

# LABOR

Weekly News Letter

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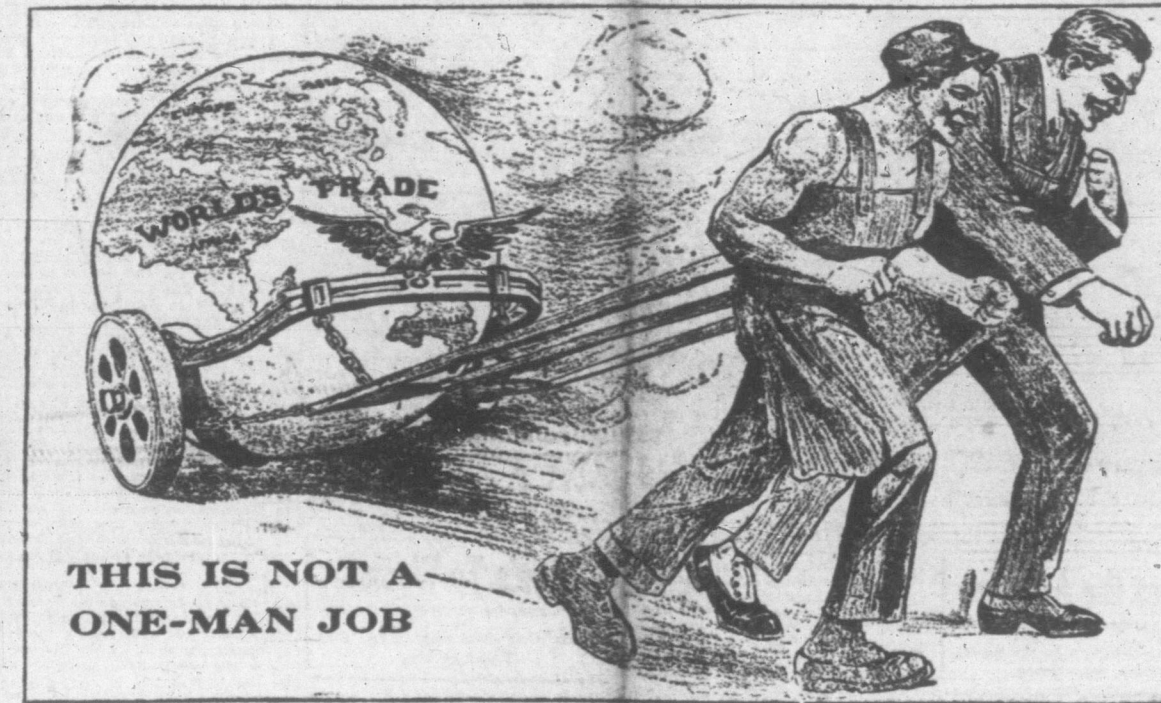
## AGENDA OF GOVERNMENT INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE INCLUDES MANY QUESTIONS

President Tom Moore, of Dominion Trades Congress, and Deputy Minister of Labor Acland Will Represent Canada at Sessions Which Will Open in London O Monday.

On Monday next, March 22, the adjourned meeting of the Governing Body of the International Labor Office will convene in London, Eng. The agenda, which is a very lengthy one, includes matters of interest to the workers the world over. Among other things it includes the question of a commission on immigration and emigration for the women's convention which will be held at Genoa, Italy, in June. Both of these questions are of particular interest to Canada, and as the Dominion Government is represented by Deputy Minister of Labor Acland and the workers by President Tom Moore of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, Canada's case will be presented.

When Labor's demands were presented to the Canadian Government some few weeks ago, various resolutions dealing with immigration were laid before the Government for consideration. Canada has made itself particularly prominent in regard to seamen, for at the International Labor Conference at Ottawa, Hon. W. P. Howland, President of the Canadian Labor Council, who represented the Canadian Government, moved an amendment to the labor convention which included the seamen, thereby including them in the definition to be arrived at in the coming conference. In connection with the inclusion of the seamen, the Dominion Government has a position as one of the maritime nations of the world.

