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FRANK COUTANT DISCUSSES NEEDS OF THE HOUR

Private Ownership of Industry With Democratic Control, the Solution

"Men who work with their hands, and those who find work for hands to do, should feel that the ties that bind them together, are stronger than temporary day wages." A real thinker, Carlyle, used those words.

In the part of the world where I now dwell, the greatest manufacturing city on the continent there are all sorts of bosses and bossed. No millennium exists here or elsewhere. But I have seen much evidence of better relationship. There are numbers of broad-visioned young executives who recognize that men or women devoting their best years and strongest effort to promoting the interest of an enterprise, are staking as much as those who risk money.

Compensation is being worked out on a simple basis, which is proving satisfactory. Annual wages earn dividends on an even footing with the same amount of cash invested in a company's stock. An employee paid \$1500.00 per year gets a dividend as though he had that much capital invested. As his value to the firm increases, wages and dividends on general earnings both advance. Like all bonus systems, this admits of paying too little wages and pointing to the dividend as a generosity (which it isn't). Piker bosses would pike under a heaven sent plan. Big men won't.

There is a strong tendency to get away from the manager principle which releases from duty an owner who would deal squarely with subordinates and puts a dollar-chaser in his office. As business expands to the point that an owner or partnership cannot administer it, more "owners" are created, promoted from those who have served well, they have real authority as part owners, and use it justly as a rule.

Often I have wondered whether the cold-blooded Canadian banking system, which is said to have caused the edification of 13,000,000 Canadians in the U. S. and only 8,000,000 within the Dominion, will eventually abolish its destructive clerk-manager system.

Would a Canadian business man go to his bank for sound commercial council, such as he would receive from the hard-headed (not hard-hearted) officers of a strictly community bank? If he were sober, he wouldn't. It is the unusual "manager" idea carried to the height of absurdity. In manager-conducted industries, workers as a class are not apt to be assisted along the rocky roads of life by the boss.

I am more than ever convinced that private ownership, with the democratic control introduced, will eventually solve labor problems. Public ownership has too much of the unhappy faculty of accumulating a staff of incompetents and indifferents, to the discouragement of the many capable, enthusiastic workers.

—Frank R. Coutant, of N. W. Ayer & Son (Philadelphia).

(Note.—Mr. Coutant was among the most prominent of Edmonton's active good citizens until a few months ago.)

B.R.T. DIRECTORS DECLARE WINNIPEG STRIKE ILLEGAL

A meeting of the board of directors and vice-presidents of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen was held at Cleveland, O., recently, to take action dealing with the illegal strike declared by some members of the organization during the Winnipeg strike.

The following resolution was adopted: "That in view of the illegal strike of members of our Winnipeg lodge, resulting in terminals in that section being tied up, it is deemed necessary that our organization use every effort to furnish members of the Brotherhood willing to accept positions made vacant by the illegal strike and that lodges and members of the organization be called upon to furnish such assistance to handle the business of the roads affected."

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The regular monthly meeting of the Dominion Labor Party, Edmonton branch, was held on Tuesday evening in the labor hall with an attendance of some fifty members.

The main part of the business was discussed by a delegation of railroad men representing the G.T.P. and C.N.R. with regard to bringing closer connection between the railway federations and the labor party. A committee was chosen to go into this matter and are as follows: Rev. F. E. Mercer, secretary of the Dominion Labor Party, J. W. Adair, Robert Mitchell, Daniel Powers, P. Daley, E. J. Thompson and Clarence Smith.

FARM WORKERS IN GREAT BRITAIN GET SCHEDULE

The National Union of Agricultural Laborers in Great Britain has called a conference to meet shortly for the consideration of the following problems: Forty-four hour week all the year around; minimum wage of 46 shillings per week; overtime only when absolutely necessary, apart from hay-making time and harvest; double rates for Sunday work.

ONTARIO LABOR PARTY EXECUTIVE HOLD MEETING

Go On Record Asking Government to Repeal Amendment to Immigration Act

The Ontario Labor Party executive committee met in the Toronto Labor Temple recently to consider several important matters referred to them from the May 24 convention. Walter B. Rollo, of Hamilton, presided. The question respecting tariffs, which is to be submitted to a referendum vote of the affiliated branch memberships, will be dealt with definitely at the board's next meeting, Saturday, August 9.

