

# Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

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Following in brief is an outline of our Policy:

1. The "Canadian Labor Press" strongly condemns and continually opposes all forms of Communism and Radicalism in Canada.
2. "The Canadian Labor Press" endeavors to present all labor and industrial problems from a commonsense point of view with the idea of closer co-operation and a better understanding between employer and employee.
3. In the interests of the Canadian Worker, The Canadian Labor Press believes that Canadian industry needs adequate tariff protection.
4. The Canadian Labor Press advocates fair play to employer and employee.
5. The Canadian Labor Press stands for the betterment of Trade Union conditions in Canada and the welfare of our country at large.
6. The Canadian Labor Press is independent in politics and free from any political influence.

### Stretching the Constitution

CONSIDERABLE speculation is being indulged in as to the outcome of the session of the new Parliament elected on the 29th of October last. According to press reports, Mr. King, the defeated Prime Minister, will meet Parliament at an early date, probably December 10th. This decision is presumably based on a condition arising in Great Britain after the defeat of the Baldwin Government in 1922 when that Government met a new Parliament and did not resign until a vote of no confidence had met with the approval of the House.

The situation existing in Ontario in 1919 when the U. F. O. members constituted the largest group in the House, is also used as a precedent for the present occasion.

Constitutional authorities who incline to the view that Mr. King does not require to give up power until Parliament meets forget that both the Baldwin situation and the 1919 situation in Ontario were different in two very important respects from that at present existing in our Federal politics. Mr. Baldwin headed the largest group in the British House; Mr. King does not head the largest group in the New Parliament. Mr. Drury headed the largest group in the Ontario House; Mr. King does not head the largest group in the new Parliament.

If Mr. King's position is constitutionally sound, then Sir William Hearst after the 1919 election in Ontario should not have resigned and allowed a Farmer-Labor coalition to take office, but on the contrary should have allowed his Party to meet the first session of the new legislature and allow the legislature to decide as to the Party or Parties required to form the new Government. We all know that Sir William Hearst had a much better appreciation of the constitutional issue than Mr. King seems to have and a much finer standard of Public Morality.

In the British case, had Mr. Baldwin been the leader of the second largest group as Mr. King is, then he would not have waited for Parliament to meet but would have asked His Majesty to allow the largest group to form a Government in order that the business of the country could be carried on.

It will be seen then that so far from Mr. King being in a sound constitutional position as the result of the elections and the action announced by him, he is in a very precarious position, one that all lovers of constitutional Government must deplore. It is understood that pressure from the Quebec Liberal members has forced him to take the stand announced and everyone who realizes that there is a sound instinctive adherence to the constitution in Quebec will regret that members from that province have exercised such pressure because if the constitution can be stretched in order to meet the exigencies of the Liberal Party in the present impasse, then assuredly the precedent set up will be used against Quebec in the future, probably to her disadvantage on an event that all those who desire National Unity will regard as deplorable.

### "Soviet" Toleration

A GREAT outcry was raised some time ago by the "Reds" of Canada and the U.S. regarding the action of the United States Government prohibiting the visit of Shapurji Saklatvala, Communist member of Battersea, England, to America. One would imagine from the uproar that a terrible blow to freedom had been struck by the action of the American Secretary of State.

Apparently however the Soviet Government does not require any lessons in the art of prohibiting those whom it does not wish to see things from visiting Russia as the International News Service published by the International Federation of Trade Unions reports that the Soviet Government refused permission of Norris Pierard, Socialist Deputy in the Belgian Chamber, to visit Russia the prohibition being based on political grounds, although he had a recommendation from Krassin, Soviet Minister. The International News Service very pertinently remarks that the world will be able to judge the statements of those who do visit Russia as they evidently are sympathetic to Soviet views and only see what the Russian authorities want them to see. This episode shows that there is no more freedom for those who are opposed to the views of the Russian authorities than for those who are opposed to the views of the late Czarist Government and reveals quite clearly the farcical pretence at democracy that exists in Russia.

