

EDMONTON FREE PRESS

Dept. of Labor
(Circulation Branch)
Ottawa, Ont.
April 12-20

EDITED, CONTROLLED AND PUBLISHED BY THE EDMONTON TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL.

VOL. 1, No. 34.

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1919

\$1.00 Per Year; 5c Per Copy

LABOR PARTY OF UNITED STATES IS ORGANIZED

Object of Movement is to Organize Workers to Support Principles of Democracy.

Representatives of Organized Labor in convention at Chicago, Monday, created a new national political body, to be known as the Labor Party of the United States.

The convention adopted a lengthy declaration of principles of the election of a national committee, which will consist of one man and one woman from each state. Headquarters for the party will be established in Chicago.

The convention adopted a resolution condemning the peace treaty and league of nations covenant as at present drafted for the reason that it did not conform with President Wilson's fourteen points and was not in the interest of the working classes of the world.

Some of the planks in the platform are as follows:

Abolition of the United States Senate; International solidarity of labor; Maximum hours of labor for men and women to be eight hours a day and forty-eight hours a week; Old age unemployment and sick pensions; Nationalization of unused lands; Incomes of individuals to be limited by law; National initiative, referendum and recall; Application of the "home rule" principle in state, county and city government; Denunciation of government by injunction; A demand for international disarmament to prevent future war; Demolition of universal military training and conscription; Immediate release of all political and industrial prisoners; Equal pay for men and women; Denial of free speech and free press.

The object of the movement as set forth in its constitution "will be to organize all hand and brain workers of the country to support the principles of a political, social and industrial democracy."

The following resolutions were adopted:

For the impeachment by congress of the United States District Judge Anderson of Indianapolis, for his action in granting the government a mandatory injunction ordering the re-issuance of the coal miners' strike.

Protesting against the massacre of Jews in the Ukraine and other European countries.

For the release of Eugene V. Debs, Kate Richards O'Hara, Carl Haessler and 1,000 other political and industrial prisoners.

Demanding a new trial for Thomas Mooney and Warren K. Billings.

SAILORS WILL HOLD CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO

More Than 65,000 Union Sailors Will Be Represented at Twenty-third Annual Convention.

More than 65,000 union sailors will be represented by delegates to the twenty-third annual convention of the International Seamen's Union of America, which will convene in San Francisco on January 12, 1920.

Andrew Furness of San Francisco, president of the International Seamen's Union of America, will preside at the sessions of the convention, which promises to be one of the most interesting labor conventions ever held in that city.

The membership of the International Seamen's Union of America has greatly increased during the last year, with the result that there will be many "new faces" seen in the coming convention.

The Sailors' Union of the Pacific, which is making elaborate preparations for the convention, will be represented by the following delegates: W. Bastion, F. H. Bryson, Joseph Faltus, Andrew Furness, P. B. Gill, William Hardy, C. G. Larsen, W. G. Milard, Harry Olsen, Jack Rosen, Edward Rosenberg and S. A. Silver.

MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYEES GET NEW AGREEMENT

Negotiations which have been in progress since February last, by the Maintenance of Way Employees, for a new working agreement, were completed this week, by an agreement being signed between the United States railroad administration and officials of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and Shop Laborers. While demands of the union were not fully met, the eight-hour basic day was established for track laborers and others of that classification and time and one half pay after that hour was provided. Most of the other employees included under the agreement will receive time and a half overtime pay after ten hours. Approximately 400,000 men are affected.

The Labor Candidates

S. A. G. BARNES

S. A. Gordon Barnes is another of the Ontario boys. He was born on a Lambton County farm in 1875 and is of U. E. Loyalist descent. Having been brought up in the atmosphere of the pioneer he naturally drifted westward and in 1897 we find him supplementing the meagre salary of the school teacher by taking up a quarter section of raw Saskatchewan land. While doing these duties and teaching the community school, Mr. Barnes continued his studies and after



attending the University of Manitoba, graduated with first class honors in mathematics from that institution in 1903.

Although he had previously graduated from the Toronto Normal school and the Ontario School of Pedagogy the salaries offered upon the completion of his college work did not sufficiently attract and he immediately entered the insurance business in the city of Winnipeg, coming to Edmonton with his family in 1906. Mr. Barnes' fondness for the teaching profession expressed itself in his home-making for he married Miss Florence Shaver of Woodstock, Ontario, who is also an experienced teacher and a university graduate. They have four children to be educated in the Edmonton schools.