A special committee was deputed to attend to the amendments to the constitution and new planks in the party's platform. These will be forwarded in proper printed form to affiliated branches as soon as possible. The executive committee decided on a button, which will bear the letters I. L. P. Respecting the matter of the I. L. P.'s co-operation with the Great War Veterans' Association, it was deemed expedient to leave the same to the branches themselves to co-operate with the G.W.V.A. in their respective localities, wherever conditions were desirable.

The meeting went on record asking the Dominion Government to repeal the recent amendments to the Immigration Act.

ELEVEN THOUSAND WORKERS OUT IN TORONTO STRIKE

There are now 11,000 workers on strike in Toronto, according to figures furnished by the various trades affected. They are: Metal trades, 7,000; street railwaymen, 2,200; garment workers, 1,800.

EUROPEAN LABOR AGAINST RUSSIAN INTERVENTION

British, French and Italian labor representatives have decided to make a general demonstration on July 29 or 31, to protest against Allied intervention in Russia. This announcement was made by Arthur Henderson, British labor leader, at the Labor Conference at Southampton, Eng., recently. Mr. Henderson explained that the demonstration would be an attempt to prevent the governments of Europe from adopting a reactionary policy throughout that continent. It would be left to each country, he added, to decide whether the demonstration would take the form of political or industrial action. The vote of the British Congress on the proposed demonstration stood 1,893,060 to 935,000.

SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR'S JAIL FOR RIOTING

Frank Tafford Declared Guilty in Winnipeg Police Court.

Frank Tafford, convicted in the Winnipeg police court Tuesday afternoon on a charge of rioting, was sentenced to one year in jail by Sir Hugh John Macdonald.

A charge of rioting preferred against John Kalya was dismissed.

J. S. Woodworth, former acting editor of the Labor News, was remanded for one week on charges of sedition and counselling to commit an indictable offense.

Charges of rioting preferred against Steve Juswak and David Crabb were given stays of proceedings.

A charge of intimidation preferred against Kosh Smolonski was withdrawn.

MASTER BARBERS WILL SHAVE TILL NOON SAT.

Barber shops are planning to keep open until noon Saturday for the convenience of the public to get slicked up for the celebration. Such was decided at a consultation of the master barbers Wednesday.

WAGES VESUS THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE DOLLAR

Purchasing Power of The Dollar Falling Faster Than Wages Have Risen

"Manufacturers," says the president of the National Manufacturers' Association, "have no intention of trying to force wages down, but want efficiency in return for high wages." We wonder, when they are like the tawney Arab, who, "quietly folds his tent and silently steals away," there is no question about wages, the question is, and it is quite an item to the wage earner, how to make his exorbitant (?) wage meet the weekly expense account. It still remains to be demonstrated, and all the talk by the presidents of large corporations of what they want and what their intentions are, does not prove that wages in any considerable industry are as high in terms of purchasing power as they were two years ago.

COPPER PRINTERS AGAINST "ISMS" OF ALL KINDS

Resolutions disapproving of Bolshevism or any other "ism" which would tend "to bring labor into disrepute," were adopted Saturday at the closing session of the 27th annual convention of the International Steel and Copper Printers' Union of North America. Joseph F. Leach, of Boston, was elected president; K. M. Eastman, Ottawa, Canada, vice-president, and James E. Goodyear, Philadelphia, secretary-treasurer.

EMPLOYERS STUDY LABOR CONDITIONS IN OLD COUNTRY

Commission of Employers Reports Harmony Among Officials and Employees

A commission of six employers appointed some time ago by the secretary of labor left the United States late in January, 1919, for the purpose of studying, in Great Britain, France and other European countries, all phases of labor conditions (including the problem of employment) and governmental policies relating thereto. The commission's report, just issued, deals specifically with conditions found in Great Britain.

In the course of its work the commission held conferences with members of both houses of parliament, the Federation of British Industries, the chairman of the Engineering and National Employers' Federations, and prominent students of industrial problems; a great many large employers, officials of labor organizations, and groups of workingmen of all degrees of radical and conservative thought; the admiral commander in chief of the Royal government dockyard; and chiefs of the municipal tramways, and gas and electrical works of Manchester and Glasgow.

The commission reports that under the seething unrest, as expressed in speeches and in newspapers, they found a remarkable harmony of purpose among government officials, conservative employees and practically all employers.

CAPPY SMART GETS HIS OLD JOB BACK

After a warty battle, in which the weight of public opinion was overwhelmingly shown to be in favor of the chief, the city commissioners of Calgary have agreed to reinstate Chief James Smart, of the fire department, who had been suspended for a month for alleged neglect of duty.

