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STRONG PLATFORM IS ADOPTED BY ORGANIZED LABOR

League of Nations Covenant Meets With Strong Approval

COMPREHENSIVE POLICY
American Federation of Labor in Convention at Atlantic City

Unqualified endorsement is given the peace treaty and league of nations covenant by the executive committee of the American Federation of Labor in its report, submitted to the annual federation convention which opened at Atlantic City, N.J., Monday.

The basic principles of a lasting peace are in the treaty, the report says, and adds that with a peace so built, "the world has in truth been made safe for democracy."

The covenant of the league of nations, the report continues, "must meet the unqualified approval and support of the American working people. It is not a perfect document and perfection is not claimed for it. It does, however, mark the nearest approach to perfection that has ever been reported in the international affairs of mankind. We declare our endorsement of the triumphs of freedom and justice and democracy as exemplified in the covenant of the league of nations."

"Discussing the peace treaty as a whole the report states:

"The introduction on nine specific labor clauses in the peace treaty that the 'well being, physical and moral of the industrial wage earners is of supreme international importance.' No such declaration has ever been written into international law through any previous treaty of peace and it is due to the efforts of American labor more than to any other single factor that it appears in this emphatic form in the present treaty."

The report reviews the Pan-American labor conference held at Laredo, Tex. in November. A long reconstruction program called the "most complete and most constructive yet made in this country" is set forth in the report.

The measures making up the program are:

Democracy in Industry
The report declares it essential that workers should insist upon their right to organize into trade unions; that legislation should be passed making it a criminal offense for employers to attempt to interfere with the rights.

Unemployment
Unemployment, the report says, is caused by under consumption, which in turn, is caused by low wages.

Wages
After declaring that there is no method for obtaining just wages except through the trade union movement, the report says:

"The workers of the nation demand a living wage for all wage earners, skilled or unskilled—a wage that will permit the workers and his family to live in health and comfort."

Hours
The report reiterates the demand for an eight-hour day with overtime prohibited except in emergencies.

Women in Industry
Women, the report says, should receive the same pay as men for equal work performed and must not be permitted to perform tasks disproportionate to their physical strength.

Child Labor
"Exploitation of the child for private gain must not be permitted," the report says, calling for laws to protect children.

Status of Public Employees
Public employees should have the rights as citizens.

Co-operation
The report recommends solution of production, transportation and distribution problems through co-operation, declaring the middleman can be eliminated in this way. The people's final voice in legislation.

The report recommends legislation to allow laws once held unconstitutional to become effective if re-enacted.

Political Policy
The report opposes a "political party" and says better results can be secured to labor by non-partisan support of candidates known to be friendly.

Government Ownership
"Public and semi-public utilities should be owned, operated or regulated by the government in the interest of the public," the report says. Whatever disposition is made of the railroads, rights of employees must be protected.

Encouragement of merchant marine under government control is recommended with granting to seamen same rights as other workers.

Waterways and Waterpower
Legislation for development of waterpower by the federal government and states is recommended.

Ownership of Land
To wipe out "feudal tenancy farming," the report recommends a graduated.

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RAILWAY FEDERATION OF SHOPMEN ORDERED TO LAY DOWN TOOLS

Owing to inability to arrive at an amicable agreement with the Railway War Board the Railway Shopmen of America of District No. 4 were called on strike Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. This has nothing to do with the Winnipeg situation whatsoever, nor does the One Big Union enter into it. It is a straight crafts' union fight. All of Canada will be affected. With the shopmen out all over the country it means that railroad transportation will be completely tied up unless an adjustment is arrived at before the rolling stock gets out of order.

A committee representing the shopmen have been seeking negotiations with the war board for several months. Negotiations started several weeks ago. Some thirty-five thousand men are affected.

