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Head International Labor Office Outlines Policy

TRYING TO UNITE CANADIAN LABOR IN ONE BIG BODY

Sydney.—Headquarters of District of the United Mine Workers of America at Glace Bay has been active several days mailing to every labor organization in Canada copies of the new platform adopted recently by the district executive in special session at Sydney Mines. On its purely industrial side, the platform's most important plank is a demand for a six-hour day and a five-day week. From other standpoints its most important provision is that which calls for a central council empowered to take any action it may deem necessary to enforce the demands of the members at any time. This would be pointed out, empower the central council to call a general strike of all trades and crafts under its jurisdiction. In a speech at Sydney, J. B. Maclean, of District No. 26, secretary of the United Mine Workers, indicated that the object of the platform and appeal to the workers, was to organize them into one big centralized union upon a basis modified to profit by the mistakes of the One Big Union. The circulars going out, should they achieve their object, would result in new central labor power superseding the present Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. It is generally known that the Nova Scotia mine chiefs have no love for the latter organization.

RETAIL CLERKS ELECT OFFICERS

At their bi-monthly meeting, Local 32, Retail Clerks' International Protective Association, of Ottawa, elected a new board of officers for the coming year. Addressing the large attendance, just previous to the nominations, retiring president William Howard said that through the good-will and cooperation of all the other officers, whom he tendered hearty thanks, the association had continued to be a source of great benefit to its members. He wished that all retail clerks would take advantage of all the means which the association was using to promote the individual competency of its members as salespeople. Retiring Vice-President J. E. Richard thanked the members for the confidence they had placed in him for four years. The result of the election follows: President: Thomas Stringer; first vice-president, Alex. Larose; second vice-president, Miss B. Godmaire; secretary-treasurer, O. Paquette; secretary, Emile Richard; auditors, J. A. Baily, and A. DeGagne; trustees, W. Audrey and E. Mainville; guide, L. Casault; guardians, J. Haghenback; committee to visit the sick, Misses B. A. Lavoie, B. Levesque, Mrs. Nellie Bennett, Messrs. Alf Laframboise, J. Tessier and H. M. Rowe; delegates to the A. T. and L. Council, Messrs. H. Stringer, A. Larose and Thos. March. The installation of these officers will take place January 3rd, 1923.

OLD IRISH GAME PLAYED BY LABOR

In British Parliament. Obstruct Progress of Appropriations. The Labor Party in the House of Commons resenting the government's determination to prorogue parliament on Friday, without first taking what the party regards as adequate steps to deal with unemployment, resolved at a party meeting on Tuesday to adopt tactics aimed to keep the house in continuous session until Friday night. The Laborites began to put the scheme into operation at once, using the obstructive measures so long successfully employed by the Irish members when in Westminster by arranging relays, which alternately attend the session, and then rest. For several hours now they have prevented the House from rising, and it looks as if they may achieve their purpose.

BAHAMAN WORKMEN OBJECTED TO ALIENS

Havana.—Fifty-seven Cuban and Spanish Masons reached Havana on the steamer "Cuba" yesterday, reporting that they were driven from Nassau Bahamas by a mob and that four of their companions had been killed and a number injured in disorders which occurred some days ago. Several months ago about three hundred workmen were shipped from Cuba to Nassau by contractors who were rebuilding a hotel recently destroyed by fire. Resentment over the employment of foreign labor was roused among the Bahaman workmen according to the accounts and this culminated in the attack.

FOUR MEN SCALDED C.N.R. OTTAWA TRAIN

Joliette Que.—Three men were badly scalded and fourteen cars were derailed, blocking the main line so that seven cars had to be burned when the engine of a freight train from Ottawa exploded four miles from this town. The victims were Engineer W. J. Martin, Fireman A. Flannan, and Brakeman M. Herard, all of Joliette. It is believed all will recover.

