

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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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. Independent Labor Party of Ottawa.

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TRADE UNIONISM AND VETERANS.

UTTERANCES of single individuals, members of returned soldiers' organizations, claiming an affinity exists between the veterans and anti-trade unionists' movements, must be discounted when taken in conjunction with the voice that speaks through organization. At no period can the veterans be found as a sympathetic ally with the Dominion's revolutionary reactionaries, insofar as their statements are presented through voice of joint assemblage.

A case in point may be cited from the session of the Army and Navy Veterans, recently held at Montreal, where a resolution was passed condemning the One Big Union and Bolshevism in Canada. The coupling up of these two movements, One Big Union and Bolshevism, also clearly shows that the opinion held was that they are considered common partners and enemies to the Dominion's undoing. Another matter of significance was that the introducers of this subject hailed from the city of Winnipeg.

This is not an isolated instance but it has been the general attitude of the returned men as a body, to shun any allegiance with the labor union destroyers, whether the attempted flirtation was in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, or other parts of the country.

That such an attitude was to be expected by no means belittles its importance. It does, however, give to the officers, the rank and file of this Dominion's trade and labor movement, an added impetus for a continuance of the practical methods it adopts for the betterment of the worker's position, which carries with it an assurance of the country's weal. It does place the mark of approval on the International Trade Union policy, conveying in unwritten treaty an all-powerful ally, acting as a reserve force which may be used to crush and destroy any of the futile attempts that may be made against the International Trade Union movement, enemies to which would return us to the days of barbarism.

EVOLUTION, NOT REVOLUTION.

THE aim of Trades Unionism is constitutional evolution, not Revolution. We must greatly improve established Government, but not overthrow it by reducing society to complete helplessness in the hands of a revolutionary rabble posing as Labor.

Revolutionary Dictatorship must be frowned down. The just cause of Trades Unionism needs no gunmen. Massed action and Force of the O. B. U. tend to destroy the gains already made by True Labor. The mistaken men who are talking One Big Union do not appear to want either Collective Bargaining or Democracy. They appear to be aiming at Dictatorship, at one fell swoop, paralyzing industry. They are not representatives of Labor. It looks as if the most reckless hands were making a swift grab at the steering wheel.

HOME, HEALTH, HARMONY AND HAPPINESS

TRADES Unionism stands for the four H's of Humanity—Home, Health, Harmony and Happiness. The well being of the masses—those who toil—depends on plenty of good food at a reasonable price, clean, cheerful, comfortable homes, safe, sanitary and remunerative employment and time and place to enjoy clean, vigorous recreation of mind and body.

Trades Unionism is ever vigilant and active to improve and safeguard the health, standard of living, safety and surroundings of those who toil. Labor is often misunderstood and misrepresented. But Trades Unionism by its deeds has proved that the real Labor movement with its international affiliations is sound, safe, sane and sure for the protection and advancement of True Democracy.

LABOR MEMBER'S DECEASE.

IN the removal from our midst of A. Studholme, M.L.A., an outstanding figure has been lost to the ranks of labor, its lone representative in the Ontario Legislature. Small in stature, but big in every other respect, his life was one of self-sacrifice for the movement and the general expressions of regret at his passing from this sphere were not at all the matter of course variety, but merited records. "A life well spent," "A rest well earned," are apt terms to apply to Labor's former colleague from Hamilton.

DANGER SIGNALS.

TOMMY, the Engineer, says if you want to make a safe run along the Co-operating line—watch your signals: Green—that's the color of real money for Labor—means go ahead—everything's all right. Yellow—that's the color of some of these alien labor fakers—means danger along this line—slow up. Red—the color of the Red Flag artists—means danger for everybody—stop at once and remove the source of danger.

DEEP-DYED PLOT.

IT is claimed that Germany has \$20,000,000 worth of dyes to dump on Canada and the United States at the right moment. What has been done with the important matter of Canada's Dye Industry?



