

# IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS

Editor Canadian Labor Press.

Sir:—We cannot emphasize too strongly the need for immigration in Canada. From coast to coast, across the thousands of miles of developing development, some up the cry of needed man-power, and with the northward march of settlement still more does the cry go up. We need men to carry on the work of development, we need men to complete the work of development already started, we need men to care for the homes of those who have before been getting many of the wrong kind of settlers.

It is not heresy that in the past, captains of industry, philanthropic institutions and others as well as the Government of the country have brought, along with other settlers, too many workers of a special class, with the result that all across the country and in the older provinces as well, many, many farms lie idle for lack of hands to work them; railroad construction has been retarded of late, traffic and construction in all its branches has been almost at a standstill, and into new areas there has been no progress at all, because these men, who are the result of the present time not coming here—pioneers—should now be pushing their way westward, pushing into new fields and making possible the development of vast productive areas in the northland from Quebec to Alaska—these men are not here and we have not got them.

And not only must we have the pioneers, we must have those other men of brains—to build our traffic roads, to complete our railroads, to construct our highways and to do a thousand different jobs of development that at the present are still undone, with the result that production is lower, and freight rates are relatively higher, and each adds its percentage to the high cost of living.

We need women for domestic purposes and we need them in thousands, and we will need more as development continues; we need domestics of all kinds all over the country—Ontario alone needs 50,000 and the west needs many times more—yet in the past six months we have placed only 2,000.

And the settlers we need are to be had for the asking, and a place to put them to work is to be found by the establishment of an adequate system. The trouble is that we are trying to develop our country backwards. We build up a city first and then when the time comes we try to develop the rural districts. Isn't something badly wrong when even in Ontario, with its beautiful farming climate and its excellent soil, thousands and thousands of farms are only producing at half capacity while every other one of the older provinces show the same state of affairs, and the price of millions of acres of idle, and because of a sparse settlement and scarcity of labor millions of dollars' worth of equipment is destroyed every year through jolting over bad roads.

We can get the men, but because no care at all has been taken in the selection of immigrants to Canada in the past our cities are overcrowded with idle men—artisans, etc.—the market flooded with men of the class we do not at present need, and work enough for a million needing to be done and none to do it.

We want men who are ready and willing to get out and work—on the farms, in the woods, on the roads, we want men of brains, men with a determination to work—we want the unskilled laborer, who is skilled in hard work, and we want them in thousands. We want a modern system of organization to arrange for the placing of them. The Government employment bureaus are doing a splendid work, but they are not the men who are needed. The employer asks for them to be placed. But it isn't enough. We want an organization to put the men on development work—many thousands of farms are idle without a furrow turned, many railroads are needing completion, and no unskilled labor is available to do the work, while the skilled laborer necessarily waits for a job. There is no end scarcely to the need for unskilled labor, not only in Western Canada, but on the farms, and in railroad and traffic road construction, but in the east as well.

No we can get the men. No doubt, in some countries, notably the British Isles, we must exercise great care in the selection of them, because in Britain the laborers are too prone to prefer city life to that of the Great Outdoors; but we can get many thousands of girls from England as housemaids, cooks, etc. In France we can do the same, and there as in the United Kingdom we can get a limited number of unskilled laborers who are ready to accept and adopt the conditions of rural life here. From Poland many thousands good clear-minded men are only waiting the opportunity to come to Canada and take part in the development of the country. From Serbia, Rumania and Czecho-Slovakia the same is true; we can get hundreds of thousands—their number is unlimited. No red Bolsheviki these, but the best that Europe produces, peoples that are used to hard work, who will be willing to labor the harder here since Canada gives better wages and has better hours. Then, too, there are the Scandinavian countries, with their sturdy sons. We have had many of these in the past and we know their worth, but we must have many thousands more—they are good settlers, good citizens, and become good citizens.

And, finally, there is our great neighbor to the south; every year sees an increasing number of settlers available for immigration to Canada; their climate is like ours, their customs are like ours, and all know the language. They can get all their work to do, let us absorb all the surplus all the time from the United States; we know them and they know us, and they have both brains and money in addition to brains—let us take them in their tens of thousands and build a more compact Canada, a Canada that has no unproductive farms and a Canada that has no productive areas, because of no traffic facilities, a Canada with no bad roads—a Canada with no long list of industries showing a dearth of unskilled labor.

But we have to have the organization before we can do it. We want a commission to point out where the men are needed, we want more co-operation between employers of labor and our employment agencies, we want provincial governments that are ready at all time with development work to absorb a temporary surplus of labor, we want co-operation and advice from every county, municipality or corporation in the land to show where the men

are needed, and their numbers, and to assist in getting the men settled and to work.