LABOR SITUATION REFLECTS ON TRADE

Toronto Unemployed Increases. Customary Christmas Business Fails to Develop. Winnipeg.—The weekly trade report of the Canadian Creditmen's Trust Association, Limited, states: "Halifax.—Wholesalers and manufacturer report business show with reasonable orders holding off, owing to the mild weather. Retailers say trade put up to the same period of 1921. Little real life in buying is shown, especially in dry goods, millinery and men's wear. Collections continue slow. St. John.—Wholesalers reports a fair volume of trade. Retail conditions are gradually improving, but old outstandings are still slow. Montreal.—Wholesale and retail business quiet. Boots and shoes expecting more activity owing to the change in weather. Collections are gradually improving, but old outstandings are still slow. Toronto.—Conditions are much the same as reported last week with possibly a larger number of unemployed. Manufacturing and wholesale trade quiet. Retailers are not yet doing customary amount of Christmas business. Collections still leave very much to be desired. Winnipeg.—Wholesale business as a whole is of fair volume, general collections fair; drygoods report business very fair considering general conditions. Boots and shoes active. Collections better. Retail trade fair, supported by reasonable weather. Regina.—Wholesale trade generally fair, retail business shows some improvement. Collections very slow. Saskatoon.—Conditions almost identical as reported from Regina. Calgary.—Wholesale trade quiet; recent touch of winter weather has caused improvement in some classes of retail business. Conditions generally, however, are disappointing and not up to expectations. Current obligations are being fairly well met, but little change in old liabilities. Vancouver.—Wholesale hardware and grocery business good. Drygoods improving. Boots and shoes very quiet. Retail hardware and grocery fairly good. Drygoods slightly improved. Boots and shoes very quiet. These conditions are reflected in collections affecting the trades mentioned.

LABOR DOUBLES STRENGTH IN NEW ZEALAND ELECTION

Party Make Big Gain With Returns Incomplete. Prohibition Will Be Defeated. Wellington, N.Z.—A feature of the parliamentary election was the vote of labor, which, with the returns still incomplete, had today doubled its previous strength. Because of the large number of absent voters who cast their ballots by permit, the results of the voting for parliament had not been ascertained. The government and reformist parties have so far won 9 seats each, while labor has 17 and the Liberals and Independents 24. Returns from the licensing referendum compiled so far show a majority against prohibition. Premier W. F. Massey, who expressed the wish that he would have an absolute majority over all the parties in the New Zealand general election, yesterday said he was yet unable to make a definite statement as to the outcome of the voting.

CANADA LOOKS FOR U.S. IMMIGRANTS

Minister of Interior Reports Extensive Movement of Farmers Expected. Ottawa.—Canada will in all probability get an extensive movement of farmers from the United States to the Dominion during the next immigration season, but this movement, for various reasons, will not be as large as might have been expected in the opinion of Hon. Charles Stewart, minister of the interior, who has returned from Chicago, where he held a series of conferences with Canadian immigration agents stationed in the United States. Thousands of American farmers, discouraged by high overhead costs, due to inflated prices of land which they purchased during the war years, would welcome the chance to locate on cheaper lands in Canada, Mr. Stewart was informed, but these men are faced with great difficulty in disposing of their holdings at prices which would enable them to move across the border.

MINOR KILLED BY COAL BOX IN No. 2 MINE

James Hibbs, a young man, lost his life in No. 2 mine, Glace Bay, when he was struck by a coal box. Hibbs was employed in the mine as a landing tender, and was on his way up deep when struck by the fast moving box. Death was almost instantaneous. This is the second accident of a similar nature to occur within the past few weeks. The deceased who was 25 years of age, resided with his parents at New Aberdeen. He was a native of Newfoundland. Beside his parents he is survived by several brothers and sisters.

