

UNIONS ORGANIZE; DENY RUMORS OF GENERAL STRIKE

Many American Federation of Labor Organizers at Work in Montreal Marching all skilled and Unskilled Labor into Line—Object is to Fight Socialism says Chief Organizer Flett.

For some time past there has been going on a quiet move in Montreal labor circles, whose avowed object is to enroll every workman in Montreal—mechanic, skilled and semi-skilled laborer, or simple working man—within the ranks of his appropriate union—and to have that union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. This latter organization, it is emphatically declared, uses the title "American" in the continental, not the United States, sense.

This is the avowed object of the active missionary movement that is being conducted by Mr. J. A. Flett, Dominion Organizer for the A. F. of L., and a number of assistants. But such unusual activity has been displayed here during the past month and is still continuing, that it is feared in many quarters that it portends labor troubles of more than usual magnitude in the spring—that the labor elements are being welded into a homogeneous whole under the aegis of the American Federation of Labor in order to be in position by spring to make extensive demands upon the employers for increased pay.

This thing is characterized with considerable vehemence as a nightmare by the leaders of the labor movement, but it is an idea that will not down. It has taken pretty firm hold in various quarters, and may result in further protective combination amongst the employers, so that they may be ready for any emergency.

Besides Mr. Flett, the following officers are actively engaged in the missionary work for the American Federation of Labor: E. W. A. O'Dell, Boston, general organizer of the Boot and Shoe Workers of North America; Hugh N.Y., general secretary of the Shirt and Laundry Workers; O. F. Hogan, Boston, grand president of the United Boot and Shoe Workers of North America; Hugh Robertson, organizer of the Journeymen Tailors' Union and such well known labor leaders as Messrs. Verville, Garipey, Mathieu, etc.

As a result of their efforts there have been quite lately organized unions of the tanners, quarriers, brass workers, and laundry workers, all affiliated primarily with the International Unions, and secondarily with the A. F. of L. Strong efforts are now being put forth to organize the Street Railway employees, and many other branches of skilled and unskilled labor. "Not looking for trouble, but so as to be quite ready to meet it fairly if it comes," as one of the organizers remarked to the Herald.

HERE NIGHTMARE OF DISEASED IMAGINATION.
"All this talk of impending trouble is the mere nightmare of a diseased imagination amongst our enemies," said Mr. J. A. Flett, the leader of the movement, to the Herald. "There is nothing of the sort brewing. But to give you an idea of what is going on I must give a historic sketch of the A. F. of L. movement."

With this Mr. Flett plunged into a history of the International Labor movement.

"The American Federation of Labor," he said, "with 'American' used in its continental sense—has 118 International organizations, and about 27,000 local unions affiliated with it, with an aggregate membership of over 2,000,000 people. Besides this there are a number of international unions outside the Federation, so that it can be said there are some 3,000,000 workers connected with international organizations. The movement in Canada is part of that continental effort."

"But in addition to this there are some labor organizations of a questionable character, which were at one time attached to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. But owing to their questionable character and their non-connection with any responsible international organization, they were excluded from the Congress. Since getting rid of these questionable elements the international movement in Canada has forged steadily ahead, despite the continual opposition of the employers' associations."

"But these excluded associations got together and formed what is called 'The National Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.' This movement, however, has not gained strength, and to-day it consists of a mere handful of men in the cities of Montreal and Quebec. Its membership is less than 1,000, although its secretary recently had the presumption to tell the Tariff Commission that he represented 10,000 men."

"This we have evolved from the crude methods of years ago to the present position, when we are highly organized, and have our business representatives on the road. A good many of these representatives are now in Montreal to-day. That is simply following the business principle that we must have men to look after our interests."

MANY ORGANIZERS NOW IN MONTREAL.

"In Montreal we have about 7,500 members, but we have very few business agents to look after their interests. Each international body has its own business agent ('walking delegate') and the A. F. of L. has what is known as a general organizer to look after the interests of the International organizations."

"Most of these representatives in Canada are Canadians, but our movement is absolutely continental. The reason most of our headquarters are in the

United States is because they must be as near as may be to the centre of population.

"Trade unionism is the natural outgrowth of the economic conditions of the times, and it has inevitably come to stay. It is an evolutionary, not a revolutionary, movement. It takes different forms, but we are all seized with the practical utility of the movement against all other issues or schisms. We live in the now, but we keep an eye to the future, and we want results for both."

"But there are other labor organizations of a revolutionary character, who seek to precipitate immediate crises and decline to respect the rights of capital. We are not of that school, and we oppose it."

