

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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The Canadian Labor Press

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

WHEN SOLDIERS GO WEST.

IN the soldiers' language of the trenches to "go West" meant to die; but in Canada, to go West means to have freedom of life and opportunity unbounded. There is a wonderful future for any man of ambition in our great Canadian West. We must get as many as possible of our own Anglo-Saxon people in the great West to leave the great and ever increasing population of foreign born. It is a matter of great satisfaction to note that a Soldier Settlement Board has been appointed at Ottawa to put all returned men who desire Western land, on the farms of our great West. The Minister of the Interior has a bill for presentation to Parliament enabling the Soldier Settlement Board to acquire farm lands within settlement districts and to secure stock and implements for re-sale on specially favorable terms to returned soldier settlers.

Under a recent Order-in-Council the soldier settler who has the necessary farming qualifications and has been approved by the Agricultural Qualification Committee for the province, may select agricultural land anywhere within such province, and if the land so selected can be secured at reasonable cost, and is deemed to be such as will enable him by proper application to earn for himself a living thereon and pay for it, the purchase may be made through the assistance of the Board. The settler will be required at the time of sale to pay-in cash ten per cent. of the purchase price, but if it is so desired the entire payment may be made at this time. Under the Order-in-Council not more than four thousand five hundred dollars may be left outstanding and owing to the Board by the settler at the time of sale. Provision is, however, made to cover cases of men who may not be able to pay the ten per cent., but who have had particularly successful farming experience. Authority is also granted to the Board to acquire and re-sell at cost to any such settler live stock and equipment to a value not exceeding two thousand dollars. This looks like a real business-like move to return to the land all returned men with an inclination for farming.

HAVE ONE WITH THE SENATORS.

THE labor men who favor better beer will no doubt find some satisfaction in the stand of Senators Dandurand and Casgrain, who would give the people the privilege of using light beers. In Quebec there is decided sentiment in favor of better beer, and in Ontario the question may be left to a vote of the people.

TAKING THE "IF" OUT OF TARIFF.

IT would be a wonderful thing if somebody could take the eternal "IF" out of Tariff. However, it looks as if the East and West might co-operate in a little modification of the tariff. One thing certain, Labor will not stand for the tariff fence being badly breached, so that cheap foreign labor can climb over or crawl through into Canada and dump loads of cheap-labor products on our soil.

CO-OPERATION WITH FULL STEAM AHEAD.

THERE is one excellent example of the success of co-operation between Labor and Capital: look at the smooth running, well-oiled, full-steam-ahead "Engine" of the Canadian Railways Board of Adjustment, No. 1. Six members of the Board are Union labor men, six members selected by the Canadian Railway War Board, and six by the Canadian Railways. Up to February 19th, 1919, nineteen cases in dispute have been laid before this Board and decisions have been so satisfactory that no appeal has yet been made to a referee. The champions of co-operation can point with a great deal of satisfaction to this excellent demonstration of the get-together and work-together idea.

MANITOBA MAY ADOPT STATE INSURANCE. MONTREAL LABOR PARTY ELECT OFFICERS. State insurance will be adopted by the provincial government at the present session of the legislature in connection with compulsory workmen's compensation, if a Government amending bill, now before the House, is passed. The principle of compensation through private insurance companies, which has had more than one year's trial, would thus be abolished. The following were elected for the coming year at a meeting of the Montreal Assembly of the Labor Party of Canada in the Labor Temple: President, J. O. Gagnon; first vice-president, Philip Faughnan; second vice-president, Mrs. D. Mandelsohn; corresponding secretary, Mr. Binnette; treasurer, Mr. Simard; financial secretary, Mr. Perreault; statistician, Mr. Dupont.

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SHOP STEWARDS A PROBLEM OF THE UNIONS IN BRITAIN

By Wilson Harris. A new factor in the industrial revolution in Great Britain is the power of the shop steward. It has added an important element to the union problems. The refusal of loyalty by union members to their leaders means anarchy within the union, and if it involves, as it has in recent years, the repudiation by the workers of agreements struck by their leaders with employers, the last guarantee of industrial peace is gone. The daily tendency has been to disintegrate the union, manifesting itself chiefly in an opposition to the leadership of the chair, in the refusal of union members to abide by the ruling of union secretaries in an office in London. That is a result which flows naturally from the growth and centralization of the unions. Take the case of the railways. There, the lives of more than 400,000 workers are affected by the decisions made in the office of the general head-quarters who have been so long immersed in the work of administration as to have lost touch in some measure with the men who are the backbone of the industry, or a conductor, or an engine driver's duty. That at least is the charge against them. In reality there is a daily struggle in the shop for the man on the ground to get the full force of the law on his side in the goods yard to convince himself that his leaders are not of the Regulations unscrupulous which he is smarting and can manifest no due sympathy with his grievances.

