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HOUSE OF COMMONS PASSES BILL FOR OLD AGE PENSIONS

The House of Commons has adopted the Bill for increasing Old Age Pensions, which will ensure to every man and woman over the age of 70 the still insufficient income of £1 a week, private income (if any) being taken into account in reaching this total. Although the Bill by no means meets the demands of the Labor Party, they supported it—indeed, it was mainly through their persistence that the government was induced to bring in the measure now instead of next session—because they felt it was an instalment of justice that would considerably alleviate the lot of these aged pensioners. But that an income of £50 a year should be deemed sufficient reward for a life of toil, taking into consideration the worth of the sovereign as compared with its pre-war value, shows the low economic standard that still obtains in England.

The Woman's Page

ORGANIZATION IS NEEDED TO REDUCE PRICES

Canadian Women Should Band
Together in Faithfulness To
Reduce H.C.L.

Woman's Century is ready to assist in forming an organization in Canada to reduce the high cost of living and are prepared to co-operate and give detailed information should any women be willing to band together for this purpose. The following article by Elaine De Rupard in Woman's Century deals with the matter of such societies and organizations and their value:

"Organization needed to reduce prices" is the title of an article in one of our newspapers, but it does not seem to make any impression on the Canadian women as yet. We hear of places in the United States where the women banded together to deny themselves the use of eggs until merchants were obliged to bring down prices, but no such organization has, as yet, been organized in Canada. Toy merchants can only sell the most expensive toys. Dolls must cost \$12.00 and doll carriages \$24.00, the moderate ones are still on their shelves.

Boot merchants ask "what price do you wish to pay madam?" and are served accordingly. The change in the way a pair of laces are put in a pair of boots brings the \$9.00 pair which "were not at all good enough" up to \$14.00 and then the identical pair of \$9.00 were approved and taken at the additional \$4.00 added to please the imagination of the purchaser, who could not think of wearing anything "cheap."

The cost of food is sowing the seed—by malnutrition—of weaklings, and increased imbecility in the next generation, yet some mothers will give \$25.00 for a doll carriage, and allow themselves to be robbed in other goods, forgetting they are placing direct incentive to cheating in the way of the merchants (for if one is honest, she leaves him to go to the next one, and he knows she will), is this morally square dealing in the case of either? Should a suitable woman be chosen to be President of an organization to reduce "prices," could the Canadian women stand banded together in faithfulness behind her, and support with unwavering loyalty the principles for which they stand, or would they break away at the first temptation?

MRS. ROSE HENDERSON IN TORONTO SIX YEARS AGO AND NOW

The Woman's Century recalls the fact that six years ago it was the means of introducing Mrs. Rose Henderson, the neglected children's friend, of Montreal, to a Toronto audience. And then, so long as the interest in Children's Courts, and women judges for Children's Courts, that Mrs. Henderson so warmly insisted upon, that only twenty women came to hear her speak. But so enthused and purposeful were those twenty, and so deeply did the fire of the speaker's words burn, that the women of Toronto awoke at last, in a way that meant business. We were reminded of that tiny gathering of six years ago, when we saw the crowd of over two hundred guests at the luncheon given by the Big Sister's Association in Mrs. Henderson's honor. Mayor Church gave the address of welcome to Mrs. Henderson, who then spoke earnestly on the need of having women judges as well as men, in a court that must often ask little girl children questions to do with their budding sex. She also strongly advocated the teaching of sex hygiene.

AN ALL-WOMEN FARM IN ENGLAND IS WELL KEPT

A year ago the West Devon Executive Committee took over Great Bidlake Farm, Bridestowe, England, which is being used as a training centre for women. The farm, which consists of 134 acres, was formerly all in grass, but 73 acres have been ploughed up and are now carrying good crops of corn, roots and potatoes. All the work on the farm, with the exception of a little ploughing last autumn, has been done by women. The Food Production Department state that the buildings are in excellent condition and that the farmyard is one of the best kept in the West Country.—Canadian Food Bulletin.

NEED FOR HIGHER TEACHERS' SALARIES IS VERY EVIDENT

Public Bodies Should Weigh Carefully
Reasons Given By Civil
Servants for Demands.

Writing editorially on the need for higher salaries for school teachers in the province of Ontario, who are now asking for a twenty-five per cent. increase, the Industrial Banner says: "There can be very little doubt as to the necessity of a twenty-five per cent. increase in school teachers' salaries. In making their request for the increase the representatives of the teachers have made out a strong case and only a policy of parsimony will stand in the way of the increase being granted. If public bodies are so insistent that civic and civil servants must not go out on strike to enforce their demands it should be their determination to weigh carefully the reasons given by public servants why they should receive better treatment."

In the case of the school teachers there has been general outcry by newspaper editors, public men, and labor representatives against the parsimoniousness of public bodies when dealing with requests for salary increases. To those inexperienced in teaching children in the public, high and technical schools there is the impression that the duties of the teacher are not as onerous as represented by those who are engaged in the teaching profession.

The duties of school teachers are very exacting, requiring constant application, patience and thoroughness. The results of their efforts is not only reviewed by the school inspectors, but by every parent who sends a child to school. It is upon the teaching profession that we depend for the development of those qualities so essential in boys and girls to assure their future success in the industrial and commercial life of the nation. But in addition to the development of these qualities the teacher plays no small part in influencing the moral concepts of the boys and girls coming under their jurisdiction. This being the case it is the duty of public bodies to deal fairly with the teachers and make it possible for them to maintain a decent standard of living.

It has been pointed out that teachers' salaries have not kept pace with the increased cost of living and that they are worse off today than they were in 1914. Those who work for wages and depend upon the strength of labor organizations to protect them realize that the teachers are stating what is true and for that reason they give their sympathetic support to their request for higher salaries.

