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THE SYMPATHETIC STRIKE.

There is evidently some confusion in the minds of a number of persons outside the Labor Movement over the terms General Strike and Sympathetic Strike. The terms are not by any means synonymous. A sympathetic strike is not necessarily a general strike and vice versa. In view of the decision of Judge Metcalf in connection with the Russell case, when it was stated that sympathetic strikes are illegal in Canada, organized Labor is face to face with an important question, and if the judge's decision is to be accepted as final it might mean a vital blow at the very heart of the movement. In industries employing more than one craft and where more than one Union has jurisdiction over the workmen employed, there must be no interference with the right of concerted action. And if one union determines to strike to enforce the demands of a sister organization in the same industry, it is not difficult to predict as to what would be the choice when the question of legality was opposed to fraternal duty. We presume that the authorities know their own minds when they persist in making multitudinous pronouncements, proclamations and laws that are calculated to force individuals and groups to choose between legality and duty.

We have no hesitancy in expressing the view that the sympathetic strike question will settle itself. If organized Labor finds it necessary to have sympathetic strikes they will undoubtedly form a part of the trade union program. It has been pretty generally demonstrated that the general strike cannot be hailed as a very outstanding success, but such cannot be said of the more limited sympathetic strike which in many instances has been a necessary element of success. In the building trades its value and necessity has been proven more than once in this province.

LABOR AND THE FARMERS.

Mrs. Leona R. Barritt, former Secretary and now Director at Large of the United Farm Women of Alberta, is probably one of the most representative of the farm women of the West. She can speak with authority on the attitude of the organized farmer toward the organized worker and her opinion at this time is interesting in view of the predictions that Labor and the farmers cannot form a lasting combination based on mutual interests.

In an article appearing on the Farm Page of this issue Mrs. Barritt deals very fully with the rural life of the province. Trade unionists will recognize in Mrs. Barritt's timely sentences the same outcry against injustice and wrong that has been the burden of a century of Labor's protest. No one can read "Rural Life in Alberta" without perceiving the common aspirations and struggle for a higher life, that are the mutual characteristics of organized Labor and the organized farmers. "Along with Labor," says Mrs. Barritt, "the farmer has been the underdog. He has been the victim of exploitation by elevator companies, packers, machine companies, wholesalers and retailers; and he has been discriminated against by legislation directed by the big interests." Again the writer states: "I would rather belong to the United Farm Women of Alberta, or its sister organizations in other provinces, or to a Labor Union, than to any other women's organization in Canada." The statements quoted carry the more weight when it is known that when Mrs. Barritt prepared her manuscript there was no thought of its appearance in a Labor paper. The article referred to is worthy of careful perusal by trade unionists. We are glad to report that Mrs. Barritt will from time to time contribute articles to the Free Press, and after reading "Rural Life in Alberta," we know that the product of her pen will be eagerly welcomed by readers of this paper.

ESPIONAGE.

Some good folks are inclined to doubt the existence of spy systems in connection with the union-smashing activities of large corporations and associations of employers. But such indisputable evidence as that revealed in a recent issue of the New York Nation is not to be gainsaid. The Nation disagreed with the Employing Printers' League of New York during the strike of printers and pressmen in that city and was expelled from the league. At the close of a statement regarding the matter The Nation expresses regret that, because of the removal of its name from the mailing lists of the League, it would not receive letters, similar to one which it proceeds to quote in full, from a New York detective bureau. The letter in question clearly revealed the methods adopted by the league to fight the unions. The detectives proceed to describe the character of their work and use for reference the name of Eugene Kelley the League Chairman. "We were able," reads the communication, "to keep the association advised of what transpired at the union meetings as well as the gathering of the gossip of those who congregated in the vicinity of the shops."

It is not strange that the Prussianized industrial autocrat should be in any way different from the Prussianized Nation, and the adoption of like methods of warfare against freedom in industry should not occasion surprise. Every advance of democracy or freedom must be made against all the diabolical machinations of autocracy, and the worker must be prepared to struggle upward against tremendous odds to achieve industrial democracy.

The Russell trial in Winnipeg exposed some of the methods of the Canadian authorities, adopted to secure evidence against Labor officials in the west. Stool pigeons of the police were permitted to travel throughout the country posing as "reds," making inflammatory statements and endeavoring to rouse the passions of the workers so that they might commit themselves to revolutionary ideals which would later be used as evidence against them. Organized Labor should beware of such vipers and should overlook no opportunity to expose the directors and tools of this unscrupulous espionage. True Canadians bow their heads in shame at the thought of British ideals being displaced by the despicable practices of Russian Czarism.