Mary, Mary, quite contrary, How does your garden grow?

GENERAL STRIKE NOT SO POPULAR.

The following letter from one of Winnipeg's "rank and file" recently appeared in the Western Labor News. The writer points out all the evils of the O.B.U. and states that the idea of the general strike is not as popular as it was three months ago. The letter follows:

Mr. Editor—Now that the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council has gone on record as recommending to all affiliated unions that they become part of the One Big Union organization, and by so doing automatically sever their connections with their various internationals, the time has come when we as trade unionists must look this question squarely in the face and decide whether we are going to follow the lead of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council and the O.B.U., or whether we will remain loyal to our internationals.

Frankly, I am not in favor of joining with the O.B.U. at the cost of our international affiliations, and am less than ever in favor of it since reading carefully the constitution as outlined at the Calgary convention of a couple of months ago, and endorsed by the Winnipeg Trades Council. I can find nothing in the O.B.U., as outlined, that gives us any more power than we already have in our present form of organization. We really have "organization by industry" through out various federations, such as the Metal Trades Council, the Building Trades Council, and the Federation of Railway Trades, etc. The chief difference, so far as I can see, is in the provision for calling out the unions on a general strike, whenever the membership of a union is not in part of it, with R. Personally, I am not an advocate of the principle of the general strike, and unless I am very much mistaken, the general strike is not nearly so popular as it was three months ago. And believe me, as I do, that the general strike is wrong in principle and futile in practice. I don't think there is any one in the O.B.U. constitution making it easier to call a general strike than a very serious fault instead of a recommendation.

We have just come through one

general strike, controlled, very largely by men who are advocates for, or at least in favor of, the One Big Union, and naturally they used tactics approximating those they would favor for the O.B.U. I leave it to you whether you wish to make the calling of a strike like that easy as possible or not, and whether you think you got anything out of this strike that compensated you for what you put into it—and lost.

As there is the question of the affiliations you will be joining the O.B.U. And I am not trying to defend the A.F. of L., which certainly needs reorganization. But you know as well as I do that the worker is a sort of Nomad; he has to follow the job, and the job will not always stay put, and as a result, he has to travel, and he is always trying to put a fence around him by making his working card no good outside the jurisdiction of the One Big Union, which at present means WESTERN CANADA and not all of that. It is worth remembering that should you go to Toronto, for example, your O.B.U. card is no good and you are treated as an outlaw, or as a scab, and have to join another union.

Those who are advocating the O.B.U. tell you that the organization is making rapid progress in the east and south, but their actions prove that they know better; that they don't believe it themselves, because if they believe they were making such rapid progress elsewhere they would wait a few months and then they would be able to take over the control of the organization of the Canadian Trades Congress, and make it over to suit themselves. The very fact that they want to break away from the O.B.U. is a confession of weakness.

This O.B.U. organization means a definite split in the ranks of labor and a change of the O.B.U. from a union to a political party, and the transferring of the fight from the floor of the job room, where it belongs to the job, where it does the most good. Instead of strengthening the labor movement, it will almost certainly disrupt it. The only hope I can see for you, me, and the rank and file members of the O.B.U. is to stand against the O.B.U. and defeat it.

ROBERT SUTHERLAND, Carpenter, Winnipeg, July 19, 1914.

ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

LABORITE CAPTURES BOTHWELL SEAT James Robertson, Laborite, has been elected to represent the Bothwell Division of Lanarkshire in a by-election, the result of which was announced on Tuesday. The vote stood: Robertson, Labor, 13,135; T. Moffat, Coalition, 12,967. The seat was previously held by a Coalition Unionist.

BRITISH PENSIONS TO BE INCREASED. The report of the British Pensions Committee recommends all round substantial increases in pension allowances in accordance with the recent suggestions of Field Marshal Haig, including increase of the flat rate total disability pension to single men to forty shillings weekly. It is estimated that the increase involves annual expenditures of £18,000,000.