DISTINGUISHED FRENCHMAN HAS CONFIDENCE OF ULTIMATE SUCCESS DESPITE MANY GREAT DIFFICULTIES

We have confidence in the sentiments of humanity, and in spite of many and great difficulties we will pursue our path, declared M. Albert Thomas, director of the International Labor Office in connection with the League of Nations, in an address to a large and representative audience at the luncheon in the main dining hall of the Chateau Laurier yesterday, under the auspices of the Ottawa Branch of the League of Nations Society and the Canadian Club. M. Thomas was given a most cordial hearing and loudly applauded at the close of his address, most of which was in English. He outlined the origin and objects of the International Labor Office and expressed the hope that in Canada he would find a different idea of the sovereignty of the state which had proved a difficulty in the work of his office and behind which he declared, there had been found selfishness and opposition to a new idea. The joint chairmen of the luncheon were Lieut.-Col. C. M. Edwards, president of the Canadian Club, and Hon. Martin Burrell, president of the Ottawa Branch of the League of Nations Society. Col. Edwards introduced the distinguished guest and outlined his career. He expressed the view that his mission was a vital one as history would show. Hon. Martin Burrell conveyed the thanks of the company to M. Albert Thomas for his address, and remarked that it was seldom they had opportunity to hear so vital a subject dealt with in so vital a way. He assured M. Thomas of many sympathizers in Ottawa with his aims.

ORIENTAL LABOR UNDER DISCUSSION

By Privy Council Who Have Reserved Judgment. The judicial committee of the privy council has reserved judgment in the case of the appeal of the Brooks-Billak and Whittall Ltd., against the attorney general of British Columbia, concerning the validity of a provincial government regulation against the employment of Chinese and Japanese in operations carried on under timber licenses. The Supreme Court of Canada had upheld the regulations. The respondent's case was presented by Sir John Simon, who argued that provincial governments have full power to make contracts and grant leases upon any terms and conditions with respect to lands belonging to them. Even if it were held for any reason that the clause concerning the prohibition of Oriental labor was illegal, the effect would be to void the whole agreement, not merely the one clause. In any event the Japanese Treaty Act has no reference to the Chinese; therefore the province would be entitled to cancel the licenses on the ground of the employment of Chinese.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM OVERSEAS

WILL MEET NUMBER OF LABOR LEADERS

Albert Thomas, While in Canada, Will Also Meet Representatives of Employers. New York.—Albert Thomas, director of the International Labor Bureau at Geneva, who arrived at New York on the Majestic, left for Ottawa, where he will interview members of the Canadian government relative to Canada's participation in the International Labor Organization. Mr. Thomas will also visit Montreal, Quebec City, and Toronto, where he will meet Canadian labor leaders and representatives of the employers' organizations. He will return to New York on December 19. "I am looking forward to my trip to Canada with great pleasure," Mr. Thomas said to the Canadian Press before his departure tonight. "Canada's representatives at the Geneva Labor Conference have been of great assistance in the consideration of the various problems with which the International organization has dealt. I shall have conferences with a number of Canadian labor leaders and I shall also meet representatives of the employers."

DOES NOT THINK THAT LABOR PARTY COULD BE EFFECTIVE IN LORDS

London.—Lord Haldane whose leanings toward the Labor party have been noticeable in recent years in an interview with reference to the suggestion that a Labor party might be organized in the house of lords, says he does not think an effective labor party could be formed in the house of lords, but already there are those in the lords who would watch detachable and sympathetically what went on in the labor party. Labor was not without a certain amount of sympathy in the lords, he added, but it was not of the kind possible to be organized formally. "I am interested in causes rather than parties," Lord Haldane said, "and I think it is more useful not to be allied to any particular party."

BREAD STRIKE IN PARIS COLLAPSES

Paris.—The bread strike which began some time ago has collapsed. The master bakers informed the minister of agriculture that the baking of bread would be resumed. The strike of the bakers has lasted twenty-five hours. Its collapse is attributed to the energetic attitude taken by the government which had intimidated its intention of using army bakers to meet the crisis. More people are dying every day from criticism than from cancer.—The Silent Partner.

NO INQUIRY INTO THE POSITION OF BRITISH MINERS

Premier Law Says He is Unable to Grant Request Which Might Raise False Expectations. London.—Labor questions continue to engross the House of Commons and the members were engaged during the whole evening in discussing Ramsay MacDonald's demands for an inquiry into the position of the miners, whose sorry plight met with sympathy from both sides of the house, therefore the matter was amicably debated. Mr. MacDonald, dilating on the serious crisis in the coal trade, said the miners were not asking for a subsidy, but an inquiry. Premier Bonar Law, in a reply which was not interrupted by the Laborites, declared he was unable to grant an inquiry, which he feared would perhaps raise false expectations and would be useless, unless it was thought desirable to raise the question of nationalization. All were agreed on the deplorable condition of the industry and that the miners were about twenty per cent. worse off than before the war, but other industries were in a similar position and the difficulty was to find some immediate alleviation. He hoped for much from the evidences of general improvements in trade, but undertook to reconsider the question at a later period if the situation had not improved.

