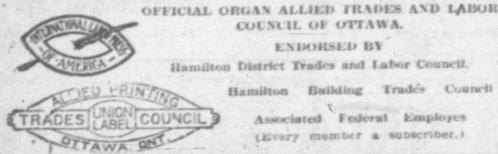


Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

THOUSANDS OF IMMIGRANTS COMING

EVERY available boat will be put on the Atlantic run," says the Glasgow Evening Times in its issue of December 31, "but even then, it is felt, the year will be well advanced before the last of the voyagers get away."

The above statement is one that calls for some explanation on the part of the Canadian Government. Despite the grave unemployment in Canada at the present time the immigration recruiting campaign continues in Britain.

The recent declaration of Mr. Lloyd George, Premier of Great Britain, brought forth spirited editorials in almost all of the British newspapers, and much interesting information may be gleaned from a perusal of their columns. The British press is unanimous in stating that thousands of Britishers are ready to emigrate to Canada and are awaiting only the opening of the St. Lawrence. Few of the newspapers tell of the conditions existing here, and Canadian Atlantic ports will see a greater number of intending immigrants during the coming year than at any previous period in our history unless the Canadian Government takes some action to prevent an influx into an already over-burdened labor market.

The Daily Chronicle, published in London, Eng., under date of January 3, says:

"Any possibility of a stampede has been effectually checked by the shortage of shipping to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Much is being said about present conditions in Canada, but Canada's door has generally been closed in the winter. What about spring when her vast prairie lands will be calling for labor?"

The Financial News, also published in London, Eng., under date of January 3, states that with the opening of spring immigration to Canada will continue. This newspaper says:

"There was considerable comment aroused by the remark of the Prime Minister recently that emigration would help to solve the unemployment question. As an immediate cure, of course, no help can be expected from this source, but in the case of Canada, at least, this is merely a seasonable difficulty, and with the coming of spring the demand will again be insistent for workers."

Under the heading "Expected Boom in the Spring," the Glasgow Evening Times, published at Glasgow on December 31, says:

"Despite what one learns of the condition of employment in Canada—it is as bad as in this country, if not worse—the young men are not to be deterred, and they comprise at least 75 per cent. of the intending emigrants. All that is wanted is the opening of the St. Lawrence, which takes place somewhere about April, for the trek to commence. As usual the Golden West has proven an irresistible magnet and the shipping companies are faced with a serious problem in the way of providing accommodation. EVERY AVAILABLE BOAT WILL BE PUT ON THE ATLANTIC RUN, but even then, it is felt, the year will be well advanced before the last of the voyagers get away."

ANY PLAN BUT LABOR'S.

BY the "Optional Plan of Employment" the Hamilton Branch of the Association of Building and Construction Industries hope to destroy the International Trades Union Movement.

The "plan" is simply a part of the "Open Shop" campaign now being waged with great vigor in the United States and in some parts of Canada. There is no mistaking what the "Optional Plan of Employment" means, for in the concluding paragraph of the proposal we read: "Closed shop conditions will not be tolerated here."

It is indeed passing strange that so soon after the war fought in the name of democracy, employers should endeavor to take democracy out of industry. This the "Optional Plan of Employment" seeks.

The "plan" paves the way for a black list. Among other things it provides that "the secretary be advised of employers' requirements for labor and that his office be a clearing house for all classes of labor for members of this association."

Under the "Optional Plan of Employment" there will be no uniformity of wage standards, for it is agreed by the members of the association that "the secretary shall have the power to examine the pay sheets of any employer."

Here is some of the democracy the Hamilton Branch of the Association of Building and Construction Industries will endeavor to take out of the building industry:

"Every employer," according to the Plan, "has the right to decide for himself, what the working conditions in his business shall be. The number of foremen, apprentices, helpers, handymen, etc., to be employed should be determined solely by the employer."

"In the operation of any system of hours or wages now in force or to be extended or established in the

DAN McCANN DECLARES HIMSELF

With Apologies to Edgar A. Guest.
Said Dan McCann to a foreign man
who worked at the self-same form,
"Let me tell you this," and swung his arms
like a windmill tossed in a storm,
"Don't talk to me of the Bourgeoisie,
don't open your mouth to speak
Of your socialists or your anarchists,
don't mention the bolshevik.
For I've had enough of this foreign stuff,
I'm sick as a man can be
Of the speech of hate, and I'm telling you
straight that this is the land for me.