This week a copy of the agenda for the meeting reached Ottawa. It is as follows: 1. Approval of the minutes of the second meeting. 2. Report of the Director, Organization of the office. 3. Report of the Director, Department of Labor, on the work done by the office. 4. Report of the Director, Department of Labor, on the work done by the office. 5. Report of the Director, Department of Labor, on the work done by the office. 6. Report of the Director, Department of Labor, on the work done by the office. 7. Standing orders of the governing body. 8. Commission on Immigration. 9. Question of the British Library and relations with the Trade Office. 10. Date and place of the next meeting of the governing body. In connection with the International Labor Office it is interesting to note that Albert Thomas, director of the International Bureau of La-



THIS IS NOT A ONE-MAN JOB

TOGETHER THEY DO IT WITH EASE.

From the Baltimore Trade Unionist.

### "P. R." Success in Ireland.

The first example in the United Kingdom of the working of the Proportional Representation system on a large scale is afforded by the final figures of the Irish municipal elections now published.

The number of electors on the register was 474,992, of whom 70 per cent. recorded their votes. There were 1,735 contested seats. The number of seats actually won was 1,100. The number of seats won by Sinn Finn was 520, Labor 344, Unionists 316, Independents 289, and Nationalists 246. Of the voters 87,311 gave their first choice to Sinn Finn, 53,932 to the Unionists, and 87,626 to Labor.

### BOLSHEVISM SCORNE BY PRODUCING MASSES IN EVERY COUNTRY OUTSIDE RUSSIA

"Rainbow Chasers" Made Dixy By Madness of Bolshevist Whirl Have Fallen In, As Was To Have Been Expected.

Leadership is superficially at least "a scholarly affair." It is much more so in the case of Bolshevism, as Journalism. In fact, almost every French Socialist politician of note also is a journalist, for the one profession makes the other necessary. The French Socialist leader truly belongs to the section of the bourgeoisie which is the most generally known as the intellectual.

### Compulsory Labor For Soviet Russia.

A Moscow wireless message reports that a Committee for (General) Compulsory Labor has been appointed with Dzerzhinsky (chairman of the All-Russian Extraordinary Commission) as chairman.

The problems of today are too great for anything but collective effort. It is not enough to deal with labor they must get to know it. Sentiment has been outraged—and sentiment will fight. Every slogan, every pressure, death every illiterate every thrifty soul whose wages were too low to enable him to avoid income tax, every housewife whose income tax was too high to enable her to suffer when she is overtaken by illness—these were not the concerns of Capital. There have been exceptions, but will recently these were only sufficient to emphasize the rule.

### ONTARIO CIVIL SERVANTS' FIGURES ON LIVING COSTS.

Figures as to the increase in the cost of living in the last five years have been prepared by the Ontario Civil Service Association for submission to the Government in support of their demands for liberal salary increases. During the years 1914-1919, says the statement, increases in the cost of living in Ontario were: Staple foods, 103.4 per cent; fuel and lighting, 84.5 per cent; rent, 80.7 per cent; clothing, from 110 to 142 per cent; boots and shoes, from 150 to 250 per cent.

### ALL NEUTRALS EXCEPT TWO HAVE JOINED LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

With the official notification announced last week of the accession to the League of Nations of Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Salvador and Venezuela, of the 13 nations, non-signatories of the Versailles Treaty, invited to become original members of the League, have definitely accepted. Salvador has signified its intention of joining the league, but Venezuela has not yet declared its intention.

### DIRECT ACTION AGAIN DEFEATED IN BRITAIN

Miners' Proposition Fails to Attract Other Workers.

As was expected the British Trade Union Congress at its special session in London last week defeated the direct action proposals to nationalize the mines. The vote was an overwhelming one, and the direct actionists were defeated. The Glasgow convention last fall and the breaking point in the influence of the extremist element, which was the only speaker who championed the strike policy. He declared that the Government had broken faith with labor in refusing to put into effect the majority report of the Sankey Commission, which investigated the mine situation and which called for nationalization of mines.

### QUEBEC CHILD LABOR LAW TO BE ENFORCED

Dept. of Factory Inspection Open Court Room in Montreal.

New legislation with regard to child labor, virtually in effect in the Province of Quebec at the present time, actually came into effect this week with the opening of a court room at 2 St. James street, Montreal, by the Department of Factory Inspection for the purpose of examining each child employed in the industry, and providing him or her with a certificate regarding age and education which will in future eliminate much of the difficulty met with by the factory inspector in attempting to deal with a large number of children in a limited period of time.

