

THE COMMUNISTS IN CANADA ARE NOW ATTACKING THE YOUTH OF COUNTRY

UNDERMINING MORALS OF YOUNG CANADIANS WITH UNIQUE FORM OF PROPAGANDA TO FURTHER THE COMMUNISTS ENDEAVOURS TO KILL CANADIAN INDUSTRY.

Previous issues of The Canadian Labor Press have set forth facts with regard to the methods adopted by the Communists in Canada in their effort to destroy Canadian industry and has made mention of the threats uttered against the Captains of Industry, and we have attempted to show what a foolhardy action it would be, supposing they were to succeed in setting up a form of Government similar to that established in Russia, and also should they succeed in establishing industry on a similar basis to that existing in the "Land of Bolsheviks." Indeed results speak louder than words and we know that it is only necessary to draw our readers' attention to the erroneous methods of the Communists and the results of their activities in other countries. This clearly shows that while at the present time the majority of our Canadian Workers (and it is impossible in any country to get one hundred per cent perfect conditions) are enjoying a superior plane of living, should the radical element succeed in their attempts, we would be lowered to a level previously unheard of in Canada.

And now comes the worst blow of all; they have started to work on the minds of the Youth of Canada. You, as a father, now that the mind of your son is easily swayed in any given channel, whether it be for right or wrong, and it is up to you to see that his thoughts are steered in the right direction. The following is an exact reproduction of a bulletin issued by the National Executive Committee of the Young Communist League of Canada and distributed from door to door in every industrial centre, and is a dastardly attempt to swerve the thoughts of Canadian youths from the path of honor and integrity.

DO YOU BELONG?

TO THE

Young Communist League of Canada

To All Young Workers:

The lot of the young workers of Canada is not a pleasant one. The capitalists use you in place of adult workers in the factories because he can make you do the same amount of work for less wages. You are cheaper to him than an adult worker, therefore he makes greater profit by hiring you. When you are unemployed your position is more desperate than that of those workers who are married, because they receive doles and you do not. Altogether you are the most exploited and worst treated of the whole working class.

You are kept on the verge of ignorance by the pretense of education in the public schools. The capitalists refuse to give you the technical education you need. The apprenticeship system in some trades is a sham because of the low wages making it impossible for you to serve the required number of years to become a journeyman. The poverty of your parents forces you to go to work at an early age because they cannot support you. You become a laborer, or go to the harvest fields and all opportunities of real education are denied you.

When the capitalists, to protect their interest against a rival group of exploiters, declare war, you are called upon first to "protect your country." Your youthful enthusiasm and desire for adventure is used to fool you into fighting for the interests of a few financiers and industrial magnates who own the factories, railroads, mines and banks of the country. You are told this is "patriotism" and because of that you fight against workers of another country in the interests of your bosses.

The organizations which you join thinking that they are built to conduct sports, etc., are supported by the financiers and magnates because in these organizations you are taught to be a willing worker, to respect the law, and become a "good citizen." They keep you in poverty and tell you that some day you can become a millionaire. The Y.M.C.A., the church clubs, the Boy Scouts, are all financed by the bosses to poison your mind and to prevent you finding out that you are being exploited for the benefit of the capitalists.

THE YOUNG COMMUNISTS LEAGUE OF CANADA is composed of young workers who have learned that the young workers must organize themselves to resist the exploitation of the youth by the capitalists, to struggle against the system of paying the young worker less than the adult worker while he does the same amount of work.

Canada today is owned and controlled by the capitalist class. The working class is used to produce for them, in return for which they receive miserable wages. When the capitalists see fit they throw the workers out of work and starvation and misery faces them, while the capitalists live in luxury on the wealth produced by the working class.

In the struggle against the capitalists the workers have established trade unions to bind the workers together in their common fight to force from the capitalists a higher standard of living. The organizations supported by the money of the capitalists (Y.M.C.A., church clubs, etc.) are all opposed to the trade unions. Your interests demand that you join the unions struggling against the capitalists and leave those organizations which will try to get you to scab on your fellow-workers during a strike.

The Young Communist League takes up the struggle against militarism, and opposes the use of the working class by the capitalists as soldiers to defend their interests. Your interests are not defended by the capitalist armies. These armies are used against the workers, as in Nova Scotia last August. The capitalist press, clubs and clubs fill your head with false ideas of the glory of the military so that you will easily become a tool of the capitalists in their foreign wars and against your own fathers and brothers in times of strikes.