LIME FITTER FOR RETURNED VETERANS TO VISIT CITY

Mr. Prosser, lime fitter for the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, will be in Edmonton on Monday, June 16th at the Department's Orthopaedic Headquarters, St. Regis block, Namaya avenue. All men having alterations required for their artificial limbs are requested to attend on this date.

FIRST NEWSPAPER WRITERS' UNION FORMED IN CANADA

Reporters on the French and English newspapers in Montreal have organized a union with a charter from the International Typographical Union. It is claimed that this is the first newspaper writers' union formed in Canada. The purposes are: "To promote the professional and general interests of the members by encouraging a higher professional standard, by raising the rate of remuneration, by regulating the hours of work, and by providing adequate compensation for overtime and special work."

TELEGRAPH OPERATORS GOING OUT ON MONDAY

Commercial Telegraphers all over the United States expect to quit their keys on Monday as a result of inability to reach satisfactory working conditions with the telegraph companies. A complete paralysis of business is anticipated. This strike is the old line trade union variety supported by the International.

PORTLAND UNION SUPPORTS LABOR PUBLICATION

The new union of jewelry workers and salesmen at Portland, Oregon, voted recently to subscribe for the entire membership for the "Oregon Labor Press," the official publication of Central Labor Council of Portland and vicinity, and the Oregon State Federation of Labor. The new union is showing by its activity its desire to be foremost in movements for the betterment of Labor.

NOVA SCOTIA IS THREATENED WITH GENERAL STRIKE

A general strike, to begin on Dominion Day, July 1, is threatened by the workers of Nova Scotia, but the indications are that it will be possible to avert this action, which would tie up all the mines and factories of the Province. There is considerable unrest in labor circles of Nova Scotia. The unrest is not confined to the workers in Nova Scotia, but there are evidences of it also in other parts of the maritime provinces.

CALGARY CIVIC EMPLOYEES VOTE AGAINST STRIKE

The strike situation in Calgary continues to be a fifty-fifty proposition. In other words, it is pretty much of a saw-saw affair. Today the bricklayers walked out, but the press telegraphers and the C.N.R. freight handlers are back.

There will be no sympathetic strike of any civic employees. For the second time unions belonging to the civic federation have voted overwhelmingly against joining in the sympathetic strike. This includes street railwaymen, electricians, power house men, waterways employees, all outside men and all the city hall staff.

INCREASED TRADE ONLY SALVATION, SAYS TRADE COMMISSIONER

The Canadian national debt in 1914 totalled \$46 a head. It is now over \$270. Increased trade only, says the Canadian Trade Commission can help us to carry the new burden.

NEW ZEALAND'S PRACTICAL TEST OF CO-OP STORES

Co-Operators' Ideas Not to Shuffle Existing State of Society But to Replace It

LADIES' GUILD USEFUL

Why Not Mankind Hire Money Instead of Money Hiring Mankind

The objects of the Canterbury Industrial Co-operative Society, Ltd., of New Zealand, are:

Co-operative action in trade by co-operation in order to reduce the elements of waste, to promote the material betterment of those who become members. To try as far as possible to adopt the principle of each for all and all for each. To eliminate the worst features of competition, to educate men as citizens and to unite them in brotherly sympathy.

The Co-operative movement is an economic movement founded on a moral basis, aiming at the substitution of the destructive system of unlimited competition by the life-giving method of co-operation. No one can fail to recognize that co-operation is not a moral or social movement in itself, has had the benefit of many high moral and social tendencies to stimulate and foster it. It is a principle for the maintenance and development of civilization. So much so that there can be no form of reconstruction after the war which does not lead people to the collective possession and control of the essentials of life.

The ideas of co-operators are not to reshuffle the existing state of society but to replace it. The above principles have been subjected to a minute and searching examination by the founders of the movement in Christchurch, it was decided to put the principles to a practical test. A store was opened at 647 Colombo street, on July 24th, 1918, with a membership of 165, and a paid-up capital of \$234 17s 6d.