"At the present time there is an organization known as 'The Industrial Workers of the World.' It is a Socialist organization pure and simple, and opposed to the methods of trade unionism, and more especially to the policy of the A. F. of L. This organization is endeavoring to gain a foothold in Montreal and other Canadian cities, but I do not anticipate that the working people of this city or Province will take these people or their theories seriously."

"If there is more work going on in Montreal just now it is simply to counteract the efforts of this Socialistic body. It is our intention to keep organizing until every working man of whatever degree, gets into his respective trade organization. That is all we are doing here."

"These rumors that there is to be trouble in the spring and that we are getting ready for it are mere nightmares of people who are always looking for trouble, or trying to oppose our growth. Their efforts will be about as useful as Mrs. Partington's attempts to sweep back the tide with her broom. It is ridiculous, absurd."

"If honorable employers who are sometimes inveigled into these organizations would meet the workers' representatives in something like the Civic Federation on the other side, when we could select some common ground on which we both could, without loss of

dignity or self-respect, discuss matters of collective bargaining and mutual relationship: I am satisfied this prejudice against us in the minds of the employers would be wiped out. If instead of discouraging their men to go in it would result in the very best of their employes taking offices, with the result that a better class of men would be elected to take charge of the movement, to the mutual benefit of all."

"But there is no suspicion of trouble in the air now," concluded the Dominion organizer.

—Montreal Herald, Dec. 11.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

APPLES IN MANY WAYS.
Stuffed Apples.—Select five even-sized apples, wash and core and fill the cavities with sugar. Place in the dish in which they are to be baked a cupful of water and the juice of one lemon. Bake twenty-five minutes, remove to a serving dish or in the baking dish and place a spoonful of meringue on the top of each apple; brown lightly in a very moderate oven. Serve cold.

Apple Souffle.—Stew nine good, tart apples in very little water; mash smooth; add a cupful of sugar and a tablespoonful of butter while warm. When cool add four well-beaten eggs. Put in a shallow pudding dish and bake in a medium oven until browned over.

Apple Omelet.—Prepare an omelet after any nice recipe. Before folding spread with one cupful of sifted, unsweetened apple sauce; the tarter the better the result, for fruit omelets should be rather piquant. A half saltspoonful of salt and half a bay leaf allowed to each cupful of sauce cooked will give an added zest.

Apple Bread.—Make up two quarts of dough, precisely as if for rusks; when it is very light roll out a cake of it half an inch thick; spread stewed apples over it, and over that another cake rolled like the first; put in a pan to lighten for a short time; bake it; have some thin slices of stewed apples, very tender, when the cake is baked, lay these

apples all over the top, sprinkle them well with sugar, some small bits of butter, and either nutmeg or cinnamon, whichever you like; put it back in the oven long enough for the sugar to form a coating on the top; take it out, and when cold slice it up. This is an excellent bread for tea.

Apple Sauce with Horse Radish.—Cook about ten medium-sized apples, pared and cored, with a very little water (steaming is preferable, as they should be very dry when cooked), pass through a fine sieve and add to the pulp a saltspoonful of salt, four tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar and one-third of a cupful of fresh grated horse radish. Mix fold in an equal bulk of cold cream. Scitable accompaniment for young ducks or geese. If liked, gooseberries (canned or preserved) may be served instead.

Apple Pudding, No. 1.—Fill a pudding dish half full of apple sauce, well seasoned with butter, sugar and nutmeg. Pour over it a batter made of one and a half cupfuls of flour mixed with two heaping teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one-half a teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of lard. Moisten with three-quarters of a cupful of milk, which

should make a batter as stiff as for biscuits. Cook in a steamer for three-quarters of an hour, and serve with either liquid or hard sauce, as preferred.

Delicious Apple Pie.—Pare and core six or eight tart apples; boil a cupful of sugar and half a cupful of water five minutes; add a heaping teaspoonful of butter and one of almond extract; stir, lay in the fruit, cover, bake until tender and set aside to cool. Line a deep pie tin with puff paste, prick with a fork to keep it from blistering, and bake; fill with the fruit, heap a meringue made of the whites of two eggs and two tablespoonfuls of sugar over the top, sprinkle with two tablespoonfuls of shredded blanched almonds, dust with a teaspoonful of sugar, brown slightly in a cool oven and serve very cold.

Apple Float.—Pare and quarter eight ripe apples, preferably greenings; after taking out the core stew them until soft in a little water, to which has been added a stick of cinnamon and sugar to sweeten. Press them through a sieve, and beat into them the whites of four eggs and four tablespoonfuls of sugar. Beat until very light, then serve with whipped cream.

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