

# EDMONTON FREE PRESS

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## A.F. OF L. SENDS OUT APPEAL FOR STRIKE FUNDS

Discuss Iron and Steel Strike Situation and Say Reports Are Misleading and Untrue.

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor having discussed at length the entire situation relating to the strike of the employees in the various iron and steel centers, have made a statement to the effect that the published reports of the strike are misleading and untrue. In the matter of funds for financing the strike the Executive Council have sent out an appeal to all Organized Labor which is as follows:

To all Organized Labor: Greetings: The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor has discussed at length the entire situation relating to the strike of the employees in the various iron and steel centers. The organizing committee of the twenty four national and international unions involved made a detailed statement to the effect that the published reports of the strike are misleading and untrue, and that the men are standing solid. The committee emphasized the necessity of financing the strike, that is, that funds are essential to maintain the commissary places which were opened up in order to furnish the most needy with some food so that they can live and maintain their position.

The Executive Council declared its support of the organizations on strike and that an appeal should be made to all organized labor and friends urging their financial and moral support. In this contest the moral support and financial assistance of all are necessary. Every dollar received will be devoted to the purpose of sustaining the needy and their families.

As already stated, the officials in charge of the strike have arranged to open commissaries to feed all who are really in need.

There are now four hundred thousand workers and their families affected. The necessity for help is pressing.

Every local union is urged to contribute as generously as possible. If permit, and every member of every organization is urged to do likewise. Every central body is requested to conduct a campaign to raise funds in the shortest time possible.

In addition to financial assistance, union men everywhere are asked to use every moral influence in behalf of the men who are involved in the strike, to tell the great public the truth about the strike and to leave nothing undone that will bring it to an honorable conclusion.

Send all contributions to Frank Morrison, Secretary, American Federation of Labor, Washington, D.C.

Fraternally yours, The appeal is signed by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.

## WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE WAS MOST ENJOYABLE EVENT

Held in Separate School Hall Under Auspices of Federated Ass'n of Letter Carriers

Last Friday evening, in the Separate School Hall, under the auspices of the Federated Association of Letter Carriers, there was held one of the most successful and enjoyable events of the season, in the form of a Whist Drive and Dance. The attendance was very large, and everyone seemed imbued with the proper spirit.

The winners in the whist drive were: Ladies—1st, Mrs. E. J. Foster; 2nd, Miss Ruth Eriam. Gents—1st, W. Danrough; 2nd, G. S. Armstrong. Ladies' consolation, Mrs. N. M. Tanner; gents' consolation, R. Hancock. Mrs. G. S. Armstrong made the presentation of the prizes at the close of the drive.

Dancing commenced at 10 o'clock, with Lynch's orchestra in attendance, and the two hours devoted to this part of the evening's entertainment passed all too quickly. When the time for dispersal came, everyone seemed unwilling to go, which speaks well for the success of the occasion. The committee having charge of the arrangements worked hard to make it pleasant and enjoyable for all, and the results must surely bring to the mind of "Postie" the consciousness that he has many many friends amongst the general public.

## HARDWARE MAN'S ASSOCIATION COMMENTS GARY'S ATTITUDE

Just to "keep the record straight," the American Hardware Manufacturers' Association has passed a resolution commending the steel trust for "refusing to deal with labor agitators."

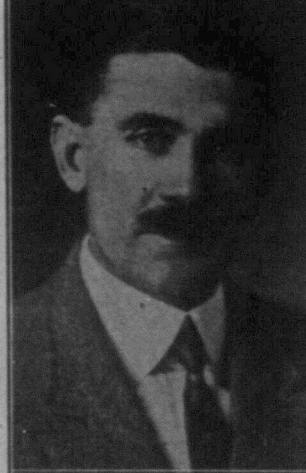
## The Labor Candidates

W. G. MURRAY

Mr. W. G. Murray, the Labor candidate for South Side Alderman, is a native of Scotland. Being the son of a building contractor he naturally entered the building trade.