Advantages
The first ten weeks trading enabled the society to declare a dividend of 11% on the £1 on purchases, paid off all preliminary expenses and carried forward a substantial balance.

All kinds of goods can be purchased at the store at the prices ruling in the open market. Cutting prices or selling at reduced rates is not countenanced whatsoever. But only the best quality of goods, free from adulteration or fraud of any kind are kept in stock.

A Fire and Accident Insurance business is carried on, the Society being agents for the Guardian Assurance Company. All kinds of risks are undertaken on property, motor cars, as well as accident.

Owing to the steady progress both of trade and membership, plans are being prepared for the establishment of new departments.

Quarterly statements are made up showing the profit for the three months' trading, such profit, after deducting an amount for reserve and depreciation is then allocated according to the amount of purchases of each member.

The Capital of the Society is made up of £5-shares, free of interest. Each member has one share only and one vote.

Loan Capital
The Society accepts Loan Capital up to the sum of £200, which bears a fixed rate of interest at 5 per cent, also when the full share has been paid up, members' dividends can be left in the Society as loan capital and earn 5 per cent interest.

In an ordinary business a company is an assemblage of dollars for the purpose of hiring mankind to secure profits for the dollars. Co-operation is the assemblage of mankind for the purpose of hiring dollars to save profits for mankind. Why not mankind hire money instead of money hiring mankind, and after paying money its legitimate hire, divide the remaining profit among the purchasers.

Ladies' Guild
This will become a very useful part of the co-operative movement in that it will assist the lady members to gain valuable knowledge in every department of their activities as well as assist the movement by spreading knowledge of its advantages.

TORONTO PAINTERS GET 65c PER HOUR

The strike of the painters, decorators and paper hangers at Toronto terminated successfully and a rate of 65 cents an hour is established, all contracting painters falling in line.

MONTREAL PATTERN MAKERS SECURE EIGHT HOUR DAY

The Pattern Makers' Union at Montreal, has established the 44-hour week.

NOVA SCOTIA CO-OP STORE SUCCESSFUL

The last quarterly report of the British Canadian Co-operative Society, Ltd., of Sydney Mines, N.S., contains a table showing the progress of the society from the first to the twelfth year of its existence. The sales of the society rose from \$16,913.18 during the first year to \$675,294.94 in the twelfth year. The membership increased from 85 to 1,550, and share and loan capital from \$1,710.11 to \$88,692.43, while the amount paid in purchase dividends was \$508.29 in the first year and \$71,029.81 in the twelfth year. The aggregate trade amounted to \$2,561,628.40. The total interest paid on capital amounted to \$19,206.28, the sum of \$262,026.39 has been returned to the consumers as purchase dividends, and the sum of \$12,000 has been transferred to the reserve fund out of the surplus revenue.

STARVATION POLICY NOW INAUGURATED

Food Combines Refusing to Sell Goods on Usual Terms During Strike

Winnipeg food vendors are virtually eliminating all credit during the strike. No new accounts are being opened and old customers are being rigidly checked up, and if too far behind dropped off the books.

Persons known to be on strike are asked for credit from butchers and grocers in ever increasing numbers and are being refused.

Some of the packing houses are eliminating their "seven day" credit to the retail trade. One Portage avenue butcher who has been in the meat business here for fourteen years and "owes not any man," received a notice from a local packing house to the effect that during the strike it had adopted a cash and carry system with all its trade.

Stories of strikers threatening dealers with wrecking their stores if no credit is extended, are current in the city. One Sargent avenue butcher who has been giving almost unlimited credit and who found it necessary to stop doing so, has been subjected to some very "hot language," but no actual, definite threats were made against him so far, he said.

People are buying necessities and eliminating the fancy stuffs, groceries decline. One downtown butcher declared that orders are so small that the business losses on the time taken to put them up. "People ask for as little as five or ten cents worth of stuff at a time," he said, "and that in meats!"