### Teachers' Salaries Finally Fixed

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.—An issue which has for the past four months engaged the attention of the Advisory Industrial Committee of the Sault Technical Institute has been brought to a close with the final adoption of a maximum wage schedule for teachers employed in the institution.

The schedule which has been approved without being submitted to the Teachers' Federation, provides for the grading of salaries from a maximum of \$3,000 for male graduate specialists down to a minimum of \$2,000 for non-graduate, non-specialist female teachers.

### Lumber Industry Is Active

Quebec, Que.—So considerable is the activity reigning this year in the lumber camps in the Chocomaui, Lake St. John and Abitibi districts that an average of two or three hundred men per week are being dispatched by the Provincial Employment Bureau.

Concurrent with the increase in the demand as compared to last year, wages are also higher and in certain instances reach between \$60 to \$75 per month. The season promises to be the most active recorded in the lumber industry for many years, and prospects are that the conditions will still further improve.

### Increase Work This Winter

Quebec, Que.—Inquiries made at the Aluminum Corporation offices at Chute A. Caron recently elicited the information that there was no intention of the officials of the company to stop the work during the winter months contrary to reports in that sense, which have been current. In fact, it was stated that instead of such a move the company intended to increase the number of its men at Chute A. Caron.

### Objection by Labor to Foreign Experts

Toronto, Ont.—Protests were made at the District Labor Council meeting against the employment of foreign experts and alien laborers on the North Toronto drainage system, and the new sewage disposal works. The City Council will be asked to act in accordance with the wishes of labor in this regard.

### To Construct Power Line

Winnipeg, Man.—Immediate construction of a transmission line from Great Falls to Fort Alexander by the Manitoba Power Company will be started as a result of the contract negotiated by the company for supply of all electric service and power requirements to the Manitoba Pulp and Paper Company at Fort Alexander. Approximately \$2,000,000 will have to be spent by the power company in putting itself in a position to carry out this power contract.

### Winnipeg R.R.M. Operate I-Man Cars

Winnipeg, Man.—Members of the Winnipeg Street Railway employees, have agreed to operate one-man street cars, and will not strike, it was announced by officials recently.

### Laborites Remain Aloof

Winnipeg, Man.—Forkes and other five Progressives, who survived the snow storm that practically obliterated the Farmers' bloc, are buzzing around Winnipeg at present. Overtures were made to induce the two Winnipeg Labor members to attend their caucus, but both Woodworth and Heaps refused to be lured into any compromising associations. No matter what Forkes and his Manitoba followers agree to gossip around Farmer circles freely declares that the eight Alberta members are gingers, subject to no control from Forkes or others, while the six Saskatchewan political farmers, saved from the wreck, are not certain to be amenable to any compromise their old leader may suggest.

### Compensation Awards for October

The Workmen's Compensation Board awarded during the month of October \$482,522.40 in benefits to injured workmen and their dependents, \$399,628.81 of this being for compensation and \$82,893.59 for medical aid.

The accidents reported during the month numbered 5,761, of which 30 were fatal, as compared with 5,507 during September, of which 34 were fatal, the number of accidents reported during October being the highest for any month this year.

### Getting Ready for Election

Drumheller—Frank Leary, Provisional President of District 1, Mine Workers' Union of Canada, has spent the week in Drumheller getting the units of the Mine Workers' Union linked up with the District and getting everything ready for the election that will take place on November 30th for District Officers.

### Protest Coal Comes To Canada

Washington—Buffalo and one or two other cities in the northern section of New York state, which are reported as suffering because of scarcity of hard coal, have complained to the federal authorities here of alleged large shipments of anthracite passing through to Canada.

### Bolshevik "Freedom"

Comrade Louis Pierard, deputy in the Belgian Chamber and member of the editorial side of the Belgian Party paper, "Le Peuple," had intended to undertake a journey to Russia. Although he had among others a letter of recommendation from Krassin himself, he was informed that the Russian Government on political grounds could not grant him permission to enter.

