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A. F. OF L. TO GO INTO POLITICS IN LABOR'S INTEREST

Secretary Frank Morrison Says Campaign Will Be Non-Partisan

WILL ELECT PRO-LABOR CANDIDATES NEXT YEAR

Involves Application of Acid Test to All Political Candidates

Frank Morrison, Secretary of the American Federation of Labor, has given out a statement that the American Federation of Labor would soon begin an active campaign to elect to office next year pro-labor candidates.

The drive will be non-partisan, Morrison said. The purpose of the campaign is to carry through Congress the reconstruction program of Labor. It does not embrace the formation of a separate Labor party, Morrison declared. It involves application of the acid test to all candidates in whichever party they may be running, to assure support of Labor programs.

The federation program includes: Advancement of trade union movement.

Elimination of unemployment by keeping up the standard of wages, thereby giving each individual increased purchasing power to the end that there may be increased production.

The enactment of legislation excluding immigration for a period of at least two years.

Development of state colleges and universities and education and Americanization of thousands of illiterates whose existence has been disclosed by operation of the draft law.

Elimination of employees' liability insurance companies operated for profit, as well as the wiping out of private employment agencies.

A fight against militarism, including plans for the "reforming" of the national guard system in order that the guardsmen cannot be used to suppress strikes.

Government construction of model homes with establishment of a system whereby workers may borrow money at a low rate of interest to build or buy his own home.

Federal licensing and control of corporations doing business for profit.

Wiping out restrictions on the freedom of speech and of the press.

Discussing the railroads, the program says that public or semi-public utilities should be owned, operated and regulated by the government in the interest of the public. Government ownership of all wharves and docks is declared for, as is the "encouragement and development of the American merchant marine under government control."

A curb on the power of the courts to declare legislation unconstitutional is also sought.

STRIKE COMMITTEE SEEKS TO AVOID RIOTS AND DISORDER

With many thousands of men on strike, with active opposition by the committee of 1,000 at times threatening to march to the Labor Temple and "clean it out," it certainly is remarkable that there have been so few disorders on the Winnipeg streets. The Western Labor News, official paper of the strikers publishes prominently on the front page the following, which may explain the situation:

"Strikers, hold your horses. This is the hour when you can win. Steady, boys, steady. Keep quiet. Do nothing. Keep out of trouble. Don't carry weapons, leave this to your enemies. Continue to prove that you are the friends of law and order."

In another place of the issue the paper says:

"Workers, do not destroy property. Do not molest rigs. Do not argue with fellows on the street. They are hired to argue with you. Do not fall for their schemes. You are safe only when you are doing nothing. So, do nothing."

TORONTO SHOPMEN AGREE TO STRIKE POSTPONEMENT

Toronto railway shopmen at a mass meeting Tuesday evening, decided upon a postponement of the Dominion-wide strike which had been scheduled for Wednesday morning. Some 1,500 local shopmen of Toronto were ready to walk out at that time if the strike order from Montreal headquarters had not been cancelled, pending further negotiations with the Canadian Railway Board.

DEMAND UNIFORM RATES

Employers of the Canadian Car and Foundry Company at Amhurst, struck because they were refused the rates the company pays in Montreal. Over 2,000 men are affected by the strike.

TRADE UNIONISTS OPPOSE INSURANCE OF UNEMPLOYED

Compulsory unemployment insurance was opposed by British trade unionists representing over 700,000 workers, affiliated with the General Federation of Trade Unions, at a special council meeting recently held in London. This is the third time since December, 1916, that the unionists have taken this position.

RECOGNITION OF UNION IS GOOD FAITH GUARANTEE

Line Between One Man's Business and Business of Human Race Hard to Recognize

"Recognition of the union" after all, implies merely a guarantee of good faith on the part of the employer toward his employees. The importance for the demand for "recognition of the union" may be very well judged by the amount of opposition it encounters from the employing class.

There cannot be any question of the "sacredness of contract" with a trade union whose actual existence is assailed. The contract itself is abrogated by the act of assault. The man who insists upon "running his own business" would be more consistent and more successful if he would recognize the line between his business and the business of the human race.

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Labor cannot make an improvement in its own condition without breaking the friendship (?) of the employer, who has assumed the whole right to attend to that sort of thing—in his own good time. The organized workers may agree to the employer's proposal to deal with his employees "as individuals" as soon as the employer agrees to abandon the trust, corporation, company and co-partnership and go back to the primitive relations of master and man. And that will be plenty soon enough.—Leather Workers' Journal.