We organize together to find out why it is that these things are so. We know that capitalism only offers misery and degradation for the whole of the working class. Capitalism must give place to COMMUNISM—A CLASSLESS STATE OF SOCIETY WHERE EXPLOITATION OF LABOR IS DONE AWAY WITH. The struggle for Communism demands that the youth of the working class take their stand along with the whole of the working class. Your place in it is in the labor movement, in the struggle of the working class against capitalist exploitation. To remain in the Y.M.C.A. and the church club means that you are fighting against your class, aiding the capitalists to keep the working class in subjection to their rule.

JOIN THE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE FOR THE STRUGGLE AGAINST CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION, AGAINST MILITARISM AND WARS, AND FOR COMMUNISM, WHICH ALONE WILL EMANCIPATE THE WORKERS FROM EXPLOITATION AND DEGRADATION.

Issued by the NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF CANADA

The Bulletin might be treated as absurd if it was not for the fact that it is directed at the younger generation, whose minds are yet immature, and were they to absorb this nefarious propaganda, irreparable damage would be caused.

CANADIAN LABOR ORGANIZATION

Annual Report for 1922, Issued by Department of Labor Shows Another Loss in Trade Union Membership. Increase in Expenditure for Trade Union Benefits.

The figures published in the Twelfth Annual Report on Labor Organization in Canada, covering the calendar year 1922, which has just been issued by the Department of Labor, shows that during the three-year period from 1920 to 1922 there has been a decline in trade union membership in Canada of 101,426, the loss in the last calendar year being 156 in branches and 36,699 in members. The total membership of all classes of trade unions in the Dominion at the close of 1922 stood at 276,621, comprised in 2,512 local branches. There are in all 92 international organizations operating in Canada and between them they have 2,108 local branches in the Dominion, with a combined reported membership of 206,150. These figures indicate six fewer international organizations operating in the Dominion, with losses of 115 in branches and 16,746 in members. There are eighteen of what are termed non-international organizations, an increase of three over the year 1921, with totals of 272 local branches and 22,973 members, a gain in branches of eight, but a decrease in membership of 1,507. The number of independent units of trade union organizations has decreased by two, there now being 25 such bodies, the reported total membership being 9063 a loss of 6,581. The unions commonly known as "National and Catholic" number 106, with a reported membership of 38,335, a decrease in unions of 14 and in members of 6635. Of the 34 local units of the One Big Union which were in existence in 1921 only one reported, and as the general officers of the body refused to furnish any information as to its standing, all of the non-reporting branches have been dropped from the report. The figures recorded above indicate that, although the international organizations had the heaviest decrease during the year 1922, this group represents approximately 74 per cent of the total trade unionists in the Dominion. The membership of all classes of organized labor in Canada, as reported to the Department for the past twelve years has been as follows:

Year	Members	Branches
1911	133,132	204,630
1912	160,120	248,887
1913	175,799	378,047
1914	166,163	373,842
1915	143,343	313,320
1916	160,407	276,621

Trade Union Membership by Provinces.

The 2,512 local branch unions of all classes in the Dominion are divided by provinces as follows: Ontario, 1,045; Quebec, 456; British Columbia, 235; Alberta, 209; Saskatchewan, 163; Manitoba, 134; Nova Scotia, 147; New Brunswick, 114; and Prince Edward Island, 9.

There are now in Canada 29 cities a decrease of two, having not less than 20 local branch unions of all classes. The 1,311 branches located in these cities represent 54 per cent of the local branches of international and non-international and independent units, and contain approximately 42 per cent of the "trade union" membership in the Dominion, as reported from the head offices of the central organizations. Montreal, as in the past, stands in first place among the cities as to local branches, having 184 of all classes of unions, including the National and Catholic, 112 of which reported 35,724 members; Toronto ranks second with 148 branches, 90 of which reported 22,091 members; Vancouver stands third with 76 branches, 57 of which reported 9,163 members; Ottawa is fourth with 73 branches, 55 of which reported 6,409 members. Other cities in order of branches of all classes are: Winnipeg, 71 branches, 50 reporting 6,155 members; Quebec, 68 branches, 42 reporting 6,750 members; Hamilton, 64 branches, 42 reporting 3,763 members; Calgary, 58 branches, 41 reporting, 5,821 members; London, 57 branches, 37 reporting 3,189 members; Edmonton, 55 branches, 41 reporting 3,518 members; Victoria, 41 branches, 31 reporting 1,528 members; St. John, 37 branches, 20 reporting 2,103 members; Saskatoon,

