

Dept. of Labor April 12-20
(Circulation Branch)
Ottawa, Ont.

EDITED, CONTROLLED AND PUBLISHED BY THE EDMONTON TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL.

VOL. 1, No. 33.

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1919

\$1.00 Per Year; 5c Per Copy

TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL APPOINT G.W.V.A. DELEGATE

Special Committee Be Appointed To Arrange For Social Event In Near Future.

In response to an invitation from the Alberta command of the Great War Veterans Association, the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council will be represented by a fraternal delegate at the Veterans' convention in Edmonton on December 9th. President McCreath was on Monday evening chosen to represent the Council in that capacity.

The Trades' Council meeting on Monday evening was fairly well attended, and many interesting matters were under discussion during the evening. Credentials were received from the Teamsters' Union for Wm. Lafontaine, J. C. Watt and A. S. Smith; from the Letter Carriers for Thos. Green; from the Brotherhood of Carpenters for Orman Russell and J. Lidstone.

A letter was read from Secretary Smitten of the Alberta Federation of Labor informing the council that there were a number of Edmonton unions who were not affiliated with the Federation, and requesting that some person be appointed to take up the work of Vice-President Farnham, who was at the coast. Delegate Branham was appointed to interview local unions with regard to Federation affiliations.

A communication from the A. F. of L. stated that there was no break in the ranks of the Steel Workers on strike in the States and requested assistance in maintaining commissaries which had been opened for the relief of needy families. The council voted the sum of \$10 to the fund.

On recommendation of the Organization Committee, the Council decided to re-admit unions whose affiliation had been cancelled on account of O.B.U. activities, on the payment of the regular affiliation fee. There are two unions which will be affected by this ruling of the Council.

Bluejay brooms, Excelsior bicycles and motorcycles, Henderson motorcycles and the Roseland Hotel in Los Angeles, were declared to be unfair to Organized Labor, according to communications dealing with them, which were received from unions and central bodies.

The matter of purchasing "liberty bonds" in connection with the Winnipeg defense fund was brought to the attention of the Council by a communication from Winnipeg, and there was some discussion on the question. It was finally decided to have the secretary write to the defense fund officials for definite information as to the disposition of monies collected through unions and individual members of Organized Labor.

The Labor Candidates

JAMES EAST

James East, candidate of the Labor Party for Alderman, is an Executive member of the Edmonton Branch of the G.W.V.A., and is keenly alive to all the problems which confront the returned man.

Mr. East enlisted with the C.A.M.C in 1916. On arrival in England he was detailed for hospital-ship duty, and made more than forty trips across the Atlantic, most of which were during the submarine activity.

On return to Canada he was sent to the Military Hospital, undergoing a successful operation, which resulted in



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Mr. East was demobilized in category A1, after three years and two months' service. Born at Bolton, Ontario, in 1871, he spent some of his early manhood in the silver ore regions of Colorado, and in 1893 was at the famous Creede Camp when the repeal of the Silver Purchase Act caused the great panic of that year, closing practically every silver mine in the Rock Mountains. He then visited the gold-mining regions of New Zealand but when the great gold discoveries were made in Western Australia in 1894 Comrade East was amongst the first in the great rush. Coolgardie Kanowna, Lawlers, Cue, and Mount Magnet were names on every lip, the latter attracting him particularly, and here he made his headquarters.

In order to earn the money to finance various prospecting ventures, he was in turn miner, timberman, and manager; finally discovering "pay ore" in his "Wheel of Fortune South" claim which made it necessary for him to devote his entire time to the management of this mine. By 1905 the mine was worked out and a year was spent by Mr. East in re-visiting his native country, and on coming West he decided to remain in Edmonton, which he has never regretted.

Mr. East was twice elected to the City Council of Edmonton, and actively supported every measure for the general welfare of the city. He continually urged the development of the city's own public utilities, "service for use and not for profit" being his motto.