ARRANGE 8-HOUR DAY. Mine Workers in the Lillie region arranged details of the eight-hour day, much to the chagrin of operators who wanted the work day between 7.30 and 11.30 and from 1 to 5, with an hour and one-half off at noon. The mine workers said they would work from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. with half an hour for lunch and threatened to strike if they didn't have their way. The mine owners yielded.

BAKERS HAND IN STRIKE NOTICES. Negotiations in the London baking trade between masters and men in connection with the question of the abolition of night baking and the giving of a new minimum wage have reached a deadlock and the men have handed a strike notice, declaring that unless their demands are met they will strike on Aug. 7. In order to avoid strikers' sympathy the Labor Ministry has intervened and invited a joint industrial conference to be held in London on Aug. 7. The men are prepared to attend the conference, but the masters have taken the position that the Labor Ministry has no right to convene the meeting.

GREATEST COMBINE IN HISTORY. The great trade union movement in Britain, with its 5,000,000 members, has decided to join forces with the Federation of British Industries, with a membership of about 4,000,000, in order to dominate production, consumption and distribution in Britain. This amalgamation will represent the greatest business combination in history. It will dwarf the power, if not in funds, the gigantic Federation of British Industries, with its capital of \$29,000,000,000.

The new combination is organized

to fight such organizations as the British Federation. In its international aspect the combined trade union and co-operative movements are a powerful enemy of the "business" interests throughout the world. In Britain alone the combined unions would include nearly three-quarters of the inhabitants. The organizers have their way it will be invincible in the industrial field. It is estimated that, after allowing for overlapping of membership, the combined movements control 7,000,000 adult members. Close on 7,000,000 families would support the trust, and each of the families would include on an average two adults and three children. A joint advisory council of co-operators and trade unions has been constituted to draw up a plan of campaign for the new organization.

LABOR MINISTER MAKES ANXIOUS APPEAL. Not for years has a British Cabinet Minister been impelled to make such an anxious appeal as that made through the press by Sir R. S. Home, Minister of Labor, this week. The following are extracts from his statement which will be given the widest publicity in Britain.

"Any man who is unprepared to put forth an effort even greater than that he made during the war weeks and the heroic professions to glorify. They died to preserve their country. If men are unwilling to exert all their power in peaceful production and honest toil, the country will be ruined as irretrievably as if the Hun had invaded it and spread his devastating hand over it.

"No 'dying-for' from criticism. Many manufacturers are protesting at the expense of the community. Many workmen are refusing to give an adequate day's work for the service of the country. As a result of these two factors Britain is becoming impoverished. Unless there is a great awakening, this nation, which has proved its courage and capacity for sacrifice, will go down to disaster through failure to use victory wisely.

"Far better in such a case would it have been to have been beaten on the field of battle and to have returned with a chastened spirit to retrieve our fortune by persistent toil. At the present time our production of almost all that is essential for the continuance of the country's success has reached a dangerously low level. The output of that prime necessity, coal, is imperiling every industry we possess.

"It is the duty of every right-thinking citizen to be a missionary preaching the gospel that in work alone lies safety. He should be the pride of everyone to bear the banner of this new era."

INTERNATIONALS ATTACKED WHILE ACTING AS MEDIATORS.

At virtually the same time when the international officers of the running trades were acting as a mediation board in an attempt to settle the metal traders strike in Winnipeg, members of the strike committee were denouncing them as "bloodsuckers living off the flesh of workers," and "parasites living off the per capita tax of the men." A. J. Ryall, chairman of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, told the fobson commission, inquiring into the industrial relations and the causes of the recent Winnipeg strike.