"If you want to brag, just take that flag,
an' hoist it on its field o' mine,
An' praise the dead an' the blood they shed
for the peace o' the likes o' you,
I'll hear no more," and he waved once more
his arms in a way fierce full,
"O' the cunning creed o' some Russian breed,
I stand for John Bull,
I'm done with your fads, and your wild-eyed
lads, don't flourish your rag o' red
Where I can see, or at night there's be
tall candles around your bed.

"So tip your hat to the flag like that:
Thank God for its red, white and blue!
Thank God you're here where the roads are
clear, away from your kaisers and cars,
I can't just say what I feel today, for I'm
not a talkin' man,
But first an' last, I am standin' fast
for all that's Canadian,
So don't you speak of the bolshevik,
I'm sick of it as I can be.
One God, one flag, is the creed I brag:
The Land of the North for me."

future this association should not countenance any conditions which are not just or which will not allow a workman to earn a wage proportionate to his producing capacity."

We could go on but the above will suffice to prove our contention that the Hamilton Branch of the Association of Building and Construction Industries seek to destroy the International Trades Union Movement.

However, the International Trades Union Movement is in a better position to resist such moves on the part of hostile employers than it was some years ago. It is only a short time ago that the various unions of the building industry in Hamilton organized themselves into a Building Trades Council. Workers employed in the building industry in Ottawa did this some time ago and have had a union shop for the past two years and there is every reason to believe that this condition will continue. Certainly the "Optional Plan of Employment" is not acceptable to Organized Labor and we would suggest to the Hamilton Branch of the Association of Building and Construction Industries that a much better plan is that of the International Trades Union Movement which is based on justice and fair play. Under Labor's plan the workers have a voice in fixing wage standards, hours of toil, and working conditions, and further are at all times willing to discuss the problems of industry in a joint industrial council upon which there shall be equal representation of employers and employees. These latter conditions are essential to democracy in industry.

NATIONAL PROPAGANDA

ONE of the leaders of a secessionist movement, masking under the name of a purely "Canadian organization," has sent to the Canadian Labor Press a communication for publication. It is needless for us to state that we have refused to carry on propaganda for any secessionist movement. However, in setting forth their appeal these secessionists state that all of their members are Canadian or British born. This sort of propaganda listens well, but the International Trades Union Movement is not so narrow as to exclude from its ranks any of the workers employed in industry, regardless of their place of birth. We do not purpose to go into a lengthy discussion on the question at this time, but Canadian workers know that their interests are identical with those of workers in the United States. Canada is a member of the League of Nations and the great labor movement in Canada must become even more international than at present. Efforts have been made from time to time to revive the National Labor Movement in Canada. We had an example of it in Western Canada in 1919 when the One Big Union made its debut. It lived but a short time. We have the national movement in the Province of Quebec, and it will soon be a thing of the past. Ontario has had its Canadian Federation of Labor which organized the strike breakers and "ratted" on the internationals during the strike on the Chippawa Canal. The latest addition to the ranks in Toronto will make but little headway.

It is surprising to note that the stationery used of the Allied Printing Trades Council. Yet these same people state that they are fighting the workers' battles, by the Toronto secessionists does not bear the union

OBSTRUCTION BY DESTRUCTIONISTS.

SOME members of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly, mostly O.B.U. in sentiment if not actually members of this ultra-radical "working class" organization, will, according to information obtained at the Legislature by one of the Winnipeg newspapers, block the business of the House until the Winnipeg strike leaders are released. The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada months ago formulated a policy which might have resulted in the release of the imprisoned men. Mr. R. B. Russell complied with the requests of the Trades and Labor Congress and sent in an appeal for clemency with the result that his release was secured. The rest of the imprisoned men preferred to listen to the ravings of the Defense Committee, which seems more concerned in the destruction of the International Trades Union Movement than in securing the release of the imprisoned men.

The "working class" members of the Manitoba Legislature would be better advised if they concentrated their energies in securing real legislation in the interest of the workers of Manitoba.

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