That difficulty, like all difficulties can be solved if the different parties concerned are determined to be solved in a spirit of good will. It is equally true of the difficulties between the men and the employers and between the men and the State. But the will must be repeated, will be heavily strained.—Toronto Star-Weekly.



Quite a large number turned out last Sunday to hear Mr. Abe Benenson's discourse on "Russia, and the history of its revolution." The speaker, a native of Russia himself, and living there until coming to Canada a few years ago, was peculiarly qualified to speak on the conditions obtaining in that country, which occupies so large a place in the public eye at present. Dealing with his subject first from the historical standpoint, the speaker traced in interesting detail, the genesis of the various peoples that comprise what is generally known as Russia, and the relations that between the Great Russians and the White Russians, many striking and characteristic differences existed. Russia, according to Mr. Benenson, had never attained to the same degree of definiteness as that of Greece or Rome, or even of Western Europe, but it had its heroes and its sages, its good and evil deities, and even today, after many centuries of Christianity, it was still a frequent to hear the names of old heathen gods, and old pre-Christian rites used and to some extent incorporated with acts of Christian worship.

The general impression among Western Europeans was, that the Russian revolution was not absolutely correct, said the speaker, pointing to the fact that there were over 24,000,000 people in the country who had no good education indeed. True, the facilities for acquiring knowledge were not so extensive as in the countries of Western Europe, but in the cities and towns, schools and colleges flourished, and were always full. Since the revolution, and the consequent release of thousands of students and intellectuals from the prisons and Siberia, the spread of education was confidently looked forward to by Mr. Benenson.

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A curious feature was instanced by the speaker, in referring to the conditions of the Serfs, previous to their liberation in 1861, in the fact that they always looked upon the land as being their property, for although they might be sold from one feudal lord to another, they would say to their over-lords, "We are yours, but the land is ours." And this conception of land ownership in the land had a very important bearing on the subsequent success of the revolution. Mr. Benenson then pointed to the fact that the Russian revolution was not absolutely correct, said the speaker, pointing to the fact that there were over 24,000,000 people in the country who had no good education indeed. True, the facilities for acquiring knowledge were not so extensive as in the countries of Western Europe, but in the cities and towns, schools and colleges flourished, and were always full. Since the revolution, and the consequent release of thousands of students and intellectuals from the prisons and Siberia, the spread of education was confidently looked forward to by Mr. Benenson.

DANGER OF BOLSHEVISM.

In Canada organized Labor is fortunate in numbering among its leaders very many men distinguished for their soundness and sanity. It is to these that we would make an earnest appeal to put before the workers generally in no uncertain terms, something of the danger of Bolshivism means in the way of menace to all our cherished ideals of civilization. We believe that it is within their power—as we consider it to be their duty—to put the workers on their guard against this insidious poison.

We do not believe that Bolshivism has got a grip on any large proportion of the English-speaking workers in this country. But yet it is spreading. We say this with knowledge, wherever we speak. It seems to us that on the shoulders of the Labor leaders themselves rests the responsibility of seeing that the workers of Canada are fully informed as to its real and grave dangers. There are some would-be spokesmen of Labor in this country who apparently hold the view that Russia is in the van of advanced democracy. It is for the trusted leaders of Labor here in the Dominion, to make it plain that they have nothing to do with the accused thing.

Bolshivism, as practiced in Russia and as it is spreading in Germany, is the end of all good government, of all human liberty, and of all human freedom. It is one of the worst forms of tyranny that ever threatened mankind. In every country in Europe thinking men are coming to the conclusion that a stop must be put to the spread of Bolshivist doctrines unless they are to engulf the whole of Western civilization. Here in Canada we can nip it in the bud. We do not want any attempt at suppression of free speech or free press. We want to see the leaders of organized Labor appeal to the heads and to the hearts of the workers in this country to destroy Bolshivism once for all. Only let them do this and ensure that the people are fully apprised of the situation, and we have no fear as to the result. Jack Canuck.