According to Ryall, immediately before the commission, the international officers were acting very openly at the time that a One Big Union programme providing for a vote on a general strike, a six-hour day and a five-day week, severance of affiliation with the internationals and the regrouping of Dominion trades unions under the One Big Union, was circulated among the railroad workers at Truro, N.S. C. P. Wilson, K.C., acting on behalf of the Provincial Attorney-General, read a ballot which stated that the vote was to be taken on these questions and the ballots were to be returned to the Manitoba provincial executive of the One Big Union.

Mr. Ryall told of a meeting of railroad men at Truro, N.S., at which addresses were made by both international officers and members of the strike committee. "Their speech amounted simply to a vilification of the internationals," he said. "The men were advised to repudiate their international affiliations and send us back to the United States."

DOOLEY ON THE UNION LABEL.

"Have ye not heard of the Union Label, Hennessey?" "I've heard that, I've heard nothing else for the last two months. The label by the same token what is this Union Label?"

"'Tis what 'th' polliticians put on their cards to catch the votes of 'th' intelligent workin' min; 'tis what gives the Citizens Alliance people hydrophobia; 'tis what gives 'th' scab manufacturers bad dreams."

"And who invented it, Dooley?" "Sure the labor unions invented 'th' thing, 'th' same as 'th' Chinaman invented gunpowder and did 'ave since enough to use it after they made it. All 'th' Chinaman did with gunpowder is to make phire, create a lot of stink and noise. Sure the Japs showed 'em phwat to do with it when they went over to visit their friend Nick of Rushy. 'T's been 'th' same way with 'th' labor unions. They invented a wipon and then kept on foighin' wid their hands, wid fish-tails and Labor Day parades."

"And 'th' thinkin' Dooley, 'tis a good thing for 'th' terriers?" asked Mr. Hennessey. "'Tis the yellow peril of 'th' Manufacturers' Association. 'Tis 'th' greatest of intelligin' 'th' workin' min have shown in twenty years. Why don't ye demand 'th' Union Label, ye Turk?"

EDMONTON TRADES COUNCIL.

A general meeting of executives of all orthodox unions of Edmonton was planned, Saturday, half holiday closing was adjourned, the secretary of Labor and Postmaster-General is lockout of postal employees, a committee was appointed to deal with the matter in editorial in the Edmonton Free Press, published during the recent strike, and other business transacted at the meeting of the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council, Monday evening. There was a good attendance of delegates and a big interest in Labor matters was manifested.

Of biggest importance emanating from this meeting was the instructions received by the secretary of the council to write all secretaries of local unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. or the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress calling a general meeting of executives of these unions for a general discussion of the Labor situation in Edmonton.

DAN'S PRESCRIPTION FOR THE BLUES.

How much a little word of praise will keep a fellow going! How much a little compliment will keep the sunlight flowing! A word of cheer will do it, too, So fell a man into despondency; Let's try today along the way To be a little human!

How much a comforting remark will do to keep one steady! How sweet the heart responds with song and always up and ready! A word of praise, a word of cheer, They have a mighty power, To lift the spirit out of gloom, The same as any flower!

H. C. OF L. Jim—I hear you are getting a big salary now. Jack—Why—er—I thought it was until I got it.

THE HIGH COST OF LIVING

Is more or less a question of scarcity of foodstuffs. During the war destruction of world supplies was widespread. Millions of men were taken out of production. Shiploads of food were sunk by the score. The world's surplus stocks of cereals, animals, dairy products and other foodstuffs were depleted.

What is now needed is to BUILD UP AGRICULTURE. We require a larger proportion of people on the farms. By building up agriculture and exporting agricultural products, we will be able to pay our war debts.

Don't cuss about the price of foodstuffs. Go into the business of producing food yourself.

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MANITOBA DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Fuller information obtainable on application to the Immigration and Colonization Office, 428 Main St., Winnipeg.

THE THINKER.

(By Bertou Braley).

Back of the beating hammer By which the steel is wrought, Back of the workshop's clamor The seeker may find the Thought, The Thought that is ever master Of iron and steam and steel, That rises above disaster And tramples it under heel!