NOT A SELFISH MOVEMENT.

All down the ages men and women have suffered in countless thousands in the cause of freedom and progress. Without their noble self-effacement the world would not have succeeded in throwing off the yoke of slavery and serfdom. Without their devotion to the cause of humanity the history of the race would not contain the glorious chapters that thrill the lover of freedom and righteousness.

The trade union movement can claim as its own the record of many magnificent examples of self-sacrifice and unselfishness on the part of the builders and moulders of the movement. There was never a time when the trade union movement could justly be termed selfish, and there is less justification now than ever before for that unfair accusation against Organized Labor. The movement aims at a better world and a better life for every creature. It fosters education, increases independence, develops manhood, establishes fraternity, discourages selfishness and seeks to brighten the life of mankind in every practical manner.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

"Humanity first" is the great fundamental principle of the Labor movement.

A movement that is fundamentally just and right can not be destroyed by persecution. The Trade Union movement has prospered, and will continue to prosper, because it contains the elements of righteousness and justice that stand the test of time and practice.

TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL WILL ELECT OFFICERS

(Continued from Page One)

union were present the matter was referred to the Organization committee for adjustment and report to Council.

A communication came before Council relative to the calling of a mass meeting on Sunday 11th inst. The calling of this meeting had been decided upon at a meeting held last Sunday in Imperial theatre under the auspices of the Labor Church and purpose of mass meeting was to protest result of the Russell trial and sentence. Council ordered the communication filed and no action taken.

Following are the resolutions that were prepared under the auspices of the Trades and Labor Council for presentation at the convention of the Alberta Federation of Labor now in session in Calgary:

"Whereas the Edmonton Free Press, official organ of, and edited by the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council, is recognized as the mouthpiece of Organized Labor in Northern Alberta, be it

"Resolved, That the Edmonton Free Press be endorsed by the Alberta Federation of Labor, and that the incoming executive be authorized and instructed to make use of its columns for the dissemination of news and propaganda in connection with the work of the Federation."

"Whereas there is now some agitation now being carried on toward the establishment of universal military service in Canada; and whereas Organized Labor was appealed to support the war activities of the Allies in an endeavor to crush militarism, be it

"Resolved, That the Alberta Federation of Labor, in convention assembled, hereby make known its unalterable opposition to universal military service."

"With regard to the number of accidents taking place on the railways of this country, be it

"Resolved, That this convention of the Alberta Federation of Labor ask for a better inspection of all rolling stock and stationary boilers used on the railroads of this country."

"Whereas the subject of national health is occupying the minds of the people in a greater measure than ever before, be it

"Resolved, That this Alberta Federation of Labor expresses its approval of legislation that would provide for a compulsory medical examination of all the people at intervals of at least two years."

"Resolved, That this Federation of Labor go on record as favoring the nationalization of the banking, trust, loan and kindred businesses of the country."

LOCAL TYPOS ELECT OFFICERS FOR COMING YEAR

(Continued from Page One)

retail clerks in the very near future.

A. Farnilo, an executive member of the Alberta Federation of Labor, addressed the union for a short period, appealing for this body's re-affiliation with the federation, which was dropped during the O.B.U. activities. Later in the evening the union decided to re-affiliate and elected Messrs. Hawkins and Bowling to attend the convention in Calgary the following week.

The annual election of officers took place. After faithful service President McCreath asked to be excused re-election. The following officers were elected after contests during which the best spirit of harmony and good fellowship prevailed:

President, J. H. Atchison; Vice-President, Geo. Bowling; Financial Secretary, D. K. Knott; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, A. J. Henley; Executive Committee, Messrs. Atchison, Bowling (chairman), Knott, Henley, W. Jones, Geo. Campbell, G. H. Fredericks and R. McCreath; Sergeant-at-Arms, J. B. Yule; Delegates to Trades and Labor Council, H. Hawkins, R. McCreath, J. B. Yule and A. N. Wright; Delegates to Allied Printing Trades Council, Geo. Campbell, A. Turnbull and J. B. Yule.

Retiring President McCreath, in vacating the chair said he was retiring from the office of president but not from the movement, for he was in it to stay.

Government by order-in-council in Canada and government by injunction in the United States. And still there are workers who oppose International organizations of workpeople.

There are some goods bearing the union label that may be secured in this city without any difficulty, and trade unionists in Edmonton should govern themselves accordingly.

Self-respect is one of the qualities which a teacher is supposed to impart to young Canadians, but without proper remuneration the teacher will find it difficult to keep his or her own self-respect.

