

Editorial Page of the Canadian Labor Press

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

LABOR IN SESSION.

JUDGING from the advance information even at this date, the 36th annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada will be fully representative, both from point of attendance as well as the world-wide interest that will be created when the labor parliament of the Dominion convenes, next month.

This open forum, so unlike other representative bodies in its unlimited breadth and scope, will even allow to be seated the self-representing minority warring crew, who, although claiming membership in the international trade union movement, have apparently no interest in same other than degrading its work and system, and brazenly working for its destruction.

Placed against the retarding influences, the effectiveness of the Congress' efforts are apparent in the long list of legislative successes gained both in the Federal and Provincial arenas. In the latter legislation in the workers' interests especially during the last decade shows the earmarks of the efforts made through the executives of the various provinces, following the Congress' procedure.

Under ordinary or superficial calculation it would appear that there should be more delegates in attendance this year than at the Hamilton convention, if this deduction was made from the Congress' figures, which show a gain of international membership in Canada for the twelve-month term of 58,815.

There is now in evidence a similar justified faith in the whole of the present officers with the allied feeling of confidence that the continuity of service will not be interfered or tampered with. The second term of President Moore with his faithful co-workers, Secretary-Treasurer Draper and Vice-Presidents Martel, Halford and McAndrew, having been one showing a mastership in direction and execution, whether the issues dealt with were large or small.

Across the Atlantic.

What Our Brethren in the Motherland Are Doing.

OUR WEEKLY BRITISH LETTER

LONDON, England, (Saturday)—The rapidly approaching crisis in the coal industry has resulted in an appeal being issued to the public to save and stock coal for the coming winter as a miners' strike is considered inevitable.

In the next few days, the miners will commence balloting on the transport workers' motion to enforce their demands for an increase of 2s per day, combined with a reduction of 14s 2d in the price of domestic coal.

The national conference on September 2 will fix the date for tendering notices of the strike, and probably the notices will expire at the latest on September 29.

Considerable importance is attached to the meeting of the triple alliance of miners, railwaymen and transport workers' unions on August 31, at which the miners will seek the co-operation of the transport workers and railwaymen.

Electrical Trades Deadlock. If the threatened lock-out notices in the electrical trades are enforced, they will be confined to members of the electrical trade union, but the effect would inevitably involve thousands of other industries until a widespread lock-out would result.

The national Federation of General Workers is greatly concerned about the prospect and has issued a protest. The issue consists in determining whether the employers or the workmen shall employ women. It arose from the appointment of a non-union foreman. The Labor Ministry is now considering the matter and will probably intervene since over 1,000,000 men are liable to be affected unless resumption of work takes place at Cammell, Laird and Company's works, where the strike has lasted six weeks.

CANADIAN GOVT TURNS SEARCHLIGHT ON ONE BIG

Continued From Page One.

bers and thus greatly add to the efficiency and strength of labor? Why not try the new idea? The idea is not new, it was first seriously advanced in 1869 by Erwin Smith in Philadelphia, when he and other garment workers organized the 'Knights of Labor'.

Following close upon the dissolution of the Knights of Labor, the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance sprang into existence. In 1895, when a delegation from District Assembly 49 of the Knights of Labor met with the Central Labor Federation of New York City and formed the new alliance, the plan originated with Daniel DeLeon, a fervid Marxist Socialist, and the organization was endorsed by the Socialist Labor Party.

To indicate the close similarity between the policy of the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance and the One Big Union, a letter addressed to Mr. R. B. Russell, just prior to the first One Big Union convention at Calgary in 1919, which has for some time been a public document, is here quoted:

Dear Friend Russell: Glad to hear from you. I know how busy you are, so never apologize for not writing me. I had the enclosed tucked safely away for the last nine years awaiting the day which I knew was coming. I want you to have a print made of it by someone whom you can trust not to destroy the original, then carefully send it on to Wella B. C. Federation, with similar instructions. I want it returned to me; gold cannot buy it. It is off this that Lenin has formed his Soviet administration as far as possible. It was drawn up by Daniel DeLeon, nine years ago. Get paper copies of this on a circular and if broadcast, the Henry Dubbs will get

the idea quickly, much more so than dozens of lectures. So you see I was in O. B. U. before I was a Socialist or Bolshevik.

(Signed) ROSE HENDERSON.

I. W. W. Advertised.

"The I. W. W. headquarters advertised, published, and distributed One Big Union literature in 1919, and gave aid and encouragement to its organization in Canada. The name 'One Big Union' was adopted at the Calgary convention, it being stated that we were not to be known as the I. W. W. in Canada. Scores of documents and incidents could be quoted in evidence to prove the close connection existing between Martens' Soviet Bureau in New York and O. B. U. leaders in Canada. A few will doubtless surmise that the 'appeals' are being directed to all O. B. U. units in Canada to contribute to a fund for sending medical assistance to Soviet Russia. In the British Columbia Federationist, and have been read in most if not all of the O. B. U. branches in Canada. In some cases they have been presented by emissaries who appeared in person. It will be noticed that the Soviet Bureau in New York is making a mistake in starting in Canada. 'In Toronto, on April 9, last, a speaker said that in the very near future the O. B. U. will be a real communist organization, and a lot of members of this body are communist anarchists, and I. W. W. and are getting more powerful all the time. Very soon all the unions will join the O. B. U. All organized workers are waiting and getting ready for a general strike; then will break out something.'"

