

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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 THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS
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Following in brief is an outline of our Policy:

1. The Canadian Labor Press supports the International Trade Union Movement, of which there are approximately three hundred thousand members in Canada.
2. The Canadian Labor Press supports the policy of the present Dominion Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.
3. In the interests of the Canadian Worker, The Canadian Labor Press believes that Canadian industry needs adequate tariff protection.
4. The Canadian Labor Press advocates fair play to employer and employee.
5. The Canadian Labor Press stands for the betterment of Trade Union conditions in Canada and the welfare of our country at large.
6. The Canadian Labor Press is independent in politics and free from any political influences.

Communist Collection of Funds

The recent publicity given to the Communist Party of Canada through the arrest of two labor men for taking collections on the street corners has aroused a good deal of controversy.

We strongly condemn this method of collecting funds for Communist purposes and it appeals to us as being very poor ethics for an element of this calibre to publicly solicit funds when every word of their doctrine shouts loudly against such practice. The Communist Party should be able to gather sufficient funds from their own supporters and in their own class who believe in their radical actions without appealing to the general public. It is plain to everyone that money collected in this way is being used to advance theories which are not at all in keeping with sound trade unionism and which operates to the detriment of progress which makes for better understanding and closer co-operation. The thinking, working man of Canada has had sufficient opportunity to see the results of Communist operations in Europe to realize that it is not a success and to warn them against the dangers of radical propaganda being circulated in Canada by this outfit.

Tariff Reduced, Employment Increased

Are the tariff changes just made by the Federal Government affecting business very much? This is a question which must be approached fairly and squarely, because individual cases can always be found to prove either one case or another. One of the objects of the changes was to decrease prices and costs, and of course it takes months for the beneficial results to become apparent; for instance, there has already been a substantial cut in the prices of farm implements, but it will only be when actual purchases are made that farmers will feel the benefit. On the other hand, the adverse effects on the seller are immediate.

These tariff reductions were announced on April 10, taking effect immediately. They at once changed things in several industries. Yet on May 1st, all firms reporting to the Dominion Employment Service had 760,700 persons working for them, whereas on April 1st they had only 740,162. There are over 6,000 firms on this list, so it may be taken as representative, and certainly it is not selected with prejudice one way or another; it is worth bearing in mind, however, that farming cannot be represented to any great extent, that being an industry carried on by individuals.

"All provinces shared in the expansion registered at the beginning of May," says the official report. The Employment Service has an index number indicative of the volume of employment, and this number stood at 91.8 on May 1st, compared with 91.4 a year ago, and with 83.3 two years ago.

It will be months before such a question can be definitely answered and even then there may be doubt, as many other factors besides tariff changes enter into it. But observing the course of business from week to week and from month to month one does not observe any decline in the gross.—Monetary Times.

Paper Companies Plan Wage Cuts

Only Way, They Feel, to Meet Demands of Publishers for Cheaper Paper

Montreal.—The newsprint paper companies are taking steps to set their house in order to meet conditions in the industry. One move that has been instituted, and which had already been mentioned in these columns has been a slowing down of production at many of the mills. Now the mills are endeavoring to get their costs down by striking at the all-important element of labor charges and wood costs, which include a large degree of labor outside the mills.

This is apparent in information coming from Northern Ontario to the effect that pulp and paper companies buying pulpwood in that district have been reducing their bids for pulpwood bought from settlers and others. Workers in the woods have also been notified that the wage scale is due for downward revision. And it is learned that many of the larger mills are discussing with their representatives of their workers a scaling down of wages in order that labor may do its share to keep the mills operating.

The workers are being told that the present situation in newsprint is bringing demands from publishers for lower prices for the product. Lower prices, the mill heads say, are an impossibility without reduction in labor costs. Hence the present discussions. Among the mills it seems apparent

a reasonable basis of discussion between the operators and the workers can be reached. From Northern Ontario, however, there is a feeling against lower wages, and any reductions will be met with much resistance.

Strike for Higher Wages in B.C.

Vancouver, B. C.—The shipping bosses of this place are cooperating with marine contractors and shipyards in an effort to break the strike of the carpenters on the waterfront here. The Shipping Federation has loaned the "Flak" Hall through which all waterfront workers must pass to obtain employment on the waterfront now for the purpose of recruiting scabs against the carpenters. Bulletins are placed on the boards inside the hall stating that so many men are required and when the men are secured they are herded to some ship where the strike is on and put to work as scabs. Many workers however refused to serve as strikebreakers with the result that several of the largest of the shipyards and marine contractors have been compelled to come to terms with the union. The strikers are holding out for their demands for an increase in the scale of wages from \$7.50 to \$8 and the prospects of victory are excellent.

There may be no harvest moon for the wild cat crop, but there is plenty of moonshine.

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Union Rates \$1 Hour

Secretary Of Local Branch Says Members stand By Agreement

Brampton, Ont.—Brampton has a local branch of the Bricklayers' Union, with a membership of 14. A. H. Finch, being the secretary. Mr. Finch, says that according to the wage rate fixed by this local union recently, the members of the local union, charge only \$1 per hour. This rate is for bricklayers, plasterers and stonemasons. If anyone is receiving more than \$1 per hour, on the job in Brampton, Mr. Finch thinks it must be an outsider, as he believes the members of the union would stand loyally by their agreement.