In the 1910 civic elections he was a successful School Board candidate and was re-elected with increasing majorities in three succeeding contests. His record as a consistent member of the Finance Committee and his usefulness in that committee in the early years of the war are well known to the Edmonton public. Then too, his sound, clear-cut attitude on all matters of vital importance has proved his fitness for the position as School Trustee. He believes that large financial problems will have to be solved during 1920 and new educational policies must be adopted if Edmonton is to meet her immediate educational needs. He has urged at all times the development of the community spirit.

His candidature was unanimously endorsed by the Dominion Labor Party and the Trades and Labor Council. These bodies know Mr. Barnes' democratic attitude on all public questions and are giving him their unequalled support.

J. W. H. WILLIAMS

J. W. H. Williams was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He migrated to Edmonton in 1910 and has become well known in the city as a fearless champion of clean politics and progressive



legislation. He enlisted in the 66th Battalion and left Edmonton with the rank of Sergeant. On arrival in England Sergt. Williams was transferred to the Canadian Record Office, Green Arbour House, where he remained for eight months. Mr. Williams reverted to go to

NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRADES COUNCIL

The next regular meeting of the Trades and Labor Council will be held in Labor Hall, Monday evening, December 1st. All delegates are requested to be present.

DECEMBER 13TH CONFERENCE WILL BE NOTABLE EVENT

Representatives of National and International Affiliates of A. F. of L. Will Be Present.

The December 13th conference of industrial and transportation workers, called by the A. F. of L. executive council and the four railroad brotherhoods, will be a notable event.

Representatives of national and international affiliates of the A. F. of L. will be present, as will representatives of the railroad brotherhoods. To consider the call states, the grave dangers affecting the very foundation of Organized Labor in this critical reconstruction period.

It is intended to take counsel and to formulate such action as may be essential to safeguard and promote the rights, interests and freedom of the great masses of the people of the country. "It is imperative," the call continues, "that the responsible representatives of the labor movement shall, therefore, consider the situation in the industrial and legislative field and agree upon fundamental principles, such a program which the wage earners will accept in performing their duties as citizens and at the same time maintaining the right of free men in order to conserve human interest and welfare."

"We conferred with the representatives of the various farmers' organizations. The conventions of these several bodies will be held within the next 30 days. The representatives of the farmers, while in sympathy with the conference, did not feel that they had the authority to append their names to the call. However, formal communications will be sent to their conventions inviting them to appoint representatives to participate in the conference of December 13th with authority to speak in the name of the organizations they represent."

CANADIAN EXPRESS CO. COMPROMISES WITH EMPLOYEES

The Canadian Express Company has made a compromise to its employees regarding their demand for a new schedule, which consists of an offer of an agreement as to the two weeks' vacation clause and provides for a general increase in wages whereby those receiving less than \$100 a month would receive a 15 per cent increase; those getting from \$100 to \$110 a month, a 12 per cent increase, and all getting more than \$110 a month, a 10 per cent increase. It is understood that the employees will accept the offer. Their schedule had asked for a reduction of mileage basis to 5,000 miles per month with an increase of 25 per cent on the present wage scale.

UPHOLSTERERS AT SAN FRANCISCO REFUSING TO PAY THE NEW WAGE RATE TO WOMEN MEMBERS OF THE UPHOLSTERERS UNION, WITH THE RESULT THAT THE MEN EMPLOYEES HAVE REFUSED TO WORK.

France, was included in a draft to the 49th Battalion and attached to "A" Company. For twenty months he saw continuous service in France, including the grand assault and capture of Passchendaele Ridge, where the 49th added further lustre to its splendid record, but at the price of very heavy casualties.

Though not a Mons man in 1914, he shared the honor of being among those who entered Mons the morning of November 11th, 1918, the date of the signing of the armistice.

Within a few days of his arrival home in Edmonton, Mr. Williams entered the employ of "The Western Veterans" Publishing Co., Ltd., as accountant, and he has since been elected to the Company's Board of Directors.