Labor News From the Busy City of Hamilton

ON Friday, February 28, the Hamilton Labor party changed its meeting place from the Labor Hall to the Molders' Hall. It was well for the former auditorium couldn't have handled the big crowd which mustered for the open meeting. The subjects discussed were: Hydro Radials, civic finances, and the newly-created Property Owners' Protective Society. In view of the season successful. There was some excitement afforded the audience for several of the speakers engaged in wordy tilts.

W. R. Rollo criticized A. E. O. Book because the latter, in the previous night's meeting of the property and license committee had supported the movement of "cutting out" the sale of ice cream on Sundays. Mr. Rollo wanted the meeting to go on record as opposed to the move. A. E. O. Book retorted that he would not go on his stand on the ice cream question. Controller Halcrow restored peace by pouring wordy oil on troubled waters.

ATTACKED "POP" SOCIETY. A. E. O. Book was in rare form. He attacked the Property Owners' Protective Society which he termed the "Pop" aggregation. He exhorted his hearers to analyze who the "heads" of the "Pop" society were. He mentioned S. Bigger, K.C., a lawyer; John Allan, M.L.A. (who defeated Walter Rollo by 36 votes in the memorable provincial election, whereby the Conservatives were defeated in November, 1914); George Allan (his brother), one of the Tory stalwarts; Fred MacBeth, another Tory politician; and the Hon. J. G. MacBeth, a member of the Board of Education, is also an official, declared A. E. O. Book. And he is out to exact his revenge on the "Pop" body. All these men and others in the society, have no use and interest in the workingman. Neither are any of the members of the "Pop" society. The speaker paid tribute to Sir Adam Beck. The Cataract Company had suddenly cut the charge for water from \$4.19 to \$3.50 upon introduction of Hydro.

THE GUY WITH MOTOR. Fred Flatman stated that the Toronto-Hamilton highway, which had costed the city much money, was a benefit to the "guy with a motor" only. We workmen want some consideration. But Russian capitalism was somewhat different to that of other countries, in that it mostly was maintained by foreign capitalists, who were the content to draw their dividends from the country, neither knowing anything and caring less about the condition of the people who produced their wealth.

In leading up the revolution, Mr. Benenson pointed out that it was in the hands of the Serfs, and the French revolution, inasmuch as it was the logical outcome of centuries of barbaric rule and suppression, whereby the masses of the people were under the dominion of the feudal lords and bureaucratic officials. It was not sporadic in its nature, but a general movement of a flood, it spread over the whole land, and every trace of the old regime of czarism and terror had been swept away. To some extent, however, from misrepresentation, and ignorance regarding it on the one hand, and an unappreciated attitude of withdrawal, he believed that good would ultimately ensue and the land be restored to the people. On Thursday evening, March 6th, Mr. Benenson will treat of the events directly concerned with the revolution. On Sunday, March 9th, at 3:00 p.m. in the club rooms, 103 Bank street, the speaker will be, Mr. L. L. For the night, the members of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Conductors, who will take as his subject, "Industrial Bonds and Other Matters."

HYDRO RADIAL ONLY SOLUTION. Controller Halcrow spoke on "Municipal Finances." He took exception to the criticism leveled at the Labor members of the Board of Control because of the city's finances. Past councils had not done so well regarding how they bowed out and spent the taxpayers' money; hence the High tax rate of 32 mills on the dollar this year. "We are financially sound," he said, "as assured by our auditors. In the future we are not going to give away the city's rights to anyone. There are many who mean by grinding us down and exhorting our money from us, but we are going to reclaim our resources, and the Hydro Radial system is the solution of the whole railway situation," he said.

URGED THOROUGH ORGANIZATION. Walter Rollo urged thorough organization of the I. L. P. as the only haven of success for the masses. He told of the thousands of new members had been enrolled. In future, he said, every member of the I. L. P. would be asked to pay one cent weekly for election-campaign purposes. "The new 'Pop' society is nothing but the remnants of the old Tory machine," he asserted. "They will spare no money to beat every Labor candidate in the field. We all know and Ed D. Bigger, P.C., are connected with it not in the interests of the citizens in general, and we want to double our strength at the next election." (Voices: "And that we will, Walter.")