NEW GOVERNOR COSTS TOO MUCH FOR LABORITES

Protests are Made at a Vote of \$50,000 for the Upkeep of the Vice Regal Lodge in Dublin. The cost of installing a new governor general of the Irish Free State in the former vice-regal lodge was the subject of strong protests from the Laborites in the Dail Eirann. The protests came during the debate on the expenditure of £1000,000 in addition to the estimates of £27,000,000 passed by the former Dail and approved by the present Chamber. The estimates would provide £10,000 for the upkeep of the vice-regal lodge and the governor-general's establishment. The Laborites objected to this price for "putting Tim Healy in" and moved to omit the whole with the exception of £1,000. President Cosgrave said the treaty and constitution placed upon the government the responsibility of housing the governor-general, and that the government would fulfil the task and provide the necessary guards. He challenged the Laborites to find a suitable establishment for less money. "Any woman is forty years older than the oldest man alive. Men are like little boys tagging along after some woman and saying, 'Mamma, where's the circus!'"—Jane Burr.

NEW INDUSTRY USES SUSSEX ST. FACTORY

A new industry which will give employment to between thirty and forty cabinet makers, wood finishers and first class machine men, commenced yesterday, when the Canadian Public Booth Company of Ottawa began operations at the factory of the Gatineau Co. Ltd., Sussex street. The big factory has remained idle for over a year, following the decision of the directors of the Gatineau Company, Ltd., not to operate the plant for the manufacture of lumber and lumber products. The Canadian Public Booth Company, of which Mr. M. E. Rouse is president, and which has a capitalization of \$50,000, has secured a lease on the factory which will extend over a year. It is the intention of the company to manufacture bank fittings, office fittings and likely private telephone booths. Mahogany and oak will be the principal lumber stocks to be dealt in. Mr. Rouse says it is the intention of his company to operate the factory throughout the winter months, and that a large part of the output of the plant had already been contracted for.

\$200,000 MORE HOUSES ASKED

T. and L. Council is Anxious Building Should Continue. By resolution the city council is asked by the Sydney Trades and Labor Council to borrow an additional \$200,000 for the further operation of the Dominion Housing Act in Sydney. A communication from the president and secretary of the council, John C. MacNeil and Arthur MacLellan, was before the council and it was decided, on motion of Ald. A. J. MacDonald, seconded by Ald. Collins, that it be tabled for a month. The resolution points out that the Housing Act has been a great benefit to the city, and as a great number of workers have been unable to take advantage of the Act this year owing to the recent industrial depression, it was urged that the Act be continued in force in 1923. It was stated at the Council meeting that the amount of bonds issued for the construction of houses in Sydney this year under the Act amounted to about \$199,000. Mayor Fitzgerald favored holding the matter up until next spring. He pointed out that the council would then be better able to judge the outlook. A motion was made by Ald. A. M. MacLeod, seconded by Ald. Hill, that the communication be filed, but the amendment made by Ald. MacDonald carried.