"At an O.K.U. meeting in Montreal, on March 28 last, a well known organizer stated he was in Winnipeg during the strike and no one can deny at the present time if he overthrew the Government and establish a Soviet Government in Canada. All realized now they had made a mistake in starting in Winnipeg alone, but that they should first have got a thorough organization all over Canada and then made one big revolution which it would have been impossible to suppress."

O.B.U.'s Real Purpose. "These examples of the utterances of the O.B.U. leaders surely indicate their real purpose. It is, however, only fair to point out that they have at the moment many adherents who are not aware of and would not willingly support their revolutionary intentions."

"The name 'One Big Union' was adopted to mislead the worker who would not admit to the I.W.W. movement. The Labor Church is a subsidiary of the One Big Union, as the following information will indicate:

The Labor Church. "The first so-called Labor Church was established in Winnipeg during the winter of 1918-1919 under the auspices of Rev. Wm. Ivens, the reputed Winnipeg correspondent to the New York Call."

"In June, 1919, a New People's Church was set up in Brandon, presided over by Rev. A. E. Smith. In September 1919, the Labor Church in Edmonton was formed, with the Rev. G. L. Ritter as pastor. In June 1920, an effort was made to establish one in Fort William under Mr. A. Henry, one in Vancouver under Mr. J. S. Woodsworth, and also one in Calgary. It may be recalled that the Russian Soviet Republic in its constitution adopted in 1917 repudiated all forms of religion as they practiced and declared that monks and clergy of all denominations do not perform any useful social functions."

"Mr. T. A. Barnard of Victoria, in mentioning the Labor Church said, 'one could speak on anything which would benefit the state of things in the present world and let the world hereafter take care of itself.'"

"Mr. A. Henry, at Fort William, said, 'We could get some recruits from the Orthodox Church; the best thing to call this education is the Labor Church, because if it is called a socialist meeting there are a lot of people who would not come.'"

"Many more similar utterances of the men acting as pastors of these so-called Labor Churches might be quoted. It would appear that the movement is merely a subsidiary of the Socialist and Communist movement and a piece of hypocrisy, evidently conscious in the case of most of its promoters, designed to interpose in the revolutionary movement persons of religious and humanitarian principles to whom the ordinary Marxist propaganda would not be attractive. It surely contains no genuine element of religion."

Internationals Stand For Law and Order. "Mr. R. B. Russell, Manitoba Secretary for the O.B.U. and a member of the Executive, was asked, in May, 1919, why they were attacking the international trade union movement so bitterly. His reply was that the Trade Unions had always stood in the way of the progress of socialism, and that they must be destroyed. This was exactly the attitude of the Knights of Labor in Canada, the International Trade Unions have a total membership of about 268,000; their policies are well known. In the industrial field they endeavor, by craft, to negotiate agreements with employers, by direct conference or arbitration, a strike always being a last resort. They respect and uphold constitutional labor movement. Members are obligated before God and hold sacred the moral law."

Sore From Within. "It is to be remembered finally that the insidious propaganda campaign which has resulted so disastrously in Russia is still being carried on in North America and in other parts of the world. The popular motto is 'sore from within.' This process is going on in both the religious and industrial field. Employers who do not show due regard for the needs and rights of their workmen are substantially aiding the enemy that would destroy them. Many do not recognize that the legitimate labor movement is today playing a large part in preventing industrial and economic disaster. It is also the power that guarantees to the worker a reasonable return for his labor, a standard of living much above that which would prevail were his interest not protected, and is an anchor to steady him from the waves of radicalism which from time to time seek to wreck all that has been accomplished by way of constructive

permanent improvement. Trade Unions which retain within their ranks men who use their membership to 'sore from within' and destroy instead of support are assuming a serious responsibility and risk."

Government's Attention. "The Government of Canada has given serious and constant attention to this problem during the past year and a half. Every action taken to protect the people has been misrepresented by the Red propagandists. If further sympathy or support is given to this revolutionary movement that would if it prevails devastate North America as it has destroyed Russia, it will not be done innocently."

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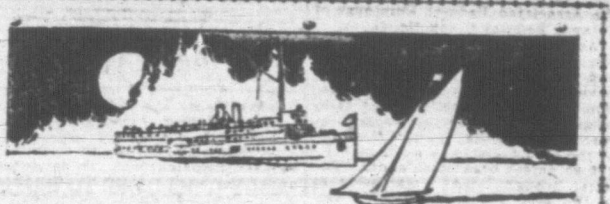
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