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COMMUNICATION SENT TO THE UNITED STATES COAL COMMISSION BY THE UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA

Washington, D.C., May 5, 1923.
Hon. John Hays Hammond,
Chairman, and
Members of the United States Coal Commission, Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:
We are submitting herewith to your Commission certain constructive suggestions concerning the coal industry. These suggestions were written by two men who know, from years of actual experience, what they are talking about. For many years Phillip Murray and William Green were active working miners, in the mines of various coal fields in this country. They swung the pick and dug coal. They know the miner's life, his duties, his responsibilities, his grievances, his problems, his joys and his sorrows. No one knows better than these two men what organization of the mine workers means to the men, to their employers, to the industry and the nation. These two men have witnessed the development of the miners' union and the spread of its influence for the betterment of the conditions of those engaged in the industry. Mr. Murray and Mr. Green have had a leading part in the progress that has been made by the miners' union. They have helped to carry forward the work of the union and they have seen the American coal miner lifted from the level of neglect and helplessness and placed in a position where, through his union, the organized miner now has a voice in determining how much in wages he shall receive for his labor and the conditions under which he shall perform that labor.

We believe that it is such men as these who can speak with authority upon the subject of coal and whose views are worthy of your careful consideration.

The United Mine Workers of America expressed to your Commission in a previous communication the earnest thought and suggestion that complete unionization of the coal mining fields of the country would go a long way toward affording a solution of the coal problem, because it would mean the universal adoption of the principle of collective bargaining between employer and employee. It is upon this point, and further to impress it upon the Commission, that Mr. Murray, who is International Vice-President, and Mr. Green, International Secretary-Treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, have written these statements.

By PHILIP MURRAY,
International Vice-President, United Mine Workers of America.

Every consideration of elementary justice and human right demands that the question of non-unionism in the unorganized fields be settled promptly and in a spirit of real, courageous, public spirited statesmanship. By an aggressive fearless attitude the United States Coal Commission can compose all differences which exist in the unorganized coal mining sections of the country. They can further provide a peaceful and prosperous basis for collective bargaining which will govern the future procedure of the industry in these fields.

The only practical way in which this can be done is to bring about for the non-union mining territory of this country working agreements which will safeguard properly the fundamental rights of mine workers and mine operators, protect the public and provide a just and reasonable basis for working relations and conditions. The safeguards which are essential to regularity of production and of peace and tranquility are:

1. The guarantee of freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of movement.
 2. The right of the workers to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.
 3. The protection of mine workers against discrimination because of membership in the United Mine Workers of America or other Labor organizations.
 4. The assurance that democratic institutions, such as the United Mine Workers of America, will not be subordinated to industrial control by the practice of non-union coal operators in paying and controlling deputy sheriffs, and constables or by employing private guards instead of using the services of disinterested and conscientious peace officers.
- These are the simple fundamentals which will restore and permanently establish the normal conditions of a self-governing republic in these regions. They are so elementary and so obvious that their absence at present seems incredible. Assertion by

the United States Coal Commission that they should become effective would commend itself everywhere to the sound and right thinking citizenship of our country.

The alleged reasons of the non-union operators for their refusal to bargain collectively with the United Mine Workers of America is that we have a sinister purpose to organize the entire industry with a view of obtaining control of the industry, or that we plan to freeze the public into acceptance of a radical and revolutionary program for the future conditions of the industry. This is too absurd to be dignified by serious consideration were it not put forth seriously by the non-union operators.

We do seek to organize the entire coal industry but our sole purpose is to seek uniformity of wages and working conditions and regularity of employment, and thereby to bargain collectively with the operators on terms approaching equality. All the coal operators in the country, including those in the non-union fields, are organized in a single, compact national organization known as the National Coal Association. In all fairness, it should be possible for all the miners of the country, including those in the non-union fields, to be united in their national organization so that they may meet the maximum strength of the operators with the maximum economic strength of the mine workers.