PLAIN TEN; PURL SEVEN

Thirty-seven days absent last year in addition to holidays, was the average for each employee of one branch of the interior department, according to evidence submitted to the committee of the commons, which is inquiring into the civil service.

"No epidemic is so serious as the epidemic to have a few days' holidays," said Dr. Michael Steel.

Mr. H. H. Stevens thought the absence privilege was being flagrantly abused.

Mr. W. W. Cory, deputy minister of the interior, said that to remedy conditions they must get to the Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Boys stated he had been told that all the jerseys and other knitted garments made in the civil service during working hours in one year would be sufficient to outfit a small army.

BOLSHEVIK AGENTS ARE FOUND WHERE LEAST EXPECTED

A collection of reports on Bolshevism in Russia, presented to the Parliament of Great Britain by command of His Majesty, being condensed, and issued by the Department of Public Information at Ottawa, contains the following extract on the Bolshevist Plans for World Revolution. "Bolshevism in Russia offers to our civilization no less a menace than did Prussianism, and until it is ruthlessly destroyed we may expect trouble, strikes, revolutions everywhere. The German military party are undoubtedly working hand in hand with Russian Bolshevists with the idea of spreading Bolshevism ultimately to England, by which time they hope to have got over it themselves, and to be in a position to take advantage of our troubles. For Bolshevist propaganda unlimited funds are available. No other country can give their secret service such a free hand, and the result is that their agents are to be found where least expected."

BUILDERS QUIT WHEN CONTRACTORS REFUSE INCREASE

The Brotherhood of Builders' Union at Quebec, made a request for a wage increase and was turned down by their employers. A strike resulted. Now the increase is put in their envelopes each week.

TORONTO NURSES DEMAND 8-HOUR DAY

Toronto, June 12.—Nurses employed in all city hospitals have served six months' notice upon the hospital management of their intention to strike unless granted an eight-hour day.

RECONSTRUCTION MUST BE BASED ON SOUND FACTS

Revolution is a Human Cyclone Propelled by Fury of Insanity

POWER OF PEOPLE LIES IN ORDER

Nation Built on Conservative Principles is Fortified Against Revolution

Reconstruction to be effective must be based upon sound economic facts.

Briefly, that should be the position of the Department of Labor in promoting building, an industry that was stopped during the war, one that is necessary to the progress of the country, adding to its wealth and its taxable resources. Every new building erected helps society in various ways. When carried on in a large way—nationally, for instance—the building industry sets in motion all other industries. Thus at this time it is the chief material source for the useful employment of the labor which during the war was engaged in war work and presents means for absorbing the soldiers mustered out of the nation's service.

Building, then, besides being useful, necessary and beneficial, in a measure assumes a patriotic aspect. Love of country means more than mere shouting for victory, cheering heroes and saluting the flag. It means work for the good of the country, for the peace and prosperity of the people and for the maintenance of order.

These conditions cannot prevail if the people are idle. Idleness will produce industrial unrest; that, in turn, will arouse discontent and discontent breeds revolution.

Revolution wipes out order, reason, reverence, sentiment—everything that is sacred falls before revolution. The goal of revolution is attained at that point when its fury is spent. There it stops. Out of its debris may come good, may rise some noble principle, may develop a great power exercised with benevolence. But that no man can direct, for revolution is not to be controlled. It surges, sways, sweeps on without heed of the sorrow, the hardships, the suffering that is left in the path of the storm.

Revolution is a human cyclone propelled by madness.

Hunger and misery are the parents of revolution, but when hunger is appeased and misery assuaged they cannot check their wayward child. Revolution destroys. It is irresponsible because it recognizes no authority.

The power of the people lies in order, in generous consideration, in sympathetic understanding and in conservative action. A nation built upon these principles is fortified against revolution. They are the forces which arrest destruction. Industry sustains them.

Reconstruction then, must be founded upon industry.