Mr. Murray was initiated into the Trade Union movement on the completion of his apprenticeship, and has always been actively identified with organized labor since. After serving in the South African war, Mr. Murray was

## FOR ALDERMAN



W. G. MURRAY Candidate of Dominion Labor Party.

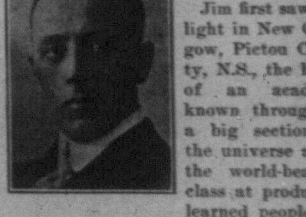
instrumental in the formation of the Bricklayers' and Masons' Union in Cape Town and Johannesburg. After coming to Canada Candidate Murray, as Vice-President of the Montreal Bricklayers' and Masons' Union, took an active part in Labor affairs in the Quebec metropolis.

Since coming to Edmonton ten years ago Mr. Murray has been actively interested in municipal affairs, and has held his interest and zeal in furthering the progress of the community. As President of the Fire Fighters' Union during the trouble in 1918, he was highly commended for the manner in which the firemen's part in the affair was conducted.

Mr. Murray is also a member of a number of fraternal organizations, including the Masonic Order. It is expected that he will poll a very large vote throughout the city, and especially in the community on the south side of the river.

## J. W. FINDLAY

Another stalwart in the field for aldermanic honors as a nominee of the Edmonton branch of the Dominion Labor Party is James W. Findlay.



Jim first saw the light in New Glasgow, Pictou County, N.S., the home of an academy known throughout a big section of the universe as the world-beating class at producing learned people.

Mr. Findlay received much of his knowledge of men and affairs in general through the agency of the well-known route—close-up, first-hand acquaintance of the upward grind of the masses and practical personal experience—all of which enable him to understand very definitely what is required to be done by men on behalf of the people whose suffrage they seek.

Mr. Findlay is a machinist by trade, and came to Edmonton in the year 1905. After a sojourn here he went east again and worked on the Harriman Railway system and at the Portland, Ore., Railway and Power Co., and later at the Nova Scotia Steel Works. He returned to Edmonton in 1909 and since that time has been employed in the C.N.R. shops.

Mr. Findlay has always been very active in the Labor movement, being a delegate to local Trades and Labor Council for a number of years, and was president of that body in 1917. He has evinced a great interest in the affairs of the city at all times, being a constructive critic who displayed splendid judgment in his plans for curing many of the existing conditions for the general welfare of our city and people.

"He is as straight as they make 'em," knowing and standing for nothing but what is fair and equitable to each and all. No candidate ever sought aldermanic honors who was prompted by higher motives for the welfare of Edmonton than "Jim" Findlay, and there is no fear of any confidence placed in him being misplaced, as he will do full credit to the votes that might elect him to the city council.

(Brief sketches of other Labor Candidates will appear in following issues.)

## RAILWAY CLERKS REPORT PROGRESS IN THEIR UNION

Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Northern Lodge No. 648, report that their union is still making progress, both in Canada and the United States. So far as the union in Canada is concerned, they have, after a hard struggle, secured the fullest recognition from the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., who have expressed their willingness to negotiate a schedule with the Union and in the event of their not being able to reach an agreement with the Union's negotiating committee they are prepared to meet officers of the Grand Lodge.

## CRITICISM AND HISTORY OF THE COMPENSATION ACT

Persistent Demands of Alberta Federation of Labor Resulted in New Act By 1918 Legislature

(By Walter Smitten)

The necessity for providing compensation for injured workmen has long been recognized, but the methods of arranging for same have varied. The first measures adopted were invariably more in the nature of Employers' Liability Acts than Workmen's Compensation Acts, the assumption seeming to be that payment should only be made when negligence on the part of the employer could be proven. Then we advanced a stage and payments were arranged for except where contributory negligence on the part of the workman could be proven.

Provisions Very lax. The provisions in these earlier measures for the payment of indemnities were very lax, insurance was through private companies and the employer was not compelled to insure with a consequence that a number of accidents occurred for which no compensation could be collected. Particularly was this feature noticeable in this Province, where very few of the employers of labor were financially responsible, especially when competition for work was keen for their employees were known to neglect to provide insurance for their workmen having deducted the cost of this from their contract price with a view of thereby being able to secure the work, in other words they were not at all concerned as to whether workmen who might be injured received compensation or not so long as they were able to secure the work and the possible profits.