LOOKS LIKE POLICE COMMISSION CONTRACT A SCRAP OF PAPER

The Winnipeg police force dismissed en masse had a signed agreement with the police commission under which there were to be neither strikes nor lockouts before April 20, 1920.

STEP MAY PROVE DISASTROUS ONE

Authorities Must Have Real Evidence and Render Justice

Unless the Dominion Government officials have real evidence for prosecution of the leaders of the Winnipeg strike, and can thereby show that their detention is not an act primarily to fight the efforts of Organized Labor, the arrest of these men promises to have a contrary effect to that it is presumed it is intended to have. Orthodox Trades' Unionism does not countenance strong arm methods. The situation demands that the government give the men a speedy hearing and present the evidence at an earliest possible moment. If the evidence is good and sufficient, well and good. If it is flimsy and proves that these leaders—Red though they may be—have been guilty of no less conduct than has characterized many men and publications in high places during the past few years—even when the country was at war—serious consequences are most likely to result.

Tom Moore, president of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress on Wednesday said "The Trades and Labor movement will not stand for strong arm methods for the suppression of legitimate Labor demonstrations, and if the proof is not sufficient to show the Winnipeg Labor leaders were plotting danger to the state, the government will be held strictly accountable. The news of the arrests came as an absolute surprise to me."

The Dominion Trades and Labor Congress is anti-Bolshevik. This organization together with the Internationals have been the strongest factors in maintaining a steady keel to Organized Labor generally throughout the country. If these forces are forced into the fight the gravest period in Canadian history may be precipitated.

A shorter work day has been established at Kingston, Ont. that will give the clerks in the various stores eight hours five days in the week, with nine hours for Saturdays. Saturday night work will be eliminated.

The recently organized coal handlers at Halifax, Nova Scotia, have increased wages 10 cents an hour, from 50 to 60 cents. From 8 to 10 p.m. the rate is 70 cents, with time and a half for overtime and double time for Sundays.

ORGANIZED LABOR REPUDIATES DEBS AT ATLANTIC CITY

Radical Element Opposing Gompers Will Have No Weight at Convention

QUESTION BROUGHT UP AT CONVENTION

Resolution Appealing for Clemency for Debs Precipitates Storm

Organized Labor repudiated Eugene Debs and all other agitators who were convicted with efforts to embarrass the government in the carrying into effect of the selective draft law. A resolution appealing for clemency for Debs precipitated a storm in the convention of the Metal Trades Department, of the American Federation of Labor. It asked for the pardon of Debs and all such offenders. The overwhelming vote registered, proved the hopelessness of reviving the controversy. It is understood that a similar defeat awaits the plans of radicals who propose to bring up the question in the general convention next week.

Radicals' Defeat Seen
The action on the Debs resolution is said by delegates to reflect the stand of Labor on the conservative side. The followers of President Samuel P. Gompers point out that this is a certain indication that the radical element opposing him will have no weight at the convention.

INSURANCE PLAN FOR EMPLOYES OF SAFETY RAZOR CO.

The Auto-Strop Safety Razor Company, of Toronto, has adopted a plan of insurance for all employees. The policies are to be graded in amounts from \$500 to \$2,500 in proportion to length of service. Each employee may choose his or her beneficiary, and thereafter the company will pay the premiums and assume all responsibility in relation to the various policies.

JOINT MEETING OF TRADE UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS

Object of Meeting to Establish New and More Equal Prosperity

A joint meeting of representatives of British trade unions and co-operative societies was recently held in London. About 800 delegates were present representing nearly 5,000,000 trade unionists and 3,750,000 co-operators. The object of the meeting, as stated by the chairman, Mr. G. H. Stuart-Bunning, chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress, "was not to re-establish such prosperity as we had before, but to establish a new and more equal prosperity, which would bring the working classes closer together in a real co-operation." They had been working on parallel lines, he said, in an effort to get to the same goal. In neither case would they get the full results of their labor until they joined together in one common effort. From his experience on the Consumers' Council of the Ministry of Food, he declared that "the only way to prevent the working classes from being shamelessly robbed in regard to food and other things was by the co-operative movement." A resolution was passed welcoming the inauguration of the United Advisory Council of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, supporting the policy of mutual assistance, and pledging the meeting to further to the utmost organizing of working-class opinion and activity against the reactionary efforts to obstruct and hinder the social and economic emancipation of the workers.

MINISTER HOLDS CONFERENCE WITH STRIKE COMMITTEE

Hon. G. D. Robertson, minister of labor, was in conference with representatives of the strike committee at Winnipeg, Wednesday evening, the result of which was not given out. It is understood the minister fully went into the question of why advantage had been taken of the amendment of the Immigration act to arrest strike leaders suspected of Bolsheviki tendencies.