Employment of men merely to give them something to do without producing things that will be useful or without adding to the world's wealth is wasteful.

TORONTO FIRMS GRANT BETTER WAGE SCHEDULE

On Monday, Hobberlins, Limited, of Toronto, inaugurated a 40-hour week for their employees. The week will be spread over five days, thus giving the 400 employees all day Saturday off.

The five-day work arrangement is for the entire year. While working only 40 hours a week, the men are paid for 44 hours. Hobberlins' employees are members of the Amalgamated Garment Workers' Union and did not participate in the sympathetic strike with the metal trades workers.

A forty-four hour week, accompanied by an increase of 20 per cent. on the per hour wage scale is announced by the W. K. Kellogg Cereal Company, whose Canadian factory is located in Toronto.

Hitherto the employees of this company have been working forty-eight hours per week.

Under the new scale their earnings will be higher for forty-four hours' work than previously for forty-eight hours.

QUEBEC BOOKBINDERS SECURE INCREASE

The Brotherhood of Bookbinders' Union at Quebec, made a request for a wage increase and was turned down by their employers. A strike resulted. Now the increase is put in their envelopes each week.

TORONTO NURSES DEMAND 8-HOUR DAY

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VANCOUVER POSTAL WORKERS REFUSE TAKE STRIKE VOTE

The postal workers of Vancouver, at a meeting Monday night refused by an unanimous vote to take a strike ballot, declaring that the attitude was not changed by events of the past six days in the strike brought about in sympathy with Winnipeg and striking postmen of that city, who have been dismissed from the public service. For the past several days, extreme pressure has been brought upon the postmen to force them from the service.

The meeting expressed the view that there was nothing to strike for, and the further view was expressed that no further vote would be taken nor further meetings held to discuss the Winnipeg situation.

TORONTO STREET RAILWAYMEN WANT EIGHT HOUR DAY

The Street Railway Employees Union at Toronto, has notified the Toronto Railway Company that after June 16 it will insist on putting in force the straight eight-hour day, a 55-cent and hour scale and time and a half for overtime.

MACHINISTS FORM NEW INTERNATIONAL UNION AT COAST

A new machinists' union was organized at a meeting held on Friday last in the Labor Temple, Vancouver, B.C. It is composed of members of the defunct Local 777, who have adhered to the international and rejected the One Big Union. The new organization will be known as Local 692.

It will be remembered that the charter of Local 777 was withdrawn by the international when a majority of the members voted in favor of the One Big Union. The new organization, No. 692, has a strong membership and there are new members joining all the time.

VANCOUVER SITUATION DECLARED SATISFACTORY

Vancouver's general strike is taking pretty much the same course as other cities. Jitneys give service in place of the street cars. Loading of vessels along the waterfront is severely handicapped. The strike comes as near being a general tying up of activities as it is practical to bring about.

PRINCE ALBERT HAS BIG CO-OP BUSINESS

In the fiscal year ended August, 1918, the United Grain Growers and the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company at Prince Albert, Sask., did a gross business of \$102,000,000. The major part of this business was the handling of 29,876,672 bushels of grain from the time it left the spout of the threshing machine to the mill or on board ship for export. The company also handles livestock, sells farm supplies and operates a real estate agency. It leases a terminal elevator of 2,500,000 bushels capacity at Fort William and has 343 elevators in three provinces.

METER INSTALLERS REQUEST INCREASE IN PAY ENVELOPE

Water meter installers employed by the city, members of the trade workers in the union of municipal employees, have requested City Commissioner Ormsby for an increase in wages of five or ten cents an hour. The men have been working for 45 cents for several years. The commissioner failed to concede the request. The union is now considering the situation with the hope of a reconsideration of the question. Five or six men are affected.

PRESS WIRES OF LOCAL DAILIES RESUME OPERATIONS

The two press telegraphic operators at The Bulletin and the one at the Edmonton Journal received instructions from Winnipeg to resume work at one o'clock on Wednesday, and as a result the Canadian Press wires of the Edmonton papers began operations again Wednesday afternoon.