Common Law. Then again our earlier measures made provision for recourse to common law, a situation that even today is clamored for by a number of the workers, the old fallacy "why should we give away our common law rights" still exists. Let us see how this worked out; of course if common law was open to the worker the same position must obtain for the employer or insurance company which meant that almost without exception before a settlement was made recourse had to be made to the courts, the result of this was that if the claim was allowed a large per cent of the money was eaten up in lawyers fees. Then we had examples where workmen were offered reasonable amounts but were persuaded sometimes by lawyers that by taking the case to court they could obtain a larger amount, but found when they

(Continued on Page 2)

## LEGISLATION TO AID INDUSTRIAL CRIPPLES PASSED

Million Dollars Appropriated For Reclamation of Maimed Victims of Industrial Accidents.

Congress has passed the Smith-Bankhead bill providing a million dollars yearly for a federal-state system of vocational retraining for crippled industrial workers.

The bill, which unanimously passed the senate in June, was passed by the house a few days ago by a good margin, after a three-day debate in which the states of extending to the maimed victims of industrial accidents similar opportunity for a return of skilled self-sustaining occupations within reach of their physical abilities as is now given to disabled soldiers and sailors.

Organized labor, state workmen's compensation officials and employers endorsed the campaign for this protective legislation, which was led by the American Association for Labor Legislation.

This victory for the workers, the association points out, is even more important than the law for vocational rehabilitation of crippled soldiers and sailors, since the industrial cripples far outnumber war cripples and their need is continuous.

## TRADES' COUNCIL WILL MEET NEXT MONDAY EVENING

The next regular meeting of the Trades and Labor Council will be held on Monday evening, November 17th. Delegates are hereby urged to take notice of same and a large attendance is requested.

## FOR SCHOOL BOARD



S. A. G. BARNES Candidate of Dominion Labor Party.

## ADVERTISERS ARE WARNED AGAINST FAKE SOLICITOR

Man Claiming He Is Representing Canadian Labor Press Believed To Be Fakir

A gentleman representing the Canadian Labor Press of Ottawa, was in the city during the week soliciting advertising, subscriptions and "donations" for his paper. Some merchant referred the gentleman to the Board of Trade, and the Advertising Committee of that body were of the opinion that the local Labor headquarters should have been consulted by the Ottawa man, and the following letter was addressed to him by Secretary Fisher:

H. W. Williams, Esq., Representing Canadian Labor Press, Edmonton.

Dear Sir:—Following our conversation of this morning, I beg to advise that your proposition was submitted to the Advertising Censorship Committee of this Board of Trade this afternoon. I am instructed to suggest that you obtain the approval of the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council for your proposition, after which our Committee would give it consideration. You can readily reach the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council through Mr. E. Roper, at "The Bulletin."

I might say that there is further information that our Committee would require. They would need to know the exact amount of the paid circulation of Canadian Labor Press. As you are of course aware, bundles sent out by express for somebody to distribute have no value for the advertiser. We must know the exact paid circulation. The Committee will also probably want to know how you justify the rate of 10 cents per page line.

Yours truly, F. T. FISHER, Secretary.

The Canadian Labor Press will be remembered as the paper which some time ago offered the local Trades' Council a number of shares of stock, free of charge. Local Labor men will not find fault with a so-called Labor paper doing legitimate business in this city, but they are likely to look with some suspicion on a Labor paper taking donations from Edmonton business men, if the proposition has not first been submitted to local Labor authorities. Up to the time of going to press Mr. Williams has not approached the Trades' Council.

## JOHN JONES GETS RUN ON C.N.R. NEW TRANSCONTINENTAL

Brother John Jones, one of the oldest, best and most respected of the Locomotive Engineers, belonging to B. of L. E. Local No. 817, has been transferred to Vancouver, to run Nos. 1 and 2, Vancouver to Boston, which is the first division east of the coast on the C.N.R., on the new transcontinental train.

Brother Jones has been a valuable and able member of the Local here, having filled the office of Legislative Representative in an able and creditable manner. He has been running out of Edmonton for 14 years, and leaves a host of friends here among all the boys.

Mrs. Jones went to the coast with Mr. Jones, but will return in a few weeks and she and the family will reside here for the winter at their home at 10238 106th street. They will leave to make their home at the coast in the spring.

## PLACES AND DATES OF COMING LABOR PARTY MEETINGS

The Organization Committee of the Labor Party has arranged the following election meetings for next week: Saturday, November 15, at 8 p.m., Oddfellows' Hall, Calder. Tuesday, November 18, at 8 p.m., St. Luke's Hall, Bonnie Doon. Thursday, November 20, at 8 p.m., Ross Flats. Saturday, November 22, at 8 p.m., Mass Meeting in the Labor Hall. The Labor candidates will address all meetings.