Then Canada will cease to be a scattered and sparsely settled country with vast unproductive areas patches, a land where the forward march of civilization remains a national balance-sheet carries no industrial "white elephants"—a land that chooses to make the most of its natural resources, the pride of the British Empire and the wonder of the world.

THE MAN ON THE STREET.

## ALABAMA MINERS CONTINUE FIGHT

### Strong Resolution Adopted By State Federation of Labor.

The mine workers of Alabama have been on strike for several months now, in an effort to establish in the coal industry of that state the principle of collective bargaining and the right to organize. The local operators, with the assistance of the Governor, are doing everything in their power to break the strike and compel the men to return to work without the semblance of any recognition of their organization, and worst of all, to forbid the men to organize themselves into an organization that will give them some little protection.

The Alabama Federation of Labor, realizing the scope of this strike and what it will mean to the organized labor movement of the state if the miners lose this fight, called a special convention in Birmingham Oct. 28, 29, 30 for the purpose of outlining definite plans to assist the miners in every way possible. At this convention, among other things done, a resolution was passed asking for the impeachment of the Governor of Alabama, not for placing the soldiers in the mining districts, but for the intolerable orders of the military forces that he is executing, and in permitting to be executed. At this convention a detailed statement of facts was presented to the convention in the form of a resolution, which was unanimously concurred in by the convention, with the additional instructions to the officers of the federation to give same all the publicity they could. The conditions in the mining districts of Alabama are intolerable, un-American and against all rules of justice. Free speech and assembly are denied the men, hundreds of acts are committed against the men and women that are beyond describing.

## ARMY AND NAVY CANTEN BOARD'S PROFITS TO BE DISTRIBUTED.

The amount yet to be received by Canada and other participants in the war from the Army and Navy Canteen Board out of the profits made from canteen in Great Britain is to be arbitrated by the president of the Chartered Accountants' Association of Great Britain and his decision to be final. The total amount from all sources will not exceed \$2,000,000.

Amounts already received, including \$850,000 held in the Central Trust Fund in England and bearing interest at 6 per cent, and \$250,000 belonging to units with no territorial connections, which will be transferred to the central fund. It is also hoped to secure a further total of \$300,000 from the Army and Navy Canteen Board and from the expeditionary force canteens.

Train No. 1 of the Canadian National-Grand Trunk route is operated on schedule designed to meet the convenience of travellers in the mining regions of Northern Ontario. The train is of high standard and modern equipment, and leaves Bonaventure Station, Montreal at 5.00 p.m. daily, arriving Ottawa at 3.00 p.m., North Bay at 5.15 a.m., through car reaching Sudbury at 10.00 a.m. Connection may be made at North Bay with train No. 3, of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, which arrives at Cobalt at 12.10 p.m., Cochrane at 5.30 p.m., and Timmins 5.30 p.m. For full particulars, reservations, etc., apply to any Canadian National-Grand Trunk Agent.

Friend to Motorist: "Yes, a nice little bus. But, I say, old top, the footboards are decidedly low; if you can offer anyone you might be capitalized—what?"—Punch.

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# CANADA IS NOT LOSING POPULATION BY EMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES

## Dominion Government Figures Show Balance in Our Favor—Americans Class as Immigrants Many Who go to United States Temporarily.

A Canadian publication recently which showed that instead of receiving an excess of immigrants over printed statistics from Washington emigrants no less than 604,000 souls left Canada for the United States, against 270,000 entering Canada from the United States, between March 31, 1914, and March 31, 1919. This left an actual net loss from Canada to the U.S.A. of apparently no less than 334,000. The Canadian Immigration Department claims that the United States figures are entirely inaccurate, the tendency in the U.S.A. being to class as immigrants many who in reality do not take up residence there.

The figures in the following table are taken from "Facts and Figures," issued by the Canadian Department of Immigration, and the "World Almanac for 1920," published in the United States. They bear out the foregoing analysis:

From Canada to United States	From United States to Canada
1914..... 251,919	189,798
1915..... 264,830	121,451
1916..... 265,930	132,719
1917..... 275,802	133,909
1918..... 26,123	197,530
1919..... 273,316	605,493*
3-year period..... 1,385,987	138,107

## COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT OF WAGES OF VANCOUVER ISLAND COAL MINERS.

The Cost of Living Commission, appointed on January 21, 1919, to determine every three months the increase in the cost of living for coal miners on Vancouver Island, and to report the amount by which wages should therefore be increased or decreased, forwarded its report for the quarter ending September 30, 1920, to the Department of Labor on October 14, 1920, says the Labor Gazette for November.