The press operators for the city papers have been out since the general strike began in Edmonton, on May 28.

ORDER OF RAILWAY CONDUCTORS BREAK OLD TRADITIONS

The Order of Railway Conductors, closing a three weeks' session at St. Louis, Mo., voted to make application for admission into the American Federation of Labor. This is a break in the traditions of the Order of Railway Conductors, which has steadfastly refused for years to affiliate with the American Federation of Labor.

ORGANIZED LABOR'S ONE GREAT PURPOSE WORLD'S FREEDOM

Labor Has Fought to Free Itself From Old Idea of Inequality

LEGISLATIVE METHODS FAIL

Trade Union Method More Effective Than Political Way of Obtaining Justice

From the time that workmen first organized themselves into trade unions they have had one great purpose, the establishment of industrial freedom for the toilers.

The liberty to worship the Almighty as they pleased, the right to vote on all political questions as they desired, was not sufficient to make them free men. Unless they were free men in reality when they entered the employer's service and during employment, the other two forms of liberty were not sufficient to protect their rights, their welfare, and some of their most essential rights.

As a group, the employers have vigorously opposed any extension of industrial liberty to their employees, for their desire has been to retain control or mastery over them. They have believed that to give labor an equal voice in determining the terms of employment would be to give concessions to workmen which they were unwilling to grant. As labor began to organize, employers were assisted by legislative bodies and courts of law in denying labor's right to industrial freedom. Parliaments enacted measures making any combinations of two or more workmen who agreed to act collectively to improve their terms of employment, illegal conspiracies. Courts handed down decision after decision which, regardless of their verbiage, gave strength to the thought that the only way to protect the employer's liberty of action in the industries was by preventing labor from exercising an equivalent right.

In our day labor organizations are no longer illegal conspiracies and the workers are held to be as free in the industrial world as their employers; they are presumed to enjoy equal rights and equal opportunities. But there are many conditions which continue to limit the workers' industrial liberty and opportunity, some of these, unfortunately, due to the workers' failure to recognize or understand certain fundamental principles.

Through the trade union method the workers have collectively dealt directly with their employers in all matters affecting the terms of employment; that is, the wage rate, the hours of labor, and the recognition and application of certain shop rules and regulations, while through the legislative or political method they have sought to regulate those conditions affecting labor which could not be covered or included by agreements which could be secured with the employers relative to the terms of employment.

Sometimes, because it seemed to be an easier and quicker way, the workers have endeavored to have some of the terms of employment regulated and determined by legislative or political effort instead of through their collective action in dealing with the employer directly, and in one country this method has developed to such an extent that all of the terms of employment, unless voluntarily agreed to by the workers and employers, are determined by courts of conciliation and arbitration. These courts were created through the votes of the workers, who at the time had been led to believe that the regulation of the terms of employment by a specially created judicial body was more advantageous to them than the effort to regulate them through direct trade union activity.

Legislative bodies enact laws and the courts interpret and apply them through the power of the civil government they are able to enforce their decision. The moment that the trade unionists of Australia gave to the courts of conciliation and arbitration the power and authority to determine terms of employment, whether these affected the hours of labor, the wage rate, or trade union rules and regulations, they surrendered a large and vital portion of their industrial liberty, the most valuable right which labor has won since outright slavery existed—the right to strike.

What the Australian workers used to do for themselves as free men, the courts now do for them. These courts do as all other courts have done and all courts will do in the future. They interpret the law, and through this power they find ways to shift the intent of the law when the court is so inclined, and to so transform it at times that it operates in an entirely different manner to what had been intended by those who had the law enacted.

Today the Australian workmen are denied the right to strike; they are fined and sentenced to jail if they do. The courts, through the stroke of a pen, prevent men from having their complaints.

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