## PRESSMEN LEARN OF THE DEATH OF FORMER COLLEAGUE

Pressmen Decide To Work in Conjunction With Typos and Bookbinders

Members of the local Printing Pressmen's Union were shocked and grieved during the week to learn of the death of a former colleague, Percy H. Glass, who passed away in Windsor, Ont., on October 28th.

The late Mr. Glass was well known in Edmonton, having held the position of pressroom foreman at the Bulletin for a number of years. At the meeting of the Pressmen on Friday last, the secretary was instructed to address a letter of condolence to Mrs. Glass.

Messrs. Daly, Findlay and Kinsey attended the meeting in the interests of the Labor Party campaign, and the union decided to donate \$10 and a day's pay for two workers on election day to the campaign fund.

Progress was reported on scale negotiations and it was decided to work in conjunction with the Typographical and Bookbinders' Unions in meeting the employing printers.

A comprehensive apprentice training scheme was submitted by the executive and it was decided to have a round table discussion on the matter at an early date.

President Mercer who presided, gave a detailed report of the Trades Council proceedings since the union's last meeting.

## FOR SCHOOL BOARD



J. W. H. WILLIAMS Candidate of Dominion Labor Party.

## DOMINION LABOR PARTY MEETINGS CREATING INTEREST

Are Endeavoring To Have Polls Kept Open on Election Day Until 8 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Dominion Labor Party on Tuesday last, was an enthusiastic gathering. There was a large attendance of members and the meeting was devoted for the most part in discussing the municipal campaign.

The members expressed pleasure at the progress being made by the Organization Committee and the meeting approved of the program of campaign meetings proposed for the Party candidates. The Organization Committee also reported that the unions were contributing very generously to the campaign fund.

A committee was appointed to interview the city council in an endeavor to have the polls kept open on election day until 8 p.m. This request is being made in the interests of workpeople who are employed in parts of the city distant from their homes.

The quarterly report of the American Hide and Leather company shows a three-months' surplus of \$1,212,416 after all charges and taxes have been paid. This is equivalent to \$2.23 on the \$13,000,000 preferred stock, as compared with \$4.50 a share during the same period in 1918.

## NEWS OF THE LOCAL UNIONS

CIVIC SERVICE UNION No. 52

The Y.M.C.A. have sent an invitation, through Secretary Small, to all men in the city's employ to a social and athletic evening on Wednesday, November 19th. Full particulars can be obtained from Bros. Small and Neal.

It was a happy and expectant gathering of Civic Employees and friends, keyed with the determination to keenly contest the right to the prizes offered, that assembled in the Separate School Hall on Thursday evening, November 6th. The 16 games of whist were finished and the tables removed by ten o'clock. Dancing started immediately and was carried on until 12 o'clock. The ease and grace of the dancers were pleasing and noticeable features. The "extra" Scotch dance displayed a delightful contrast to the latest styles.

The prizes were presented by his Worship the Mayor at 11:30 p.m. A comprehensive attention to the requisite details necessary for success resulted in a satisfactory realization of the desires of the Social Committee.

Jim Hawden is tired of sitting out the dances and is already a budding dancer. To show that he is in earnest he has made a wager with another "wallflower" that he will be able to dance more dances than his opponent at the next Civic dance. Jim always wins his bets, but he may lose weight in winning this one.

It is reported that the messenger purchased last year, a pair of gloves for 85c, which he wore all last winter. The gloves have just been sold for 60c and another pair obtained for 55c. When you are up against it, don't visit Uncle, get advice from Henry.

Co-operative buying makes your dollar have a greater purchasing power. Four hundred employees buying co-operatively can lower the cost of living, or can make it possible to bring the standard of living nearer to a reasonable mark. Don't kick about the H.C. of L. kick against it collectively.

Tonight's the night! Friday, at 7:30 o'clock, at the Purvis Block. Important business.

## FIRE FIGHTERS

Fire Fighters' Local No. 209 mourns the loss of one of their members, Bro. J. R. Hetherington, who was suddenly taken ill, while performing his duty at No. 4 Hall on Sunday morning, and was at once removed to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in the ambulance, where he died late that night. Brother Hetherington will be missed by the membership, as he took an active part in the work in connection with the Local, he being a charter member of this organization. The sympathy of the members is extended to Mrs. Hetherington and family in their hour of sorrow.

