOILERMAKERS AND HELPERS, LOCAL 279.

The first meeting of the above local (No. 429) was held in Labor Hall, January 15th. There was a large attendance of members. The following officers were installed for the year: President, P. Daly; Vice-President, S. J. Walters; Financial and Corresponding Secretary, J. McLean; Recording Secretary, Bro. Pettit; Inspector, J. Betts.

Several committees were also appointed to set in conjunction with the officers.

Bro. McCallister, Andres and Marshall have transferred from other locals to 279.

The sympathy of the members goes out to Bro. Dove who sustained a severe accident by falling off a tender while at work in the shop at Melville, Sask. We all hope he will have a speedy recovery.

Bro. McCallister arrived from Coronation, but as yet we have not tasted any of that moose meat.

Things are pretty dry at Prince Rupert, as Bro. Hardisty can testify. Quite expensive a drink these days, isn't it, Fred?

Things must be booming at Hanna. We hear they now have the electric light installed in the round house. No more falling over trucks, etc., for you, Bro. Carswell and Powers.

What's the matter with the Duvergall outfit? Can't we get them to attend a meeting once in a while? You are needed, boys, so come along and get your grievances settled. The lodge room is the place to do it.

We are getting quite tony these days. Even Ottawa writes after our welfare. "Send an agreement, please," is their plea, "we sent you one." Sure, Ottawa.

We notice our old standby is still on the job at Mirror. Bro. Griffiths is his name, and he comes along with a list of grievances. We will settle them for you if we can, Sam.

Everybody get wise on the Compensation Act, as you never can tell what will happen.

Good business, old 279! Initiating ten new members at our first meeting of the new year, is going some.

Monthly warrants to the amount of \$132 were passed and ordered paid.

Some social, we had. That is the way to welcome the new officers. Nothing like lots of encouragement. We wonder where all the talent came from. The Bros. have sure been hiding their lights under a bushel.

Now then, fellows, make 1920 a hummer. Attend every meeting, get down to business and be a live wire.

## REPRESENTATIVES OF UNITED FARMERS AND LABOR PARTY CONFER

Representatives of the Dominion Labor Party, Alberta Branch, and the United Farmers met in conference in Calgary this week. A platform of the Labor Party was drawn up which was agreed to in every part by the farmers. They also discussed the allotting of the constituencies.

A resolution was passed asking all district branches of the parties to come to some arrangements as to allotting of constituencies. It was a very satisfactory gathering and the parties found themselves able to agree on everything that was discussed.

## INDUSTRIAL COURT BILL OPPOSED BY RAILROAD WORKERS

### Fear Provision Which Gives State Power to Take Over Industries During Wage Dispute.

From Topeka, Kan., comes the statement that the fight against the industrial court bill will be the biggest legislative battle witnessed in Kansas since the memorable fight of 1907 against the railroad, when the state attempted to bring the roads under regulation and control.

The railroad brotherhoods will conduct the fight, but behind them there will be the organization of miners and of labor in all the big industries of the state and nation.

Frank P. Walsh arrived from Washington, engaged by the railroad brotherhoods to help fight the bill. It is announced that labor leaders from every section of the country will arrive, and back of them, working silently and with the aid of underground system of legislative lobbying, are the big industries themselves, who fear that provision in the bill which gives the state the power to take over industries, and run them during the settlement of a wage dispute in case the industries refuse to abide by the decision of the industrial courts.

## SEPARATE LABOR GROUP FORMED IN ONT. LEGISLATURE

### Thought Advisable That Identity of Labor Party Should Be Established.

With Mayor M. M. McBride, M.P.P., of Brantford, Ont., as convener, labor members of the Ontario legislature met in Toronto, Tuesday evening, in secret session and decided to form a "separate labor group," in the house.

The following statement was given out to the press: At a meeting of labor members-elect held in Toronto, today, Tuesday, January 20th, it was unanimously decided to hold a meeting of labor members-elect, on Tuesday, January 27th, in Toronto, with the object of considering labor legislation to be introduced at the coming session of the legislature.

Invitations will be sent to labor members only, as it is thought advisable that identity of the labor party should be established by the formation of a separate labor group in the legislature.