If the profits in some of our large industries could be carefully analyzed it would be found that they have increased at a ratio much greater than the cost of living and that those who benefit from these profits have no reason to complain that their standard of living has been lowered.

The teachers in the Technical school as well as those who teach in the public and high schools, should not be overlooked in the great increase in salaries. Many of the men and women selected to teach in the Technical school receive very little recognition for the time and money spent in preparing themselves for their positions. All teachers are entitled to better treatment and they should be granted the increases in salary they are asking for.

RAILWAYMEN DENY DECREASE IN HOURS IN TRANSPORT SERVICE

A stinging answer can be made to Mr. Lloyd George's statement to a building conference that there is a decrease in hours of labor in the transport services. Many locomotive drivers are still working an average shift of 12 hours, in some cases reaching 16 and 18 hours, the companies pleading that they cannot observe the new 8-hour day regulation on account of shortage of men. The men point out that there are hundreds of men waiting for promotion from cleaners to firemen and from firemen to drivers, and they assert that these men are being deliberately kept back while others work excessive hours, for which a possible reason is that the companies wish, by paying overtime instead of employing more drivers, to show the public that the 8-hour day means excessive cost and constitutes an argument against nationalization.

RED CROSS WILL LAUNCH CAMPAIGN FOR MEMBERSHIP

Advisory Committee Will Be
Formed Under Auspices of
The Red Cross.

An important outcome of the recent meeting of the central council of the Canadian Red Cross held recently in Toronto, will be forming an advisory and consultative committee made up of representatives of the various organizations in Canada, interested in the problems of public health and welfare.

It is hoped that by the forming of such a committee in connection with the Red Cross to bring about the co-operation and co-ordination of voluntary action of the various national organizations interested in public health and welfare conditions.

The committee will be made up of two representatives from each of the following: Each branch of the Red Cross, the executive of the Canadian Red Cross, Dominion Department of Public Health, St. John Ambulance Association, St. John Brigade, Victorian Order of Nurses, Canadian Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, National Committee for Combating Venereal Diseases, National Committee of Mental Hygiene, National Health Association, Canadian Association of Military Medical Officers, Canadian Association of Public Health Officers.

The Red Cross is obligated under the peace treaty to undertake the bettering of health and welfare conditions and its policy to work in cordial co-ordination with other organizations interested along the same lines. This committee will give expert advice and consideration to all questions touching on these subjects.

The whole reorganization of the Red Cross throughout Canada, is to be placed in charge of a commissioner-in-chief, who is to be an expert on health matters and social welfare. A great national membership campaign is to be launched on October 3, 1920.

An important part of the Red Cross during this coming summer will be an effort to put the aims and meaning of the new international organization of the Red Cross before the people. Features of the campaign will be special uniform membership buttons and a fee of \$1 as the membership fee has been reduced from the former \$2. It is hoped to gain 150,000 to 200,000 new members from this campaign in Alberta.

The Canadian delegates to the conference at Geneva, who were appointed at the meeting, have sailed. They are: Lady Drummond, Sir Richard Lake, and Mr. R. B. Bennett. For the first time, the Canadian Red Cross has been recognized as a national organization, and Canada was given the right to send five delegates to the conference, which is the first one to be held by the League of Red Cross societies.

Each provincial branch of the Red Cross is working out its policy in consultation with their provincial government. In all the provinces the problem of supplementary nursing service in rural districts is a most important one, and the various provinces have schemes for work outlined in this direction. The Alberta branch is considering the establishment of small health centers in those districts which the provincial government cannot touch yet, the communities in which soldiers are settled to be considered first of all. A small building for headquarters will be built in these districts, with two or three beds, and a nurse will be placed here by the Red Cross.

Junior Red Cross
The committee on junior Red Cross work, presented a report which was adopted by the council. The importance of this branch of the work was recog-

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Some are trimmed with rows of military braid and bone buttons on each side of coat and sleeves, while others are self-trimmed with inserted pockets and button trimming. Skirts plain, shirred back, belted and pocketed. Lined with broadened silk poplin. All sizes. Specially priced

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CLASS FOR NURSING HOUSEKEEPERS IS PROPOSED IN SASK.

Bill Provides for Training of
These Women for Period of
One Year.

Provision for the creation of a class of certificated women to be known as nursing housekeepers is made in a bill, which was introduced in the Saskatchewan legislature recently by the Hon. George Langley, in the form of an amendment to the act respecting the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association.

The bill provides for the training of these women over a period of one year and for their subsequent registration. They will then be able to go out in the joint capacity of nurse and housekeeper

to attend confinement and minor surgical cases at a less salary than the fully qualified nurse commands.

Candidates for registration as nursing housekeepers, under the draft bill, are to be trained in hospitals open to government inspection and receiving government grants where nursing classes are not conducted. The course is to be at least one year and may include a term of training at the Fort Qu'Appelle Sanatorium. Instruction is to be given in the following subjects: Care of obstetrical cases, care of infants and young children, dietetics, general house-keeping, elementary nursing and care and prevention of tuberculosis.

The University of Saskatchewan may appoint a qualified nurse as supervisor of the women in training and the university will conduct the examination of the candidates for registration and furnish certificates to those who are successful under examination.

Among the nations that do not belong to the league are the United States, Germany, Russia and Turkey.

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Candy Xmas, per pound.....52c
Oranges, Sunkist brand, dozen 50c and up.
Coffee, Braid's Best, 1 lb. tin 69c
Salmon, finest Rockeye, 1/2, 4 tins for.....95c
Jelly Powders, assorted, 5 pkts 53c

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