Among those present at the proceedings were T. J. Murray, counsel for the men under arrest; J. A. Andrews, K.C., counsel for the crown, and Commissioner Perry of the R.N.W.M.P.

The Tri-City Labor Review, of Clinton, Ill., gives a list of nearly 30 firms that have just recently granted their employees an eight-hour day with increased wages, and announces there are more to follow.

MASS MEETING PROTESTS AGAINST M.P. UTTERANCES

At a mass meeting of six thousand delegates of North Winnipeg, a resolution was moved by Sergt. McKay, seconded by Pte. J. T. Bailey, protesting against recent utterances of Dr. M. R. Blake, M.P., representing that riding. The resolution is as follows:

"This mass meeting of six thousand delegates of North Winnipeg, protest against the sentiments expressed by Dr. Blake, M.P., as they do not represent the ideals of the constituency of North Winnipeg."

Dr. Blake said that the Winnipeg strike was not a strike but a revolution.

DELEGATES FROM 55 UNIONS FORM NEW CENTRAL UNION

New Body Known as "Federated Unions of Seattle" Has Held Two Conventions

Word comes from Seattle, Wash., that there is a split in the labor movement of the coast city growing out of the recent general strike. Fifty-five unions have elected delegates to a new central body to be known as the "Federated Unions of Seattle" and two conventions have already been held.

Whether or not these unions will break away from the Central Labor Council remains to be seen. Archie Robertson, a well-known Seattle Labor man, has taken an active part in the new organization. He says of the new institution: "The Federated Unions of Seattle is permanently organized. It will act as a central labor body, taking over work now done by the Central Labor Council, leaving it a sort of semi-political clearing house for oratory and debate, the new body assuming authority for dealing with economic and industrial questions."

It is our idea to function as a delegate body of local unions, dealing with our economic and industrial problems with the thought in mind of standardizing contracts and agreements so that all will expire at the same time. He declared that the Central Labor Council's time is taken up with reading of communications, listening to speeches of "labor leaders," and that it fails to devote enough of its time to the industrial grievances and inter-relations of local unions affiliated with it.

Note.—The unions withdrawing from the Central Labor Council and forming a new central labor body are the orthodox trades' unionists who are refusing to follow O.B.U. tendencies, characterizing so many western communities.

EXHIBITION WILL AFFORD VARIETY OF AMUSEMENTS

John Philip Sousa Will Take Part in Traps Shooting Tournament

"Over the Falls" will again be a popular feature in the Midway Show at the Edmonton Exhibition, which opens on July 7th; if you have a worthy friend who is suffering from a slight touch of dignity, one trip over the Falls will effect a wonderful improvement, and two trips will ensure a sure cure. This show is patronized by the best people in town; if you do not believe this—stand outside for a while and watch.

"Arabia," Miss Essie Fay's star performer in her Society Horse Academy, can distinguish colors, spell, and do a lot of human things, and finally rescues a baby from a burning house. This is one of the most striking features in the Jones' Midway Shows at the Edmonton Exhibition in July.

"The Garden of American Roses" comprises living models of famous paintings.

"Dakota Max" with his wild west exhibition, including bucking bronchos, crack riders, and cow girls, furnishes an interesting performance, particularly for children, giving an idea of what the west was like before the wire fence cut up the range.

Consul the Great, and Lady Betty, his mate, are two of the largest Chimpanzees ever brought to America.

The Midget City usually creates the greatest amount of comment; it is a vaudeville performance presented entirely by midgets ranging in size from 21 to 30 inches.

Jenson the Great gives a splendid exhibition as a magician and illusionist.

The Devil's Sumner, with Mile, Marie, the original "Mile-a-minute" girl, driving an auto at racing speed around a saucer-shaped track up on a perfectly straight wall, assisted by five motor cyclists, gives a performance that will furnish plenty of thrills.

As one goes round, he passes the Fat

CONCRETE EXAMPLE CAUSING PRESENT LABOR TROUBLE

Answer Given for Price Paid for That Suit of Clothes

SEVENTY-TWO PER CENT. PROFIT IN ONE YEAR

One Instance Disclosed of Unbridled Profiteering During War

The underlying cause of the strikes throughout the country is unbridled profiteering. Here is one item.

Before the Cost of Living Committee of the House of Commons this week, W. E. Patton of the Patton Manufacturing Company, Sherbrooke, Ont., manufacturer of sweaters confessed to profits made by his firm as follows:

1914, 6.88 per cent.
1915, 26.15 per cent.
1916, 35.38 per cent.
1917, 48.81 per cent.