### SOME POSTAL STATISTICS FOR CANADA.

The report of the Canadian Postmaster-General has been laid upon the table of the House of Commons, and shows a surplus revenue of some \$2,000,000. The net revenue for the fiscal year 1919-20 was \$11,627,112.62, an increase of \$257,815.20, as against an expenditure of \$10,429,334.34, an increase of \$1,297,978.31 over the year 1918-19. There were 1,100 new offices opened during the year 1919, 1,290 post offices in operation at the end of the year. Of these 31 new ones were inaugurated during the year, making a total of 3,705 in operation.

### CAN'T SUPPLY CANADA'S DEMAND FOR "SCOTCH."

A special correspondent of the Daily Graphic says that the only way Scotland is likely to go dry is by Canada draining her of whiskey.

### U. S. ANTHRACITE COAL MINERS' DEMANDS.

Demands which American anthracite coal miners have asked mine operators to incorporate in the new wage agreement to be drafted to take effect April 1, were formally presented to the mine owners last week, and a sub-committee of practical men were named to negotiate the new contract. The demands include the following:

### PLANS TO CARRY ORE FROM B. C. MINES.

Four aeroplanes are to be used this summer in carrying ore from the mines of the Granby Mining Company, 12 miles to tidewater at Stewart, B.C. It was announced last week. Each plane will carry 1,000 pounds. Freight charges will thus be reduced 50 per cent. It is predicted.

### QUITE A DIFFERENCE

Interesting news comes from Calgary, says the American Federationist. Recently the Alberta Federation of Labor concluded its annual convention in that city. Reports covering the work of the convention indicate that the element which in the 1919 convention brought forward the "One Big Union" idea, was conspicuous only by its absence. This was the element which found its voice in the late labor strike. Reason evidently has re-established itself, as it is always bound to do among men who are bound by the facts of life's struggle, which has already been brought and paid for. Such was the case in Alberta. However the experience will not have been entirely on the debit side if it helps make clear the fallacy of "One Big Unionism."

### DUTY OF GOVT'S TO STRENGTHEN TIES BETWEEN CANADA AND GREAT BRITAIN.

At a farewell banquet to General MacBrien in London recently, Mr. Adamson, parliamentary leader of the British Labor party, prophesied that Canada would develop into one of the mightiest nations of the earth and urged "to be the duty of both the Imperial and Dominion Governments to strengthen the ties between Canada and Britain, enlarge their union and relationship, while respecting all their rights and privileges of self-government and self-determination."

### CANADIAN TEACHERS SHOULD AT ONCE AFFILIATE WITH TRADES CONGRESS

School teachers in the United States are fast lining up in the Trade Union movement. Local unions are springing up everywhere and the total membership of Trade Union school teachers in the United States is now over 9,000. According to the report of the American Federation of Labor, new local unions were organized during February in Minnesota, University of North Dakota, Selma, California; Franklin County, Illinois, and Madison, South Dakota State Normal School. The report also states that vigorous campaigns are being carried on in all parts of the country to increase salaries and improve conditions. These efforts are receiving support not merely in justice to the teachers but in an effort to maintain the schools in a serious danger from lack of properly-trained and efficient teachers. In Canada the teachers have organized themselves into Associations and Federations with no Labor affiliation but the time will eventually come when it will be necessary for them to join with other wage earners. Many of the teachers realize this now but the propaganda which is being put out by the labor movement will have to be continued. Many of the teachers are still of the belief that they are the "aristocracy of labor." The Dominion Government and practically all of the Provincial Governments have recognized the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress as the official mouthpiece of Labor in Canada and teachers will see that it will be in their interest to affiliate with the organization, recognized by the various governments. Not a few believe that Labor is interested only in increasing wages