The Commission consisted of Mr. John McAllister, representing the miners; Mr. Tully Boyce, representing the operators; and Mr. D. T. Bulger, fair wages officer of the Department of Labor, as chairman.

As in previous investigations, the forms were sent out to the merchants and dealers with whom the majority of miners are accustomed to transact the various towns. The forms contained the same list of groceries, provisions, meats, etc., that was used on previous occasions. The method of computation under review was the same as used on all previous adjustments, namely,

to determine the percentage of increase or decrease, as the case may be, of prices on September 30, over June 30, for groceries, provisions, meats, etc., and to add a further two-fifths of this increase or decrease as an equivalent to cover similar increases or decreases in clothing. An increase of 1.88 per cent. was ascertained, which amounted to an increase in wages of 5 3/4 cents per day where the base rate was \$2 per day, and 6 cents per day where the base rate was \$3.15, the increase in wages to become effective from November 1, 1920, and to apply to all underground service, clerical and office employees.

Retail price lists returned were made by 12 general merchants and seven retail dealers in meat in the towns of Nanaimo, Ladysmith, Cumberland, Courtney, South Wellington, Union Bay, Bevan and Cassidy. Sugar and pork showed marked advances, while slight advances were found in all kinds of flour, lard, soaps, butter, milk, jams, syrups, and evaporated fruits. Beef, mutton, and veal showed a decline as did also all kinds of canned meats.

# TRADE UNIONISM IS A MASS MOVEMENT: THE TOTAL, NOT INDIVIDUALS, COUNT.

Trade union opponents imagine they deliver a telling blow when they point to some wage earner who has risen to executive station.

"This is proof," say our opponents, "that there is room at the top; that the workers have no need for unions if they are industrious and would strive to advance."

Our opponents forget—if they ever knew—that trade unionism is intended to improve conditions on the job.

If one worker in a plant employing 100 is advanced to high position, or if the impossible happened and the 100 workers were advanced, the jobs and the poor working conditions would still remain. The necessity for trade unionism would still exist.

Trade unionism is a mass movement.

It is not intended to make success for the few possible, but to advance workers as a whole by improving the jobs.

When a building is raised, the entire structure is slowly lifted at the same time.

The trade union movement is the jack screw on which wage earners rest. Through this force the wage earners, as a mass, are steadily pushed up, up, up.

When wages are increased it means better homes, food and clothing for the worker and his family, and education for the children. When hours are shortened it means longer life, mental development, a little recreation and relief from the dull monotony of standing before a machine. These result in a higher standard of citizenship.

When sanitary conditions in the shop are secured it means less disease.

The prosperity of an individual worker is nothing in this great humanizing, uplift movement, except where that individual takes advantage of his improved position to urge the cause of justice for the mass, to plead for a larger liberty, to protest against debasing working conditions—to demand that the jobs be bettered.

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# Fulfillment of the Contract

A contract is a sacred obligation. Whenever a labor organization violates its contract and obligations and resorts to an unauthorized "Fool Strike" it destroys its own power, it alienates public support and becomes a destructive force rather than a constructive one. When such an organization cuts away from its intelligent loyal leaders, the reckless hand of the radical agitator seizes the tiller of the plow and lawlessness and brute force are the sowing of Bolshevism.

The intelligent workingman believes in the sanctity of a contract. The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada resolutely faces the question and bitterly condemns the violation of trade agreements and negotiations.

## Ex-President William H. Taft

Of the U. S., On the Sanctity of Contract, Says:

"Labor must realize that when it makes a contract it must fulfill that contract, just as it expects the employer to fulfill his. This is common justice. It cannot hold public confidence nor maintain its high power if it holds lightly its contract obligations and ignores the justice of compliance with them. Our industrial hope," says Mr. Taft, "lies in the conservative labor leader and the progressive employer."

**"There is no room in Canada for the Bolshevist"**  
 Rid Canada Now of the Red Agitators

## Trade Unionism Versus Bolshevism

They do not tread the same path. They are as far apart as the two Poles. Their ideas are eternally in conflict.

Trade Unionism seeks at all times and with honorable means to bring capital and labor together into a better understanding, so both may receive fair and rightful returns.

Trade Unionism has always stood for equity and justice, and for the sanctity of contract. It believes in fair play.

Bolshevism seeks to tear down, to destroy and annihilate.

Bolshevism seeks to do away with every bulwark of society.

Bolshevism is the dream of the shiftless, the lazy. It is nourished by anarchy.

Bolshevism seeks to fatten upon what labor has earned by the sweat of its brow.

Bolshevists toil not, neither do they spin, displaying energy only when they move from feeding place to feeding place, and, like the wolf, they kill only in packs.

# Canada for Canadian is Our Motto

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