## FIRST OF SERIES OF DOM. LABOR PARTY PROPAGANDA MEETINGS

Under the auspices of the Dominion Labor Party President Bevington of the West Edmonton U.F.A. political organization, and Alderman James East will speak at a meeting in the Labor Hall on Tuesday, January 27th. The subject of the addresses is "Nationalization of Credits and Banking," and both speakers have made an exhaustive study of the question.

This is the first of a series of propaganda meetings under the auspices of the party, which will be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Mr. Bevington and Alderman East are so well known as excellent speakers, and thoroughly conversant with their subject, that the initial meeting should attract a large audience. The meeting is open to the public and questions and discussion will follow the addresses.

## BIG PROFITS MADE BY UNITED STATES RUBBER COMPANY

The United States Rubber Company at New York, has declared an extra dividend of 12 1/2 per cent, amounting to \$9,000,000, on its common stock. This is outside of the regular quarterly dividend of 2 per cent. The company has a cash balance of over \$15,000,000 and liberty bonds to the amount of \$2,800,000.

It's all up with the vocalist who can't draw his breath.

## R. R. BROTHERHOODS SEEK SOLUTION H.C.L. PROBLEM

### Increase in Pay Accompanied By Proportionate Increase in Prices Not Satisfactory.

Officials of the four big railroad brotherhoods and the railroad shop crafts affiliated with the American Federation of Labor have decided to seek a solution for themselves, through co-operative buying, production and distribution.

Arrangements have been under consideration since the farmer-labor conference in Chicago in November. The formation of the all-American farmer-labor co-operative commission, as an outgrowth of the conference, has been announced. Another conference will be held in Chicago, February 12 to 15.

Warren S. Stone, grand chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and one of the organizers of the Chicago meeting, is general treasurer of the co-operative commission, and other officials of the railway employees' organizations are officers of the commission.

R. R. Representatives Confer.

Representatives of the four big brotherhoods conferred with Howard Figg, special assistant to the attorney general, who has charge of the campaign against the high cost of living. Mr. Figg said the brotherhood representatives had come to obtain information of results achieved by the department of justice and had informed him of their organization.

Indications that pressure from railway workers for increased wages might be lessened was seen in a statement of Bert M. Jewell, acting president of the railway employees department of the Federation of Labor, that "an increase in pay will not solve the problem." Mr. Jewell said higher wages accompanied by a proportionate increase in prices results in a "vicious circle," which leaves the railroad men no better off after the increase in pay than they were with the smaller salaries.

Other officers of railway workers' organizations saw no hope for relief in prosecution of profiteers and said the only way to deal with an economic situation was with economic reforms.

Purpose of Commission

An alliance of the farmers, the organized producers, on the one hand, with the laborers, or organized consumers, on the other hand, is the purpose of the co-operative commission, said Mr. Jewell, who is a member of the commission.

It intends to "conduct a vigorous campaign for direct dealing between farm producers and city consumers and, as soon as feasible, between city producers and farm consumers."

Introduction of extensive co-operative schemes among the railroad brotherhoods' membership immediately after the Chicago conference in February was predicted by H. E. Wills, legislative representative of the locomotive engineers.

Arrangements for the organization of a co-operative bank, legislative representative of the locomotive engineers before the war, may be pushed to completion, Mr. Wills said, and steps taken to establish co-operative stores and distribution facilities to supply necessities of life to members of the brotherhood at a reasonable price.

Mr. Wills expressed the belief that other organizations would follow the example of the United Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and Railway Shop Laborers, who he said, recently purchased knitting and underwear factories a glove factory and a tubing concern, and entered into contracts with overall makers and manufacturers of other articles needed by railway men. The scheme called also for the creation of warehouses as distribution centres.

Allen E. Barker, grand president of the maintenance of ways employees, is a member of the commission, and L. E. Sheppard, president of the Order of Railway Conductors, is vice-president of the organization.

## BROTHERHOOD OF ENGINEERS WILL OPERATE A BANK

A labor bank that will change the whole face of the labor struggle in the United States when it is established is the development which the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers expect to show the movement in 1920.

Its headquarters will be in Cleveland, Ohio, but it will open branches in all parts of the country, so that the funds of the organized railroad workers may be deposited in their own institution, and in order that their joint resources may be mobilized to fight their battles more effectively than at present. Their first and perpetual battle is against profiteers and high living costs. Their bank will enable them to put a few profitters out of business, and to reduce some of the costs of living by going into co-operative enterprises.

Sometimes a man misleads people by being honest with them.