WILL A LABOR MAN FILL THE VACANCY? Since the death of the late Provincial Hydro Commissioner, Naught, Toronto, gossip has been rife as to whom his successor will be. Several names have been mentioned. Gordon Wilson, M.P. for Wentworth County, an independent of Dundas, near Hamilton, is lauded by the Hamilton Herald (independent). Mr. Wilson is an outspoken exponent of Hydro. He was one of Sir Adam Beck's stalwarts during the big Hydro Electric campaign in Hamilton many years ago. Mr. Wilson was mentioned on the "warpath" in behalf of the Hydro Radial by some three years ago, when a small majority of anti-won out. Unquestionably he would prove a reliable and capable commissioner. But of late talk is current throughout Ontario Labor circles exhorting a representative of Labor to give the vacancy. Laborers locally favor the idea. Incidentally there's several Ambitious City laborers well fitted to assume the important office. Labor should lose no time in making its advances to the "powers-that-be," pressing its strong claims for the important appointment. But if Labor is unrepresented, which it isn't if it goes the right way about it; were Gordon Wilson to get the lucrative job unquestionably would prove a veritable Hydro champion.

WENTWORTH PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE MEET. A new impetus has been given by the Wentworth Labor party branches during February an inaugural meeting of the Wentworth County Parliamentary Committee was held in the Labor Hall. The following are the members represented: Dundas, Mr. Hamilton, West Hamilton, and East Hamilton. Owing to a misunderstanding Homebased Labor lacked representation. Appended are the officers elected: President, John Douglas, Dundas; secretary-treasurer, Robert Wright, East Hamilton; county organizer, G. Jamieson, Mt. Hamilton. Fred J. Flatman loudly explained to those present the aims and objects of the committee and generally outlined the work which the organized branches will be expected to do. The five branches will be expected to make a cash donation in order to start the committee on its feet.

Ottawa "Celebrities"



This cartoon direct from Paris, France, depicts Pat telling the labor committee exactly what Canada wants in the labor program. To discuss what has been accomplished in this regard is too previous, but when the report adopted comes to notice, it will be seen how fortunate Canadian labor forces were to have Paddy on the job.

GALT EMPLOYES TO AID VETERANS. Galt manufacturers, the Great War Veterans' Association and the Executive of the Soldiers' Aid Commission got together in Galt, recently, under the auspices of the latter organization. Various repatriation questions as they affect Galt locally were thoroughly discussed. Manufacturers promised co-operation in returning soldiers to civil life, and all were unanimous regarding the prospects for a great future for Galt.

WAITING AT THE CHURCH. In a Southern town the principal amusements of the colored population are usually weddings and funerals. Recently the African Methodist preacher accosted one of the brethren on the street and the following conversation ensued: "Didn't see 'yo' at de weddin' last night." "Now, sub, didn't know dey was one."

"Dey sho' wuz, and a fine one too. De church wuz dressed up swell wid all dem neevergreens and 'don-you-forget-me's' and such like, and all dem rusers had on dey long-tailed coats and rattan leather shoes; and dem briddomoids wuz powerful stylish wid dem swishy clothes an' green

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FINANCE DEPARTMENT. DOMINION INCOME WAR TAX ACT. TO WHOM APPLICABLE. Every person who in 1918 resided or ordinarily resided in Canada or was employed in Canada or carried on business in Canada, including corporations and joint stock companies. WHO SHOULD FILE RETURNS. 1. Every unmarried person or widow or widower, without dependent children under twenty-one years of age, who during calendar year 1918 received or earned \$1,000 or more. 2. All other individuals who during calendar year 1918 received or earned \$1,000 or more. 3. Every corporation and joint stock company whose profits exceeded \$3,000 during the fiscal year end-d in 1918. FORMS TO BE FILLED IN AND FILED. FORM T1. By individuals, other than farmers and ranchers. FORM T2. By farmers and ranchers. FORM T3. By corporations and joint stock companies. FORM T4. By trustees, executors, administrators of estates and assignees. FORM T5. By officers, agents or other employees to whom was paid \$1,000 or more in salaries, bonuses, commission or other remuneration during the calendar year 1918. By corporations, joint stock companies, associations and syndicates to make return of all dividends and bonuses paid to shareholders and members during 1918. Individuals comprising partnerships must file returns in their individual capacity. GENERAL INFORMATION. All returns must be filed IN DUPLICATE. Forms may be obtained from the Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors Taxation and from the Postmasters at all leading centers. Returns should be filed immediately. Postage must be prepaid on letters and other documents forwarded by mail to Inspectors of Taxation. Address of Inspector of Taxation for this District.