For year ending January 31, 1918, 17 per cent on capitalization of \$600,000.

For year ending January 31, 1919, 72 per cent.

The Patton Company is no different from hundreds of others. Probably the 72 per cent profit in one year, after deducting contributions to Patriotic fund, paying unwarranted salaries and every other overhead expense that could possibly be figured in is mild as compared with the profiteering of many others.

And these are the concerns protected by the nation by a high tariff wall of something like 42 1/2 per cent. on many things. When you figure that the wholesaler has to make a profit to keep pace with increased cost of doing business, and the retailer has to pay rent, help and eat occasionally himself, it is hardly seen why the consumer has reached the point where something has to be broken.

The solution to the problem lies in an effective use of the ballot. The ballot is the greatest little instrument to get beneath the hide of the politician and his profiteering associates ever invented. It is Direct Action with a vengeance.

JOINT COUNCIL FOR VANCOUVER MILK DISTRIBUTORS

More Accomplished Through Instrumentality of Council Than in Many Years

The draft constitution of the Joint Industrial Council of Milk Distributors of Vancouver, B.C., has now been approved and the council formally launched by the election of Mr. W. A. Knight, of the Valley Dairy, Limited, an employer, as president, and Mr. R. E. Evans, an employee of Turner's Dairy, Limited, as secretary. A council consisting of six representatives each of the employers and employees has also been elected to hold office for six months.

According to a report of evidence given before the Royal Commission on Industrial Relations at Vancouver on April 29, the scheme is proving very successful. More had been accomplished, according to the statement of an employee witness, in the improvement of working conditions in the past few weeks through the instrumentality of the council than in as many years previous to its creation.

WINNIPEG CARMEN SEND LETTERS TO STRIKE COMMITTEE

Carmen of both the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Canadian National Railways at Winnipeg, Wednesday sent communications to the strike committee, stating that the thought of the committee should be satisfied with the statement on collective bargaining given out by the metal trades employers. C.P.R. carmen gave the strike committee to understand that if they did not hear from it they would determine their own course of action.

The charters of two of the carmen's unions had been cancelled by the international president because of the funds being used for One Big Union propaganda purposes. Shortly after the strike was called steps were taken towards the reorganization of these unions and it was these reorganized unions that put the question up to the strike committee. It is stated that these new unions have some 300 members.

CALGARY RAILWAY EMPLOYEES URGE GENERAL STRIKE

At a meeting of the Railway Employees' Federation at Calgary, Wednesday, resolutions were passed urging a general strike to secure the release of the Winnipeg labor leaders.

ATTENDANCE AT A.F. OF L. MEET RECORD NUMBER

Approximately, there are 550 delegates in attendance at the thirty-ninth annual convention of the A.F. of L., now in session at Atlantic City. This is a record number. For the first time the British Trades Union Congress is represented by a woman—Miss M. Bonfield. Her colleague fraternal delegate is S. Finney. The fraternal delegate from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is J. M. Walsh.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT ON TWO SIDES TO EVERY QUESTION

More About That \$600,000 Fine Imposed on Striking Union

The Federal Bench should be the last place to seek for a recruiting agent for the I.W.O. If the decision of the United States Court of Appeals in St. Louis in the case of the Coronado Coal Company of Arkansas is not designed to aid in the spread of the doctrine of direct action, it is at least well adapted to that purpose. In a case arising out of an Arkansas coal strike in 1914 the court has held the striking union liable to a fine of \$600,000 for a conspiracy to ruin the business of certain coal operators. The actual award is \$200,000 which, under the Sherman law, is trebled. Together with costs the total penalty may aggregate \$800,000. Does any one imagine for a moment, if the position were reversed and the employing interest had made a general reduction in wages, that the court would have held the company officials liable for a conspiracy to ruin the homes of the workers? The fundamental position taken by the trade union is sound. The right of the worker to quit work either alone or in concert with others for a reason or for no reason must be admitted. So long as that is denied the legitimate trade union cannot exist. If the courts drive the unions out of business the principal result will be a lack of confidence not only in the courts but in political action. If the coal operators of America are wise they will procure a speedy reversal of this decision. They may remember something of the political consequences of the Danbury hat-makers' case.—The Public.

STRIKE LEADERS ARE ARRESTED

Dominion Authorities Also Make Raid on Winnipeg Labor Temple

Charged with seditious utterances, ten men prominent in the Winnipeg strike are in jail pending a hearing set for early next week. It is declared that evidence is at hand showing that money has been received by some of these individuals from Bolsheviki sources.