BROTHERHOOD OF FIREMEN ARE GETTING BUSY

Mr. A. A. Woodward, second vice-president of the International Brotherhood of Firemen, Oilers, etc., and Canadian organizer, reports that during a period of forty days 69 charters to new local unions were granted. The Toronto local union of the above Brotherhood has succeeded in establishing a minimum wage rate of 55 cents an hour.

YOUR DUTY

Purchase union label goods. Patronize the union shop card and the union button. French union label. Don't spend union earned money for non-union made goods. Goods that do not bear the union label are most likely not made under union conditions. Don't help to perpetuate non-union conditions. Don't be an employer of non-union labor. The purchase of non-label goods makes you one. Shout for the union label. Kick if you don't get it. When the demand for the union label is great enough all manufacturers will use it and then all your troubles will be settled. Spend all union-earned money for union-made products.

DEVELOPMENT OF CHILD LABOR LAWS IN GREAT BRITAIN

In 1802 Children Under Nine Years Not Allowed to Work Over 12 Hours Per Day

Machines were invented in the 18th century. These machines were placed in factories. Steam was the new motive power for machines. Here in the factories of northern England started child labor. At the same time also child labor was used in the coal mines.

As early as 1802 England had far-seeing statesmen and humanitarians who saw the dangers of too early labor, and in that year came Peel's Health and Moral Act; this started legislation for children. Here is the law: Children under 9 years of age must not work over 12 hours.

In 1819 came the Owen law: No child under 9 shall be permitted to work; no child under 16 shall be permitted to work over 16 hours.

In 1832 the Ashley law: No child under 13 shall work over 9 hours; no child under 18 shall work over 12 hours, no work before 5:30 a.m. or after 5:30 p.m.

In 1848, women and young persons shall not work over 10 hours; this started "shifts."

The same year, 1848, came the first legislation for mines, with a 10-year age limit and regulated hours. In 1877 in the mines the age limit was raised to 12 years. In 1884 in the mines the age limit was raised to 13 years.

In 1908 came the 54-hour week limit. Since 1914 the 8-hour limit in 24 hours in all mines.

England's statistics show that one-third of its last generation lie at rest in the Potter's field.

This evil, child labor, has been with us for over 100 years, and we are just beginning to awaken to the fact that it is an inexcusable evil and should be eradicated.

Children have always worked more or less, and it would be a calamity if all tasks and responsibilities which train them for life were abolished, but such work should come under broad interpretation of play and education.

REDS ARE ON THE JOB AS USUAL AND ADOPT THE O.B.U.

Fifteen labor delegates representing six unions at Regina at recent meeting of the Trades and Labor Council adopted the Constitution of the O.B.U. In absence of opposition the motion was declared carried.

WINNIPEG MACHINISTS CHARTERS SUSPENDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL

Fort Garry Lodge No. 189 and Trans-conn Lodge No. 484, machinists, of Winnipeg have received notification from the International that their charters have been suspended owing to their endorsement of the O.B.U. which is described as a secessionist movement. The unions have been given one week to show why their charters should not be cancelled entirely. At the same time it was stated that all members desiring to retain affiliation with the International would be given an opportunity to reorganize and a new charter would be issued to them.

GROCERS REFUSE TO HANDLE LOCAL BREAD IN ST. KITS

The bakers' strike took on a new phase this week, when the master bakers and members of their families carried their bread to the grocery stores. They were met with the answer "no bread wanted today" and were obliged to take their bread back to the shop.

Shipments of bread from outside cities were brought in for the local grocers, who, with the exception of four signed an agreement not to accept any from local bakers while the strike was on.

SEAMEN STRIKE RAPIDLY SPREADS ATLANTIC COAST

Crews of Ships Under Foreign Flags Leaving Many Vessels

The strike of United States seamen assumed a national aspect this week when Gus. H. Brown, secretary of the Eastern and Gulf division of the International Seamen's Association, announced that crews of a dozen ships of foreign registry had quit their vessels in New York harbor. They declared, Mr. Brown said, that their strike was not only in sympathy with that of United States seamen, but for the purpose of equalizing all wages on the high seas.

Crews deserted Dutch, Danish, Norwegian and Swedish ships, Mr. Brown said, adding that United States union delegates had experienced considerable difficulty in persuading the crews of several British ships to remain at work. The crew of one British vessel of the Booth line, did quit.

Mr. Brown stated that he would send a cable message to Joseph Herbert Wilson, head of the National Firemen's and Sailors' union of Great Britain and Ireland, informing him of the sentiment among British crews here.