The drudge may fret and tinker Or labor with dusty blows, But back of him stands the Thinker, The clear-eyed man who knows; For into each plow or sower, Each piece and part and whole, Must go the Brains of Labor, Which gives the work a soul!

Back of the belts that sing, Back of the hammers drumming, Back of the cranes that swing, There is the eye which scans them Watching through stress and strain, There is the mind which scans them— Back of the Brawn, the Brain!

Might of the roaring boiler, Force of the engine's thrust, Strength of the sweating troller, Greatly in these we trust, But back of them stands the schemer, The Thinker who drives things through, Back of the Job—the Dreamer Who's making the dream come true!

BIGGER DEMAND FOR LABOR.

The employment service of the Department of Labor reports that the employment offices established co-operatively by the Dominion and Provincial Governments are continuing to show increased activity. Eighty-eight offices are now in operation in the various provinces, and at the end of June it was shown that some 11,680 applicants for work were on the books of the exchanges. Placements numbered 5,714 for the last week in June, the latest figures available.

During the week mentioned, the 88 offices reported that 6,555 were referred to positions and the number mentioned above placed. This is the highest placement figure recorded since the operation of the labor bureaus and represents an increase of 209 over the preceding week, when the regular placements totaled 5,505. During the same week 7,297 applicants were registered, of whom 5,716 were men. In Ottawa the number of applicants unplaced at the end of the week was 325, with a total of 136 placements in regular jobs.

Employers' reports to the employment service of the Department of Labor indicate a considerable increase in the volume of employment in Ontario and Quebec during the last week in June and a decline during the first week of July, followed, however, by a greater anticipated increase during the succeeding week.

TORONTO BAKERS' BOARD.

Hon. Justice Denton has been named by the Department of Labor as chairman of the Board of Conciliation which will inquire into the dispute between the master bakers of Montreal and their delivery men. F. H. McGuigan will represent the twenty employers and W. A. Clay the employees.

STREET CAR MEN TO MEET.

International President Mahon, of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees, has issued a call for the regular convention, to be held in Chicago, beginning September 8.

MIDLAND ORGANIZES TRADES COUNCIL.

Another central labor body has been added to the already long list of workers' parliaments in Ontario. Midland, Ont., having organized and being granted a charter by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. The officials on charter are: President, D. Kennedy; vice-president, A. Brokenshire; secretary-treasurer, W. Dudley; recording secretary, P. Pringle.



THINKING MEN DISLIKE THE O.B.U.

Of the One Big Union, the American Federationist says: "Persons who reach conclusions and formulate policies and remain faithful to those conclusions and those policies persons who arrive at conclusions through processes of emotion and who formulate policies to fit conclusions so reached are certain to find themselves in disagreement quickly. Emotion is not stable. Passing breezes blow it hither and beyond and render it the most unstable of all things."

The American Federation of Labor and the United Mine Workers of America condemn it; thinking union men despise it. It is of some importance that an advocate who disavows the One Big Union should have confidence in the idea to place it before the Atlantic City convention where it might stir up its merits before the whole mass of labor opinions of America.

The Butte Free Lance speaking on the question of the One Big Union says: "Winnipeg had its lesson and Butte has had nearly enough to thoroughly awaken the workers to the fact that the One Big Union is a failure. There is no place in American unionism for this fallacy and the rank and file will never consent to the destruction of the only power which has benefited them. But we must be constantly on guard or they will 'slip one over' and if they do the constructive efforts of forty years will vanish overnight. Truth is the 'parting of the ways,' and the sooner we impress this fact upon the agitators the sooner shall the work of the legitimate labor movement bear more fruit."

THE BAD CROSSING.

Numerous street crossings offer opportunities for accidents. Watch your step when crossing a street. A block out of place; a hole in the pavement; a fruit bin or a smear of grease may bring you down. Watch your step.

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