Acting on authority from the federal government at Ottawa, armed with warrants issued by the Dominion government officials, nine men whom secret service authorities had selected as leaders of Bolsheviki propaganda, were arrested Tuesday morning. It was declared that all of those taken into custody played a prominent part in the sympathetic strike, now in its fifth week.

The official list of those arrested is as follows:

R. B. Russell, Rev. William Ivens, R. E. Bray, George W. Armstrong, Ald. John Queen, Ald. A. A. Heaps, Moses Charitonoff, Moses Almassof, Mike Berenzuk.

It was announced at police headquarters that the charge laid against the men is seditious utterances. A. J. Andrews, K.C., has been retained by the federal authorities to take charge of prosecutions. He announced that the charge against each accused was "seditious conspiracy." It is believed that the charge is based on the recent amendment to the immigration law which gives authority to the Dominion Government to seize and deport any persons, other than of Canadian birth, found guilty of agitation against constituted authority.

According to a statement by Hon. G. D. Robertson, the arrests were ordered by the Department of Justice and the Department of Labor was not concerned with them.

In an interview, Mr. Robertson stated that the records of the strike committee, which were seized, indicate that a special committee had been selected on June 10 to investigate and report upon the possibilities of cutting off the electricity power from the city; and that correspondence addressed to R. B. Russell, secretary of the One Big Union, provincial executive committee of Manitoba, acknowledging receipt of "Bolsheviki money."

LABOR MOVEMENT IS ESSENTIALLY HUMANITARIAN

Much Misunderstanding In Regard to What Labor is Trying To Do

ITS WORTH AND NATURE SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED

Organized Labor Wishes Public To Understand Ideals Which Guide It

There is much misunderstanding in regard to what labor is trying to do. From charges made both by our supposed friends, in the ranks of labor, and by unscrupulous employers, one might think that labor was a destructive agency. To its friends, and to the public at large, its worth and its nature should be emphasized.

To superficial observers Organized Labor's ideals consist of nothing more than higher wages, shorter hours, more and more control, and additional rules and regulations affecting employment. We want the public to understand the ideals that guide Organized Labor and influence it more profoundly than anything else.

For generations Labor has been struggling for recognition of its services. It knows and is trying to make the world know that without it human life cannot continue. The struggles of Labor have been many and its successes all too few. But steadily Labor has grown more enlightened. Now it asks its right for a share in its results, that shall enable the laborers to develop themselves as women and men, as mothers and fathers, as sisters and brothers.

The Labor movement is essentially humanitarian. We are opposed to waste; against waste of human life, of human abilities, it supports the possibilities in the way of intellectual and moral development. It sees great rewards going to the few and a bare living, or no living at all, going to the multitude. Moral over-it sees the few wretched and degraded by surfeit. We now offer our hand for the betterment of the whole race.

We are international in character and scope. The boundary line to the south does not exist. Delegates of the United States and Canada meet as members of one organization. They have but one trade constitution, one set of officers. There is but one treasury into which they pay their dues. And so far as the activity as trade unionists is concerned, they are the members of but one organization.

No group in the community has realized more keenly that education is essential to their welfare, and that without education their ideals are unattainable. Trade unionists look upon education as one of the corner stones upon which the structure of the Labor movement is created. Education in its truest and broadest sense is one of the ideals of Labor.

What are wages and what do they mean to the wage earner? They are the man life; they are the factor that determines what measure of decency, of comfort and opportunity in life. The amount of wages says whether the home shall be a back room or shack, or a modern home with all the necessary conveniences surrounded with pure air and sunshine, and conducive to health and comfort. The dollars which come in the pay envelope determine the quantity and quality of food which shall enter the home. Wages are also a real factor in determining the physical, the mental and moral standards of the overwhelming majority in all cities.

We desire shorter hours so that we have sufficient vitality left to enjoy the society of our families and our fellow workers. The exhausted bodies caused by long-tiresome toil cry out for rest. Unless man has time for self-development the standard of life of the mass of the people will go downward and backward instead of upward and forward.

The Russian situation is a real object lesson of an oppressed and degraded race.

Morality will not thrive in unsanitary habitations; neither will it develop on bad or unwholesome food. If we are to have a better generation and consequently a better nation, we must prepare better surroundings in which the future citizens are born and reared. Let us keep a watchful eye on the introduction of sweated conditions into the community, for the boys and girls of the sweatshops will be the parents of a generation of unskilled workers.—Leather Workers' Journal.

MR. BURLESON, TAKE NOTICE

Double pay for work on holidays and a working week of 44 hours has been granted Windsor, Ont. mail carriers by the postoffice department. The men will be given a half day off each week. The new order becomes effective immediately.