In response to many requests Mr. Williams decided to stand in the forthcoming municipal elections as candidate for Public School Trustee. Those who know his past record, and the ideals which he champions will have no hesitation what ever in giving Mr. Williams' candidature their hearty support. One thing that should stand him in good stead with the electorate is the fact that he is as fearless as he is earnest. He is as anxious to advance all that is best and noblest in Canadian national life as he was to defend Canadian honor in the field.

Comrade Williams who is a member of the G.W.V.A. and Secretary of the 49th Battalion Association, has been endorsed by the Dominion Labor Party and the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council.

P. M. DRAPER WINS FOURTH PLACE ON LABOR EXECUTIVE

After Hard Fight at Labor Conference Canada Wins Place on Governing Body.

P. M. Draper, secretary of the Dominion Labor Congress, and Canadian workers delegate to the Industrial Conference at Washington, has been selected as one of the six labor nominees to the governing body of the international labor office. The other five countries nominated to send a labor delegate are: France, Holland, Great Britain, Denmark and Germany. Mr. Draper took fourth place, however, should the United States join the international labor conference, he will cede to Mr. Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor.

The governing body consists of 24 persons. Twelve representing governments, six employers and six workers. The organizing committee of the conference declined to include the Dominion among the eight nations of "chief industrial importance" and therefore titled to direct representation on the governing body. The Dominion government filed a formal protest for consideration by the council of the league of nations. For several days government delegates from 34 nations had the election of the four under consideration and finally when the ballot was taken the result was the election of the four following: Canada, Spain, Poland and Argentine.

In actual voting Canada came third, a victory generally conceded to be a tribute to the forward position which the Canadian delegation has taken at the conference.

DAYLIGHT BAKING IS BEING URGED BY CAN. FEDERATION OF LABOR

Representatives of the Canadian Federation of Labor, Tuesday, interviewed Hon. Mr. Rolfo, provincial minister of labor of Ontario, and requested that the provincial government enact legislation to bring about daylight baking. The Bakers' Union, which recently lost a two weeks' strike to obtain daylight baking is affiliated with the national organization.

CARPENTERS AND PLUMBERS HAVE SECURED INCREASE

Montreal Men Who Have Been Out Since September, Successful in Securing Demands.

Montreal Carpenters returned to work Monday, after having reached an agreement with their employers, by which the men agreed to go to work at their old rate of sixty cents an hour, on the understanding that they would receive an increase of 7½ cents an hour on December 1st.

The carpenters' strike began about September 1st. About 200 men reported for work Monday.

The plumbers' strike has also been settled. The plumbers went out on September 2nd, and from October 15 to November 15th about 150 plumbers got an increase of wages to 75c an hour, returned to their work. This left some fifty or sixty plumbers still out until recently. It is understood that a committee of the master plumbers and the men will be appointed to agree on a new scale of wages and working hours. The old rate was from 45 to 60 cents an hour.

PORTLAND CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL DENOUNCES MURDER

By a standing vote last week, the Portland, Oregon Central Labor Council, adopted unanimously a resolution condemning the murder of ex-service man at Centralis, Washington, on Armistice day, and proclaimed its opposition to the revolutionary element.

Organized Carpenters at Pine Bluff, have raised wages to 92½ cents an hour.

MASS MEETING IN INTERESTS OF LABOR CANDIDATES

A mass meeting in the interests of the Labor candidates will be held in Labor Hall, Saturday evening, November 29th. Everybody welcome.

UNION EXECUTIVES HOLD MEETING IN LABOR HALL, MON.

Candidates Made Good Speeches and Appealed for Support in Next Two Weeks.

On Monday evening the Executives of the various unions in the city held a meeting in Labor Hall to discover what more they could do to help in the fight. The need of scrutineers and canvassers was emphasized. Volunteers were needed to canvass some of the polls still uncanvassed. The Organizer explained the system on which he was working and gave every encouragement if all would work. He needed some of those who had motors to volunteer their services. Mr. S. J. McCoppen, chairman of the Campaign Committee made an eloquent appeal for more funds. He pointed out that the best way to avoid the expenses of a strike was to secure the return of Labor aldermen and school trustees. The candidates made excellent speeches on what had already been done and appealed for all support during the next two weeks.

RAILWAY WORKERS HELD A SPECIAL MEETING SUNDAY

Labor Candidates Present to Urge Their Cause and to Appeal For Support.