This is not radical, this is not revolutionary. There is nothing sinister or ulterior about it. The United Mine Workers of America have no desire to injure the operators, for they realize that the interests of the operators and mine workers are identical. They respect the right of the operators to organize, but, on the other hand, they insist that the operators must respect the right of the mine workers to organize without being subject to discrimination. We say to the operators "Come, let's reason together." There is nothing radical or revolutionary about that. We know that this controversy will never be settled until it is approached in a spirit of common co-operation and good faith and we are now and always have been willing to meet them half-way in that spirit.

Progress in industrial relations is defined in terms of betterment, namely, to change from a given condition to a better condition. That has been the keynote of the United Mine Workers of America from its very beginning. We have progressed in the coal mining industry until, outside of the non-union fields, approximately 75 per cent of the mine workers in the country are organized. If our cause were not just, if our purpose were not honorable, if what we do were not consistent with the public welfare, we would never have been permitted to make the progress we have made.

We do not seek to control the coal industry, but we do demand a voice in its control. Advocates of the open shop movement have taken as their slogan, "Those who pay should have the right." Today the whole world knows that might does not make right but that right makes might, and we believe that we are fundamentally and eternally right. We say that the man who goes down into the bowels of the earth, who hazards his life and endures the hardships of the miner pays in full every obligation he owes to the operators as well as the nation and, therefore, we insist upon our right to have a part of the say as to the conditions under which the industry should be operated.

Our organization stands for industrial peace, the stabilizing of conditions of employment and for the continuity and acceleration of production. The non-union operators have nothing to offer except arbitrary action and industrial autocracy. The fruits of their policy are industrial and civil warfare. If their policies were applied to a more general scale, they would be followed by industrial and political chaos. Unionism has brought to a disturbed and diseased industry the stabilizing force of equitable wage rates and fair working conditions. This has permitted both employees and employers to devote their attention to the primary job of producing coal without the loss of time, energy and efficiency incident to continuous bickering over wage rates and working conditions. The employee, moreover, because of the union, becomes more intelligent and a more self-respecting and efficient worker.

By WILLIAM GREEN
International Secretary-Treasurer,
United Mine Workers of America,
Collective Bargaining and Union

recognition go hand in hand. In fact there can be no recognition of the principle of Collective Bargaining without a corresponding recognition of the right of the workers to organize into trade unions. Collective Bargaining is a meaningless term, void of any virtue and of no consequence whatever when the workers are denied the right to organize and union recognition is not accorded to them. To deny the workers the right to organize is nothing more than improper interference with the exercise of an inherent right and the normal activities of a free people.

We are living in an age of organization; at a time when the tendency of human effort and social endeavor is toward organization, co-operation and collective action. Little or nothing is now attempted in a financial, industrial, fraternal, religious or social way except through organization. Men and women instinctively turn to organization as the only practical method through which they can bring about the realization of great ideals and the accomplishment of inspiring, noble purposes.

In the light of these facts it would be inconsistent if Society would recognize the right of individuals to form partnerships and corporations for profit, to permit the existence of religious, fraternal, social, economic and political organizations, and at the same time, deny working people the right to organize for the purpose of economic protection and to secure better and higher standards of life.

Union recognition and collective bargaining are accepted facts in the Coal Industry. To a very large extent these principles have been applied and are in practical operation in the anthracite mining section and throughout a large area in the bituminous coal fields. Wage agreements have been negotiated between the Mine Workers collectively and the Coal Operators in the anthracite coal fields for more than twenty-three years, and by the Coal Operators and Miners who represent the bulk of the tonnage produced in the bituminous coal fields of the nation for approximately thirty years. During all these years wage scales were successfully negotiated, so much so that only in 1902 and 1922 did national strikes take place in the anthracite coal section and in 1919 and 1922 in the bituminous coal fields.

Notwithstanding the criticism emanating from some groups of people because of the coal strike of 1922, here is a record of achievement in union recognition and collective bargaining. Only two failures to negotiate wage scales resulting in National suspensions during a period of twenty-three years in the anthracite and about thirty years in the bituminous sections of the Nation's coal fields. The wonder of it all is not that there were some failures, but instead, that there were so many successes.

This record becomes the more remarkable when we consider that these wage scales were negotiated through voluntary action on the part of the Coal Operators and Miners. Those organizations of employers and employees were purely human institutions, laying no claim to perfection, but instead, possessed of all the frailties which characterize the human race.