PANDEMONIUM IN BRITISH COMMONS

House Accused by Labor Member of Callous Indifference in Dealing with Unemployment. London, Eng.—The house of commons was the scene of such pandemonium as that customarily staid body has rarely witnessed. The trouble arose when George Lansbury, one of the leading Labor members, one of Prime Minister Bonar Law whether the Premier was aware that many members were opposed to the proroguing of parliament this week in view of the "failure of the government to provide adequate means of dealing with unemployment" and whether Mr. Bonar Law would agree that the house remain in session until measures were inaugurated to relieve the distress. The prime minister replied in the negative, and then the storm broke from the Labor benches. Numbers of the Labor members were on their feet at the same time. Mr. Lansbury referred to "what is considered the callous indifference of the house and the ministers in dealing with unemployment" which evoked rars of protest from the government supporters. One Labor member demanded what the government had done for unemployment, anyway, and others backed him up by insisting upon an answer. The speaker of the house, intervening said the subject could not be debated at this time. This only added fuel to the fire and the house became a scene of disorder, with the Labor while the latter in turn roared back arms and howling at their opponents, members dancing about, waxing their defiance. Edwin Scrymgeour, the prohibitionist member for Dundee, joined the Laborites, and with numerous other members defied the speaker, several trying to talk at the same time. The house by this time was in a state bordering on hysteria. Out of the din arose taunts that the prime minister had done nothing for the unemployed and that he was doing no good to the Empire. The speaker finally got the members quieted down sufficiently to allow Mr. Bonar Law to take the floor and answer the demands that the government tell what it had done, but he merely stated that the government's plans had already been fully outlined and that he could add nothing at this time. Throughout the angry scene Ramsay MacDonald, the Labor party leader, sat quietly listening to the row occasioned by his followers. Once he made as though to rise, but evidently thought better of it.

CITY VS. COUNTRY BATTLE GOES ON AND CANNOT END

J. J. Morrison Declares Glass Conscious Organization of the Farmers Here to Stay. Contrasts Farmers Lot With the Laboring Man's. Lindsay, Ont.—"Rural and urban interests are not identical, and never will be," declared J. J. Morrison, secretary of the United Farmers of Ontario, addressing the annual meeting of the Victoria County U. F. O. organization. "The farmer wants the city man's product as cheap as he can get it, and the city wants the farmer's product at the lowest possible price, so how can their interests be identical? "You farmers have to give more vitality, more of your life to produce your product than the urban man has," he continued. "You have longer hours. The thing is to try and achieve a better adjustment, and it is time that the farmers began looking after their own interests. The heritage of our pioneers is almost at a vanishing point, and the state is taxing you heavily to live on the land which you made. You have to pay for the right of living on your own property. There is a terrible excitement going on about immigration because the country needs the people. And who are being brought in? Laborers from Central Europe not to become artisans or mechanics but to become farmers. "Labor is organized, has control, and would not stand for immigrants who would interfere with their work, but the farmer is not, and these immigrants are for the farm, while the four of our country goes to other countries. "Labor today has better homes, better wages, while we are still a standstill. Every fall farm in the country is in direct competition with your industry, but you do not object. The Labor man would soon object, however. "But today the agricultural people have found their feet, are on the map, have developed class consciousness, and the organization is here to stay. "The agricultural people are the moral stamina of the country. God help the morale of the country if it were not for the agricultural people." Mr. Morrison stated that he was against the sales tax, which placed a handicap on the young farmer who wanted to marry, buy a farm, and settle down. He stated that the cooperative organization of the U. F. O. must make good. Art is universal. Americans like pictures and sculpture if they only knew it, and would buy them if they only knew how. We have been concentrating on so many other things. —Je Avisdon.

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CIVIC EMPLOYEES IN CERTAIN PROTESTS

Division of Teaming Work and Appointment of Election Officials. Approval of the treatment of measures they had brought before the board of control yesterday afternoon absent division of teaming work, and also regarding the appointment of scrutineers and deputy returning officers to be employed at the next municipal elections, was last night given by members of Federal Union No. 15, Civic Employes, Ottawa. The meeting, which was a regular monthly one, was held in Peterkin's Hall. After a considerable amount of routine business had been dealt with the members of the union decided that a special meeting should be held in Peterkin's Hall on Dec. 29th, at which all of the candidates seeking municipal office would be invited to speak. The meeting, which was fairly well attended, was presided over by Mr. Edward Travers, president. Mr. M. Cain, the business agent of the union, reported on the matter which had come before the members of the board of control. Success is made up of four ingredients—inspiration, aspiration, desperation and perspiration, and the greatest of these is perspiration.—Samuel G. Blythe. She (pensively)—"Before we married you declared you loved me at first sight!" The Brute—"Well, I wish I'd been gifted with second!"—London Mail.

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