Comrade Pierard in the Belgian Chamber is the elected representative of the Belgian miners of Mons, and owing to knowledge of languages he is, through many international gatherings well known in the international labor movement. If this "workers' delegate" may not go to Russia, which he wished to do at his own expense, this would seem seriously to reflect on the various "workers' delegations, which are dispatched at the expense of the Russian Government. That the Russian Government is afraid of the observations which a socialist M. P. could make in Russia throws a singular light on its estimate of other "travelers" to and from Russia one meets. One will now know better what to think of the impressions of these travelers.

### American Negro Labor Congress

The first American Negro Labor Congress, at its opening business session, voted unanimously to endorse a resolution condemning the officialdom of the American Federation of Labor for refusing to organize the Negro workers into the existing unions, condemning the traitors to the Negro race who profit by attempting to recruit scabs from among the ranks of the colored workers, and demanding the immediate removal of all restrictions in all unions upon the membership of Negroes.

### In Quebec Forests

Between 20,000 and 25,000 men are expected to work in the forests of the province of Quebec during the coming winter, according to the chief forester of the province. It is anticipated there will be a good season in the pulp and paper products, but the cut of timber will not be as heavy as in former seasons, due to the low price prevailing for sawn lumber.

### Arrest Trade Union Leaders

Nineteen leaders of the Unitarian Confederation of Labor were arrested in the Buchanan trade union local. These workers, who were arrested, form the General Trade Union Commission, and had come to an ordinary meeting where the following questions were on the agenda for the day: the trade union position, trade union congress, election of members for the labor councils, council election, the press, trade congress, industrial internationalists, etc.

### SEAMEN'S STRIKE GETS A SEVERE SETBACK

Brisbane, Australia.—The seamen's strike had a severe setback recently when two steamers manned chiefly by volunteer union men left this port for Sydney.



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### Ontario's Minerals

The outstanding metallic products of Ontario are silver, nickel and gold. The gross value of these to the end of 1924 follows:—silver, \$234,392,000; nickel, \$197,600,000; and gold \$154,419,000.

Of silver, the production in 1924 was 9,961,315 ounces, or over fifty per cent of that from all Canada. The Cobalt silver mines have been in operation for over twenty years, and to the end of 1924, along with outlying areas such as Gowganda and South Lorrain, have yielded over 350 million ounces, worth approximately \$200,000,000. The yield is now at the rate of about 10,000,000 ounces per year.

Ontario is the only producer of nickel in the Dominion, and supplies ninety per cent of the world's requirements of this metal. Post-war depression has passed away, and in 1924 the nickel mining industry functioned on better than a pre-war scale. The nickel deposits of Sudbury yield large quantities of copper as a by-product, also important quantities of platinum metals.

Of gold, Ontario's production in 1924 was over eighty per cent of the entire output of Canada, and had a value of \$25,600,297. The increase in output over 1923 exceeded 5 1/2 million dollars. At the present time, the yield is approximately 2 1/2 million dollars per month, principally from Porcupine and Kirkland Lake, or more than one-half that of the entire United States.

The metal mines of Ontario occur in the pre-Cambrian formations which cover seventy per cent of the entire northland. Only the southern fringe of these formations has been penetrated. The development of new mining areas means the expenditure of money for supplies and labour, and the new wealth created is gradually distributed to all classes of the community.

The Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway represents an asset of 37 million dollars, and the Ontario Government shows its faith in the north country by providing branch lines where business warrants. In 1924 the Larder Lake Branch 22 1/2 miles and South Lorrain Branch of 17 miles, were completed. Mine products represented last year 22 per cent of the railway earnings.

For lists of publications, maps of mining areas, geological reports and other information, apply to

HON. CHARLES MCCREA, Minister of Mines

THOS. W. GIBSON, Deputy Minister of Mines TORONTO, CANADA.

The labor unions of Soviet Russia have invited the Danish unions to send a delegation of twenty members to visit the Soviet workers and investigate the conditions under which the Russian workers live.



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