Joint wage agreements in effect for fixed periods of time between Coal Operators and Miners serve to stabilize the industry and to guarantee an adequate coal supply. No interruption of mining operations because of a strike can take place during the life of the Joint Agreement. Such agreement, however, can only be successful through collective bargaining based upon Union recognition.

In coal fields where the miners are unorganized there can be no guarantee against strikes. The men employed in these sections are not parties to an agreement, are under no obligations to continue to work; consequently they are free to cease work at any time. Especially in this time when the men employed in non-union territory become dissatisfied with the wages and conditions of employment, arbitrarily fixed by their employers, and their desire to organize, and for union recognition, becomes strong. This situation has been emphasized by the strikes which have occurred, lasting for months in the non-union fields of West Virginia, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Alabama, and Kentucky.

Union recognition and joint agreements provide the only way through which the coal industry can be stabilized and stability is essential to the success of the industry. Through this process the rights of both employers and employees are properly recognized. The workers participate in wage scale negotiations and in every decision which vitally affects their welfare and the services they are to render. The employees in turn have an agreement covering wage and conditions of employment, and thus they can accurately determine the labor cost of production for a fixed period of time. Both em-

ployers and employees have, by entering into contractual relations, assumed responsibilities and obligations which are at least morally binding, and which tend to promote efficiency among employers and economy in production.

Aside from the purely commercial aspect of the matter there is the human phase of it which cannot be overlooked. The only capital which the miner has to invest is his labor, and the only protection he possesses is his economic power. He can only successfully exercise his economic strength through organization. Through organization he has raised his living standards, secured protective legislation, and promoted his moral and material welfare. Without organization the condition of the Mine Workers would be deplorable indeed.

Whilst most employers wish to treat their employees fairly and establish decent living standards among them, there are some who still believe in the master and servant rule, who regard labor as a commodity to be purchased at the lowest possible price and to be exploited at will. As in every industry, therefore, there are in the mining industry good and bad employers, none of which should have the authority arbitrarily to fix the wages and working conditions which their employees must accept.

Those who work and serve in industry are as essential to success as those who operate and manage the industry. Each has rights which the other should respect. Neither should become a dictator, because that would be autocracy in industry, something which is repugnant to the American sense of fair play.

The success of the coal industry, and, in fact, that of every industrial enterprise must rest securely upon the fundamental principle of co-operation and good will. The relationship of employer and employees ought to be harmonious and reciprocal in all that pertains to their common welfare. There should be perfect understanding and thorough co-operation. This can be brought about in the coal industry through complete organization and collective bargaining based upon union recognition.

Summing it all up, union recognition means collective bargaining, wage contracts for fixed periods of time, efficiency, the substitution of reason and business methods for force and subjection, and the establishment of stability in industry resulting in guaranteed production, while non-unionism means inefficiency, uncertainty, industrial guerrilla warfare, strikes (because men long held in subjection will ultimately fight for the right to belong to a union and for union recognition), and the lowering of the American standard of citizenship.

It may be charged by those opposed to union recognition and collective bargaining that if the Mine Workers were completely organized they would strike and paralyze the industries of the nation at will. It must be frankly admitted that if this were true it would constitute a grave menace to the welfare, comfort and happiness of the American people. The answer to this is:

First—There could be no strike except at the termination of a contract period and only then in the event of a failure to agree upon a new wage agreement.

Second—The moral responsibility of the Operators and Miners would be so great and solemn that they could not, except in extreme emergency refuse to agree upon the terms and conditions of a fair and reasonable wage scale.

Human experience shows that responsibility sobers men so that they seriously consider their obligations and duties to themselves and their fellowmen. They hesitate under the weight of such responsibilities to incur public displeasure and to fly in the face of public opinion. Then back of it all is the powerful irresistible force of public opinion. It is the court which, after all, compels recognition. No organization or group of men can successfully carry out a movement which is opposed to public sentiment, and vice-versa, organizations, and groups of men are compelled to respond to the demand of crystallized public opinion in an affirmative way. It is this powerful, compelling, moral force which after all settles every great question affecting the public interest. The inevitable result of the workings of such a plan would be wage agreements for fixed periods of time and uninterrupted operation of the coal mines. This is a result much desired by all good, American citizens and a condition in industry for the establishment of which we may all worthily strive.

Respectfully submitted,
ELLIS SEARLES,
JOHN MOORE,
THOMAS KENNEDY.
Committee representing International Union, United Mine Workers of America.