Not that Mr. Finch thinks there is any necessity for local contractors to employ outside men, as there is no stress of business in the building trades this year. This rate applies to the town and to the immediate vicinity of the town.

Lumber Workers Get Reduction

Vancouver, B. C.—The Lumber bosses are using the present temporary lull in the lumber business as an excuse for a wage slashing campaign to reduce the standard of the lumber workers to a lower figure than ever. Camps closing down on account of market stagnation are announcing that they will only resume operations at a lower wage scale. In the B. C. coast district, Dempsey's Limited have reduced the wages of rigging men to \$3.75 a day. This company charges 75c per week for bedding and \$1.20 a day for board which leaves the logger with less than \$2.50 per working day. The B. C. Timber and Trading Co. at Rock Bay have reduced their employees 60c a day and the Comox Logging Co. have cut wages 5c an hour.

Companies are using the excuse that the forest fires that rage throughout the timber sections of this province yearly are caused by the men smoking while in the woods and that to prevent any loss in their property they are closing down for the summer months. The fact of the matter is that the lumber bosses are strictly enforcing the rule against smoking by the workers but neglect to spend the necessary cash to clear space around donkey engines and provide spark arrestors. It is cheaper to blame the logger and save the cash.

Big Increase in Unemployment

Saskatoon, Sask.—Unemployment in this city is rapidly assuming large proportions. It is very unusual at this time of the year for more than a mere handful to be walking the streets looking for a job. But this year unemployment is positively on the increase. The city council reports that the number of families in receipt of unemployment relief has increased during the month of June—a state of affairs without precedent in the history of this city.

Building activities are almost at a standstill. During the past year hundreds of skilled workers have left the city and gone south in search of work. This constant exodus of workers has left the labor unions of this city in a deplorably weak condition, many of the lodges not possessing sufficient members to hold further meetings.

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Child Workers on Persian Rugs

A minimum age of eight years for boys and ten for girls is established in the carpet-weaving industry by a decree issued recently by the governor of the Persian province of Kerman. The new decree also provides for a maximum working day of eight hours, separate work places for boys and for girls, prohibition of the employment of workers suffering from contagious diseases, prohibition of underground or damp workshops and other regulations to secure better working conditions. This decree confirms and in some respects extends the measures taken by the Persian government sometime ago at the suggestion of the International Labor Office.

Juvenile Offenders in India

The government of Bombay has published its plan for the protection of children and young persons in the form of a bill to be introduced in the Bombay Legislative Council. This bill would create separate courts for children's cases and abolish hanging and transportation as punishment for youthful offenders. It would prevent the sending to prison of any children except those adjudged by the court to be too unruly to benefit by admission to a reformatory school; would introduce a system of probation and also establish industrial schools teaching trades to offenders under 16.

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Insist on Made-in-Canada products and you will bar out the competing wares of cheap, sweated, slavish labor of Europe and Asia. Low wages make low ideals. Union labor has been for years and is battling for high ideals. High ideals come only where the workers are paid and treated in a highly civilized manner.

For high ideals—for general Made-in-Canada prosperity—Don't forget to say that all may hear: "Made-in-Canada goods for me every time!"

Supreme Court Sustains B. of L. E.

Cleveland.—The Dominion supreme court of Canada sustains the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, according to a telegram received by the Grand Office in this city, in the Starr case which has been fought bitterly for the past year through the courts. Judge Galt of the Manitoba supreme court held the B. of L. E. was an "illegal" organization at common law, and could not recover \$4,000 taken by an official named Starr. The Brotherhood appealed to the Manitoba court of appeals, and won a decision there, sustaining its right to recover even though unincorporated or unregistered under the Canadian trades union act.

The case was argued by the present former officer to the Canadian supreme court at Ottawa. His appeal was denied.

Unanimously Adopt Progressive Ideals

St. Paul, Minn.—The unanimous adoption of a progressive platform and a determination to launch a vigorous presidential campaign marked the closing of the harmonious third party nominating convention at St. Paul, June 19.

The platform declares that American plutocracy nullifies the Declaration of Independence and calls for widespread public ownership of industries, transportation and banking. The right of labor to organize on

farm or in city work shops. The abolition of labor injunctions and the use of the police and militia against labor. It declares that the police and soldiers should help and not hinder labor.

Child welfare legislation is declared for and maternity benefits, insurance for sickness accidents, old age and death, to be paid for by a tax on wealth. A minimum wage and residential qualifications on voting is also included.

The farmer planks demand the land for the users of land, government marketing and distribution and government loans to the farmers without interest. Economic and legal equality is demanded for women and the economic and political emancipation of the Negroes.

Foreign affairs calls for the recognition of Russia, Philippine independence, self determination for the United States colonies, withdrawal of U. S. marines from the Caribbean countries, non-interference in other lands to safeguard the investments or to collect the debts of financial interests.

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