The Fire Fighters are having their share of sickness amongst its members. Brothers King, Nelson, and Edwards of Nos. 1, 7 and 5, respectively, all being confined in the hospital, but are all on the way to recovery.

The local is about to lose another member in the person of Brother William Irwin, who will leave Edmonton for Ireland, his homeland, on the 19th inst., to take up his father's hardware business. He was a member of the Canadian forces in France, joining the 63rd battalion here. The local wishes him every success in his new business career, and a safe journey there.

The Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners invited Local No. 1325 to attend their next regular meeting on Wednesday, November 19th, for a joint meeting, which invitation has been accepted by Local No. 1325, and it is hoped that every member will attend.

A letter was received from the Labor Party, asking for support in the Civic elections. The meeting was also addressed by a delegation from same. It was decided to make a grant to the campaign fund.

The sympathy of the Local is extended to Bro. Wilson in his illness. His many friends hope that he will soon be restored to health again.

## PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS

Local Union No. 488 held a fairly well attended meeting November 5th and had the pleasure of welcoming one of our old members, Bro. G. Latham, recently returned. Bro. Owens gave a short but pointed address on the electoral campaign and its needs of assistance active and financial. It did not take long to find our quota of workers and of course the call for funds could not be passed. Local Union No. 488 sent a donation of \$50 to the account of the joint Labor Party. The Victory Loan came in for discussion and \$100 was ordered to be taken up. Several applications for membership have been lately received and will be completed shortly.

Do not forget the next meeting, November 19th, at 9 p.m. It is necessary for all members in town to attend regularly.

Bros. G. Latham and W. L. Gregory volunteered for election work.

Bro. D. Pratice was elected as Trades and Labor delegate.

## WALTER SMITTEN CANDIDATE FOR CALGARY ALDERMAN

Secretary of Alberta Federation of Labor Took Platform in First Meeting of Civic Campaign

Local labor men will be interested to know that Walter Smitten, secretary of the Alberta Federation of Labor, is a candidate for alderman in the city of Calgary in the coming election.

Mr. Smitten took the platform Monday evening at the first meeting of the campaign in that city. He gave a short outline of the bitter fight that the Labor Party has been waging for years, for free hospital clinics and dispensaries, and a maximum amount of service for the patient with the lean pocket book. He spoke of the first fight in 1912 and again in 1914, for representation on the hospital board.

The matter of free hospitals, free dispensaries and free ambulances are measures that he believed should be put into immediate operation. Mr. Smitten was also in favor of the abolishing of all charges for special applications, and was of the opinion that patients should be treated more in accordance with their needs than in their ability to pay the bills.

The abolition of tax exemptions relating to churches, educational institution and the Palliser hotel was favored by Mr. Smitten. He maintained that all were more or less commercial institutions. The other planks in the platform, viz., immediate action for establishment of Calgary hospital district, taking a plebiscite at the first available opportunity for free hospitals, unification of all health efforts, advisory committee of hospital employees to assist hospital committees, and cost of street railway roadbed to be placed on land values were also touched by Mr. Smitten.

With a smile on their faces. When asked "Why the smile?" they will tell you "Application of supplement No. 16 to General Order No. 27." Then ask them what is the joke.

Bros. Mohan and Livingston are to be congratulated on the arrival of the stork which in both cases, a big bouncing baby girl was left. In both cases mother and child are doing fine but father is recovering very slowly.

The time gradually draws near when the choice is to be made as to who is going to govern our city for another year. Put your shoulder to the wheel, Brothers, and help elect an entire Labor ticket for the year 1920. What has been done other places can be done here. See that you put the right man in the right place. Remember the story of the Seven Sons and the seven sticks. "In Union there is strength."

## CARPENTERS' LOCAL NO. 1325

Local 1325 held their regular meeting Friday, November 7th.

The Trades and Labor Council, having admitted us again to the Council, delegates were appointed to attend their next meeting on November 17th.

The Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners invited Local No. 1325 to attend their next regular meeting on Wednesday, November 19th, for a joint meeting, which invitation has been accepted by Local No. 1325, and it is hoped that every member will attend.

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