Stay On Boats. "We don't want this," he said, "but you can see how the strike fever has spread. We must stop it, and I have ordered my delegates to instruct the crews of foreign ships to stay on their boats."

Reports received from Norfolk, Philadelphia, Washington, Mobile, Boston, Newport News and New Orleans, declaring ships are being tied up in those ports as fast as they dock.

Thomas Conway, business agent of the Marine Firemen's local, reported by telegraph that the crews of several ships leaving the great lakes bound for European ports through the St. Lawrence, have refused to sign on for further than Montreal.

It was stated that several companies have met the men's demands. Among those enumerated were the Eastern Steamship company, Boston; French-American Transport company, Brooks Steamship company, Cuban Distilling company, and Foreign Transport Mercantile corporation.

PRICE OF LABOR CANNOT LOWER IT IS DECLARED

U.S. Department of Labor Gives Causes of High Prices

Shallow thinkers who blame "high" wages for present living costs get little consolation from a report on "Economics of the Construction Industry," issued by the Division of Public Works and Construction Development of the United States Department of Labor.

It is stated that "the rise in prices during the war was not merely the result of a great demand for goods and of a scarcity of certain goods, but was largely brought about by means of inflation of the currency by the governments at war and by the neutrals, either by the direct issue of paper money or by the issue of bonds."

"Although war orders are now largely a thing of the past, the extension of credit still exists as a continuing cause of high prices. There is little to indicate an early contraction of credits."

The report states that wages are not likely to be lowered, and that if the production capacity of industry should be greatly increased, lower prices would not necessarily follow.

Attention is called to after-war prophesies that the armistice would reduce large numbers of men who would flood the labor market and reduce wages and price levels. "The expected great fall in prices has not occurred, it is stated, "and is not likely to occur."

The report includes a statement by Professor Irving Fisher, of Yale University, who says that there is little likelihood of a fall in prices in this country, and that "the present rise in prices has resulted from the great extension of credits by the countries at war."—The Chronicle.

SHIPBUILDERS OF MONTREAL HAVE WON CONCESSIONS

The five-weeks' strike at the Canadian Vickers Limited, shipbuilding plant at Montreal, has been called off as far as the trades and laborers of the marine federation are concerned. Eighteen hundred men resumed work Monday morning. The new schedule offered by the company is to be retroactive to April 1st, so that the concessions asked by the workers in this connection have been granted.

HALIFAX BUILDING TRADES SECURE WAGE INCREASE

The award of the Board of Arbitration appointed to consider the dispute between the Halifax striking building trades unions and their employers calls for the following wages: Carpenters, 66 cents per hour; painters, 66; plumbers, 70; electricians, 70; masons and bricklayers, 75, and plasterers, 75. The finding says that this award shall continue in force until December 31, 1920.

EXPENDITURE FOR MUNITIONS OVER NINE MILLIONS

British Fired More Shells In Single Day Than In Whole South African War

In the British House of Commons, F. G. Kellaway, Deputy Minister of Munitions, asked for approval of £185,000,000 for the year ending March 31, of which £90,000,000 is an aftermath of the war, and the balance represents supplies to other departments of the government, including estimates of the War Office, Air Ministry, and Local Government Board, the last mentioned being purchases for the government's huge scheme. The total expenditure of the Ministry of Munitions since its establishment was £1,834,507,941.

Mr. Kellaway revealed that the British losses in materials during the German offensive in the spring of 1918 were: 1,000 guns, 70,000 tons of ammunition, 4,000 machine guns, 200,000 rifles, 700 trench mortars and 200 tanks, yet within a fortnight all had been replaced and in many cases with superior weapons. On the day the Hindenburg line was broken the British fired 932,000 shells, more than were fired in the whole South African war. Fifteen thousand tons of poison gas were supplied in 1918 alone.

**WAGE SCHEDULE
OF CLOAKMAKERS
IN MONTREAL**

The joint board of the Montreal Cloak and Skirt Makers' Unions have presented a new schedule of wages and conditions to their employers. The agreement calls for a 44-hour week, and the following scale of minimum wages: Cutters, \$35; trimmers, \$35; assistant cutters, \$22; sample operators, \$35; female skirt operators, \$44; tailors, \$28; balsters, \$25; cloak and jacket finishers, \$25; pressers, \$38; skirt pressers, \$38, tape and pieces pressers, \$30; button and hook-and-eye sewers, \$18.