An important gathering was held in the Labor Hall, Sunday afternoon, November 23rd, when the workers on the railroads held a special meeting and most of the Labor candidates were present to urge their cause. The issue of municipalization was featured, it being pointed out that Labor had always stood for the city owning the gas franchise itself, as well as the power plant.

The School Trustee candidates appealed for all support in their attempt to break into the School Board, which has been for so long a close corporation. All the candidates urged those present to use all their influence to have men vote for the whole ticket. The meeting was well attended.

RAILWAY CLERKS REPORT MANY NEW LODGES ORGANIZED

Adam Hay, International vice-president of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, who has been on an extended organizing trip throughout Eastern Canada, and has just returned to Winnipeg, reports his trip a successful one. He instituted lodges at St. John, N.B., Halifax, Quebec, London, Trenton, Windsor and Kenilworth. He had just received word, he said that schedule negotiations had been opened by the Montreal lodges. He also says Point St. Charles lodge in Montreal has recently collected \$11,000 back pay for its members from the Grand Trunk Railway. The schedule which the union was negotiating for in Winnipeg about two months ago, which was to apply to C.P.R. lines west of Fort William, is now in the hands of the board of adjustment, and an award by the board is expected shortly.

ABSOLUTISM NOT DEAD, SAYS THE SEAMEN'S JOURNAL

"The labor group," says the Seamen's Journal, San Francisco, "walked out of the national industrial conference because the spirit of absolutism that died with Louis XIV has been reincarnated and has found a voice in Gary and the other feudal lords of the United States who profess to believe that they are the industry of America and that those employed therein are mere serfs."

LABOR COMMITTEE ROOMS

LABOR HALL, PURVIS BLOCK
Over Dominion Cigar Store, Corner First and Jasper
PHONE 4018

For information as to whether you are on the list and where you vote. Any information regarding the campaign gladly given. Those desiring to give their services in aid of the Labor candidates ask for Mr. Freeman.

NEWS OF THE LOCAL UNIONS

CIVIC SERVICE UNION No. 52.

Miss Lynn was a guest at an oyster supper one evening last week. From the rumors that are abroad it would appear that pearl hunting here has its perils for the medicine chest had to be promptly visited.

A quick recovery from ptomaine poisoning is exceptional. Congratulations, Miss Coonette.

Why not form a Ladies' Civic Basket Ball team? Talk this over with Miss Auld (Assessor's Dept.) We anticipate an early announcement of the first game. Agility creates and perpetuates gracefulness.

Bro. Robson walked into an open manhole a few days ago and rumor has it that in his descent most of his clothes was forcibly removed.

They are celebrating the advent of a daughter at the home of Bro. F. Smith. A variation in the route and destination of the stork would receive no adverse comment.

We would remind the Sixth floor that to have one of their staff roll in the snow on 95th street has an absence of dignity. If a Russian bath is desired a more appropriate place should be selected.

THE CIVICS AT THE 'Y.'

Freddie Smith of the Elliott Fisher fame surpassed himself in the rope climbing contests, climbing in great style but got overheated with a burned palm as a result.

F. Neal, of the telephone, took the record time, doing the trick in 11 1-5 seconds.

Another good man came from the telephone in the person of Harry Fawns, who tied with Freddie Smith; time 11 2-5 seconds.

In the quiet throwing, H. G. Turner (Comptroller) and H. W. Fawns (Telephone) sure put over some ringers as did Small from the Engineers, but our friend from the Health, could show more efficiency with a milk tester.

The number of baseball players we have (not) in the block, was ascertained on Thursday evening as the score will show. True, Joe threw some ball but the support he got from 2nd baseman Neal did not give him a chance. Williams and Neal junior showed some style at bat and would have made some score had there been three pieces of ash behind the plate. Mac sure is some 1st baseman and made the only play of the evening.

Neal, senior, in the volley ball found serving not quite like being behind a lunch counter, the ceiling being in the way every time.

But at basketball the Civics shine, even though they think the freestyle preferable to practice. McCormack is certainly younger in basketball than one would think, especially when we saw the way he tackled Husky Bill of the Posties. Brother Turner had a couple of nasty attacks of cramp, but did good work in spite of them. Bro. Denton is bemoaning the loosening up of a couple of teeth and one cracked rib, so we understand that there was not so much gore in the game, as when certain other teams met. Fawns is sure a great boy and we heard the Posties more than once say "Watch the fellow in white."