### AMERICAN CIVIL SERVANTS HAVE BENEFITED BY LABOR AFFILIATION

During the Civil Service Federation convention at Ottawa last week one of the members voiced his opinion against Labor affiliation. There was nothing new in what he said and it was along the line that a public servant had nothing in common with Labor. His argument is best answered by an interesting statement issued by President Stewart of the National Federation of Federal employees of the United States under the name of "Employer for Employer." He says: "What has the National Federation of Federal employees gained in its affiliation with the American Federation of Labor? (1) It was the A. F. of L. that at the beginning of our organization's history defeated the Boardman amendment the first time it was introduced in Congress. Later the A. F. of L. under the leadership of President Gompers, was largely instrumental in bringing about the veto by President Wilson of the Legislative bill because it contained the Boardman amendment. (2) It was the membership of the A. F. of L. through its affiliated body, the Central Labor Union of Kansas City, that cast the votes which defeated the Boardman amendment in the primaries in his district in 1918, and prevented his return to Congress. This happened because we were admitted to the A. F. of L. (3) It was the membership of the A. F. of L. through its Central Labor Union in every state that asked Congress, at our request, to grant the war bonus, first to \$125 per week, and then of \$144 per year, which 200,000 federal employees are now receiving. These central labor unions, representing millions of votes throughout the country, helped us because of our affiliation with the A. F. of L. (4) It is the National Federation of Federal employees in any way controlled by the American Federation of Labor? No. The N. F. F. E. is completely self-governing as are all other organizations affiliated with the A. F. of L. As stated in the constitution of the A. F. of L. (Art. 2, Sec. 2), national and international trade unions chartered by the A. F. of L. are "based upon a strict recognition of the autonomy of each trade." Gen. members of the National Federation of Federal employees are called out on strike by the A. F. of L. No. Not under any circumstances. The constitution of the N. F. F. E. contains the following clause (Art. 2, Sec. 2): "Provided, that under no circumstances shall this federation engage in or support strikes against the United States Government." The A. F. of L. has no power to call a strike of any organization whatsoever, and no striking organization has power to call a strike of members of any other organization.

## NATION GREATER THAN THE SECTION--IT MUST LIVE OR UNITS COMPOSING IT DIE

W. A. Appleton, Secretary of British Trade Union Congress, Points To Fallacy of Socialization of Industry and Destruction of Individual Enterprise.

Suggestions replete with good, sound advice have been made by W. A. Appleton, secretary of the General Federation of Trade Unions, England, and president of the International Federation of Trades Unions, in an article published in his newspaper, the Democrat (London). Mr. Appleton directs attention to the fallacious theory, that conditions can be remedied through the socialization of industry and the destruction of individual enterprise. He shows that such a programme was virtually followed during the war, with general dissatisfaction. He shows other students of the world's complex problems he sees the cure in work and a square deal. He writes: "We are all agreed that the destruction is like a sick man. We are not clear as to the causes, and we differ concerning remedies. One tells us that the present-day situation is due to Capital; another that the form of government is wrong; another that all government is wrong. The capitalist does his duty to Labor? For all time Capital has, in its own opinion, fulfilled its duty when it has paid the highest wages. Labor could secure by individual or collective demand. The conditions under which men have lived, the standard of living, the depth of their suffering when old are overtaken by illness—these were not the concerns of Capital. There have been exceptions, but will recently these were only sufficient to emphasize the rule.

The problems of today are too great for anything but collective effort. It is not enough to deal with labor they must get to know it. Sentiment has been outraged—and sentiment will fight. Every slogan, every pressure, death every illiterate every thrifty soul whose wages were too low to enable him to avoid income tax, every housewife whose income tax was too high to enable her to suffer when she is overtaken by illness—these were not the concerns of Capital. There have been exceptions, but will recently these were only sufficient to emphasize the rule.

If you want to lead men you must lead them, not follow them. They must see your objective as well as your point of departure. It is claimed that the socialization of everything will enable shorter hours to be worked and higher wages to be paid. To advance this theory is to ignore the experience of the five years of the actual period which Britain has been under a socialistic Government in the sense that the Government has controlled the land, the mines, the factories, and other means of production. It is perhaps justifiable to say that during this period no soul in Great Britain, apart from the officials who have been satisfied with the efforts of the Government. People have to pur-

### CANADA A FIRST-CLASS MEMBER OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Plans for the Great War Veterans' Association's convention at Montreal are now complete. Arrangements have now been made with the Ritz Carlton, the Windsor, the Corona, and Queen's Hotels to accommodate the delegates. The convention will be held at the Ritz Carlton on March 20 and 21. The Dominion Executive will hold a meeting in the Windsor.

### MANITOBA PUBLIC BUILDINGS COSTLY.

It will cost \$5,075,418 to complete the Parliament Buildings in Winnipeg, according to figures given the Legislature of Manitoba at its sitting last week, by Hon. H. A. Grimwood, Minister of Public Works. The return sets out that the Board of Appraisals awards \$1,397,351 against Thomas Kelly & Sons, the original contractors.

### PROMINENT TYPO DEAD.

One of the most prominent members of the International Typographical Union in the person of L. C. Sheppard, died last week at his home in Grand Rapids, Mich.