CIVIC EMPLOYEES WITHDRAW FROM TRADES COUNCIL

The Vancouver Inside Civic Employees' Union is considering withdrawal from the Trades and Labor Council, and at the next meeting of the union the following motion will be voted on: "On account of the action of the Trades and Labor Council in connection with the Winnipeg sympathetic strike, this association withdraws from affiliation with the Council."

OTTAWA STREET CAR MEN OUT

The Ottawa street car strike is still on. By a vote of nearly 500 to 26 the car men have voted to refrain from returning to work until the 125 men taken on as strike breakers have been removed. The company claims that it took on these men by promising them that if they would act as strike breakers the positions would become permanent and under no consideration would they be dismissed. So the deadlock continues.

LAUZON WORKERS FIGHTING FOR INTERNATIONAL

The International Union is making a fight to obtain recognition at the Davis shipyards at Lauzon, Que. This union fought for two years at Three Rivers to obtain this and did not succeed until a short time ago.

In view of the majority report of the Royal Commission on Industrial Relations which was tabled in the House of Commons last week, in which it was unanimously recommended that employers recognize international unions, it is expected that the Davis Shipbuilding Company will act in the spirit of the times.

REFUSE TO RETURN WHILE COMPANY RETAINS SERVICES OF STRIKE BREAKERS

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EXPULSION FOR PARTICIPATING IN WINNIPEG STRIKE

For participation in the general strike in Canada, several hundred members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen face expulsion from that organization, according to discussion on the floor of the brotherhood's convention at Denver, Col., recently.

News of the return to work of the Canadian strikers and the arrival of Arthur J. Lovell, vice-president of the brotherhood, from Canada, where he was delegated to investigate conditions, precipitated debate on this subject.

Mr. Lovell expressed the condition in Canada up to the time of his leaving as "terrible; very serious." In addressing the convention he reported conditions without recommendation.

Members of the London, Ont., Local Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union elected permanent officers at a largely attended meeting held last week. The union is the most recently organized in that city; the charter was presented by Sergt. Fred Young, in the absence of J. Walsh, labor organizer who was out of the city in attendance at the convention at Atlantic City. The new union is one of the strongest in London, with a membership of 250, a large percentage of whom are women.

COMPARISON OF DEMOCRATIC AND OTHER GOVERNMENT

Community Council Movement May Result in Welding of Nation

The difference between Democracy and any other kind of Government is that Democracy's unit is "the Neighborhood, while in all other forms of Government it is a Class, of some kind.

In the monarchies of former times the king and the nobles managed the state; the people had nothing to do with it except pay taxes, fight in the wars, and look pleasant.

In the Bolshevik scheme a little group of theorists take the place vacated by the former bosses; the people still have nothing to do but to submit. Both of these schemes rest upon the assumption that the people, taking them as they run, are too ignorant to attend to their own affairs.

Singularly, the people have often been satisfied with this. Self-government is difficult. It involves responsibilities which are troublesome. Also thought, which is worse. They willingly avoided the burden, side-stepped, and were only too glad to let George do it. And George looked out for—George.

Democracy's unit is not the educated class, the politician class, the laboring class, or any other class. It is the neighborhood, including men and women, old and young, good and evil, wise and ignorant.

Of course we have not actually realized this yet. We are still afraid of it. But we are coming to it. And only when we get there will we have true and real democracy.

It may be bad, but it will be no worse than we are. It may be good, but no better than we are.

We shall not have the Best government. We shall have the kind of Government we want, which is better. A movement has been set on foot in America to establish Community Councils. That means to organize by Neighborhoods, regardless of race, politics, religion or sex.

It is the ideal form of political organization. It makes the basis of organization not any one of the things that heretofore have been considered essential, not whether all in the group are Republicans, Socialists, White Folks, Methodists or Property Owners.

But whether they are Human Beings. This movement contains the only idea that goes down to the bed-rock of Democracy, which is Humanity. If it succeeds it will, as President Wilson has said, "result in welding the nation together as no nation of great size has ever been welded before."

In War we quickly discovered that our real defence was Men, any kind so they could march and shoot, not the titled, nor unclashed, nor white, nor rich—but just folks.

And in Peace, which is far more difficult than war, we ought to recognize that it is this same Humanity that we must depend on.

There are a number of things a Community Council can do better than any other kind of an organization, including matters relating to Health, Sanitation, Public Schools, Politics, Franchise, Playgrounds and all other things which affect everybody.

Who knows? Some day we may get rid of the rotten, vicious, wasteful, crooked and undemocratic monarchy known as the Political Party. And the Community Council may kill it. I pray so.—Dr. Frank Crane.

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