The musical talent of the block did not turn out; much to our sorrow, for we hoped to hear Paderewski's rival in Craig, and it is said that the Salvation Army Captain would have been put quite in the shade for concertina work had Nursery shown up.

But we had a good time, anyway, thanks to the 'Y.' and the Posties.

C. N. R. MACHINISTS.

The regular meeting of Lodge 817, I.A. of M. is on December 5, and as this is the night of election of officers for the year 1920, a special effort must be made to be at the meeting. Don't let George do it and grouse for another year if your choice isn't in office. Get busy! The place to air your grievances is in the lodge room, not on the other side of an engine.

The Joint Federation's meeting, of course, was fairly well attended, considering the temperature. Bro. Sommer giving some interesting information. The other brother would have been more pleasing to the majority if he had chosen some other subject than ancient history. That book has been in the "Journal" (Machinists'—not this local junk) and spoken at every convention since conventions started. Something more along the lines of modern history-making is what is necessary. Let some of these besides Machinists

DISCUSSION OF 'MAXIMUM HOURS, MINIMUM WAGES'

That Production Is Not Hampered By Limiting of Hours Has Been Demonstrated

(By Walter Smitten)

Judging from the expressions of the representatives of the manufacturers at the National Industrial Conference if the number of hours during which workers should be permitted to perform service were limited in accordance with the expressed desires of the representatives of Organized Labor then the business of the nation would suffer, we would not be able to retain our place in the world's market. The possibility of the regulation of hours of labor interfering with their profits I venture to say was the underlying reason for their objections.

Short Work Day More Profitable.

That production is not hampered by the limiting of hours has been demonstrated too often for this objection to have any value. Superficially viewing our places of commodity production we find almost without exception that where the shorter work day has been put into operation along with organization and installation of modern machinery the result have proven this system is more profitable to the employer than the old one when long hours were worked and I venture the opinion that where the change has been made the employer would be loth to revert to the old order of things. Our large industrial plants where the shorter work day is in operation are competing very successfully and in our institutions for distribution where the shorter work day has been tried we do not see a loss of business but rather a greater volume.

If this then is correct of what advantage is it to the wage worker to have shorter hours, if in the shorter work day we produce a larger volume of commodities will this not mean that we will have greater periods of idleness or a larger unemployed market. If all our business institutions were highly organized yes, but because such is not the case should the worker be required to spend long hours in the work shop; is

(Continued on Page Two)

C.P.R. TRAINMEN AND CONDUCTORS SIGN AGREEMENT

A new agreement has been signed by the general committees of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors and the C.P.R. The agreement carries an increase in wages for most of the men in train and yard service and makes a few changes in the rules governing working conditions of yardmen; switch tenders now being included in the employees legislated for. The contract signed is virtually the same as obtains on United States roads, but the greater portion of the increase in wages has been paid by the company since last summer, the men having had an interim agreement to that effect.

The United Brick and Clay Workers at Chicago, have decided that striking steel workers may be employed in any yard in that district. The only requirement is that the striker must have a paid up card in the organization to which he is affiliated.

who read this get busy and tell your G.E.B.'s that you want closer combinations of craft organizations.

The shop comm. has been tackled by a mob of protests against a somewhat unnecessary piece of "sabotage" against the lavatory in the machine shop. It is rumored that someone is taking up a subscription to buy a door for the person who stole the lavatory door so that the place may be closed to the shop again.

The team of Woods & Mathew are getting along famously with their polling district and expect to pull in the whole outfit. Sounds good.

Look here youse guys wat's got a grouse against any on the Labor Ticket. Wat's th use uh spolling my town by lettin' some uh th' board uh trade profitters and wops wat call themselves "Citizens Committee" run th show for profit—sh! for themselves, eh? Youse vote th' whole labor ticket—see! I'm tellin' yuh!

PLUMBERS AND STEAM FITTERS.

Members of this local attended the general Federation meeting Tuesday evening and feel their time well spent in listening to addresses by Messrs. Somerville and Kirwin.

Members are requested to be at the meeting on time Friday night as business of importance will come up.

The Secretary has received some copies of the new agreement which will be given out at the meeting.

Don't forget to sav't that fifty cents, boys, as you need the money.