Everywhere people are wondering as to what will be the outcome of the present unrest, but undoubtedly the prevalent hope can be expressed through the words of Tennyson:

O, yet we trust that something good
Will be the final goal of ill.

The industrial Bourbons of the United States seem determined to make the present time for a determined attack on the rights of the workers. The Cummins bill with its anti-strike provision which was passed by the Senate is the latest blow aimed at organized Labor. The threat of fine or imprisonment is not likely, however, to deter the railway unions south of the line from carrying on as usual. Absolutism dies hard but it will be compelled to capitulate sooner or later and there is every reason to believe that the present offensive against the forces of democracy is the last desperate struggle of an obsolete system.

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42 Inch Embroidery Cotton, Sale Price 39c Yard

A beautiful cloth for the best underwear purposes. A fabric that is always in big demand for ladies' and children's wear; 42 inches wide. White Sale, yard. **39c**

36 Inch Superfine Longcloth

This is a line which we consider extraordinary value. A specially finished fine Long Cloth of a delightful texture. Appropriate for the best use; 36 inch. January Sale, per yard. **39c**
(SECOND FLOOR)

36 Inch Pure Bleached Longcloth, Special at 43c Yard

For general use you will find this Long Cloth very suitable. Only yarns of excellent quality used in the construction of this cloth; 36 inch. White Sale, yard. **43c**

36 Inch Snow White Nainsook, Clearing at 43c Yard

Woven from fine pure cotton yarns and of a close texture. An ideal material for all purposes; 36 inches wide. January White Sale, per yard. **43c**
(SECOND FLOOR)

The Home Furnishings Section Contributes Many Notable Values for the Clearance Sale

White Nottingham Lace Curtains Clearing at \$1.95 Pair

25 Pair Only, White Nottingham Lace Curtains; 40 inches wide and 2½ yards long, in neat block and floral designs. The net is extra heavy quality, which will wear and wash well. In white only. Clearance Sale, pair. **\$1.95**

A Clearance of odd Marquissette and Voile Curtains at Sacrifice Prices

These will be found suitable for use in any room in the house. There are 27 pairs only in the lot. In white, ecru and ivory. Some with lace and insertion; 2½ yards long. Regular \$3.25. Clearance Sale, pair. **\$3.95**

Real Nottingham Lace Curtains at \$1.79 Pair

25 Pairs only of these Real Nottingham Lace Curtains. Some have plain or figured centres, with dainty floral borders and scalloped edges. A splendid strong serviceable Curtain, 2½ yards long. Regular \$2.25. Clearance Sale, pair. **\$1.75**

Real Marquissette Curtains, Regular \$3.25, Sale Price \$2.69 Pair

There are just 22 pairs in the lot. They have a pretty Dutch valance with hemstitched and lace edges. In white, ivory and ecru; 2½ yards long. Regular \$3.25. Clearance Sale, per pair. **\$2.65**

FROM THE MEN'S SECTION

Men's White Ribbed Wool Sox

Men, here's a splendid line of White Ribbed Sox. Splined heels and toes. No dye to worry about, and easy to wash. All sizes. Special at **\$1.25**

Men's White Cashmere Sox

A beautiful fine quality mixed Cashmere. No dye. Excellent quality for wear. All sizes. January Sale. **50c**

Men's White Lisle Sox

Fine quality White Lisle with splined toe, sole and heel. Excellent for washing and wear. All sizes. January White Sale. **85c**

Men's Fine Handkerchiefs

We are offering tomorrow an exceptional line of Men's White Cotton Handkerchiefs. They are put up in sanitary sealed packages containing two. Nice fine quality. Good 20c large size. Special, per package, of 2, for **20c**

Men's White Silk Sox

Pure Silk Sox in white with a lisle toe and heel to ensure extra hard wear. All sizes. Special. **\$1.25**

Men's White Aprons

Made of a good heavy white duck, for butchers, bakers, grocers and waiters. Get yours tomorrow. January Clearance Sale. **75c**

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A.F. OF L. GOOD STANDING MEMBERSHIP

The good standing membership of the American Federation of Labor for the month of November was 4,956,768.

The average membership from May, 1919, to and including November, 1919, was 3,912,878.

This is an average gain of 652,897 over the last membership statistics reported to the convention of the A.F. of L., held last June in Atlantic City.

The November figure—4,956,768—makes a new record. The three million mark of a few years ago has been reached. The four million mark has been passed, and now the slogan is the five million mark.

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