His active opposition to the Gas Franchise, the Hydro-Electric scheme, and all other attempts to exploit the city's utilities brought about his defeat, but time has amply proven the soundness of his policies.

With renewed energies and a broadened outlook Mr. East again seeks reelection on his record, and in this connection it is worthy of note that both the Trades and Labor Council and the Dominion Labor Party have jointly endorsed his candidature.

ALEX. ROSS, M.L.A. DEALS WITH LABOR MOVEMENT IN ENG.

British Trade Unionist Jealous of His Organization, Taken Century to Reach.

(By Alex. Ross, M.L.A.)

I am pleased to give my impressions of the British Labor Movement as I saw it during my recent trip to Scotland, my native land.

The Labor Movement in Britain can best be understood by dividing it into three different parts:—1st, The Economic, 2nd, The Political, 3rd, The Commercial. The Economic or Industrial is really the basis of the Labor Movement, it was the first phase to come into being, the other two phases are much more recent but all three are now considered essential to complete the whole. During the last few years there seems to have been a phenomenal increase in membership. Britain is now the best organized industrially in the world, there being between five and six million organized workers in the British Isles. The form or method of organization does not appear to have changed very much. Organization by Craft is still considered to be the best method. The Craft is still the Industrial unit, but I did see a distinct tendency to link up allied crafts into what is known as an Industrial Organization.

There has come into being during the last few years a large number of organizations amongst the unskilled workers, chiefly Industrial Union, such as the Transport Workers and General Laborers' Union. Those who have doubts as to the relative merits of the Craft Union System compared with the O.B.U. for example may be surprised to know that although a large number of the members are Direct Actionists yet no effort has been made to forcibly unite the Industrial movement into a whole such as the O.B.U. adherents would advocate. Consolidation of all Industrial Forces in Britain is going on apace but it is taking the form of Allied Trades amalgamating into Industrial Unions, or by a process of Federation or by "an Alliance."

The British Trade Unionist is jealous of his organization, it has taken him a century to reach the stage he has reached, he has had triumphs and defeats with the result that he probably moves slowly, but surely, and he fully realizes the value of a strong industrial union. Mr. Scott came out with the men, and was compelled to make another start.

To do this he returned to Edmonton and has lived here since 1912. Mr. Scott has a family of two sons and two daughters. Both boys heard the call from "over there" and one was discharged on account of a leaky valve in the heart, while the other had both legs blown off in 1918.

A Presbyterian, Mr. Scott is an elder in Erskine church, was superintendent of the Sunday school there and while connected with Robertson Presbyterian church he was leader of the Bible class in that Sunday school.

Mr. Scott is a candidate of the Labor party and is president of the Machinists' Union, No. 817. He is in favor of increased grants for education and his campaign slogan is "An education for every child regardless of circumstances." Mr. Scott is a favorite with his associates, who love and admire him for his fearless advocacy of everything he thinks is right and his aggressive opposition to what he considers wrong.

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

SPECIAL NOTICE

There will be a special meeting of the executives of all local unions, in the large hall at Labor Headquarters, on Monday evening, November 24th at 8 o'clock. The Railroad Brotherhoods are urged to have representation at this meeting which is being called in connection with the civic election campaign.

CIVIC EMPLOYEES AND POST OFFICE STAFF AT Y.M.C.A.

Most Delightful Evening Was Spent at Competition of Indoor Sports on Wednesday.

The Civic Employees and the Post Office staff were opponents in a friendly competition of indoor sports at the Y.M.C.A. Wednesday evening. The events were quoits, volleyball, basketball, indoor baseball and rope climbing. In the quoits and indoor baseball competitions the Post Office staff carried off the honors, but at volleyball, basketball and rope climbing, the Civic Employees proved to be superior.

A musical program was rendered by members of the Post Office and Civic staff, also by the social committee of the Y.M.C.A. after the sports program was brought to a close. Following the musical program, refreshments were served and the evening was brought to a close with all having spent a most enjoyable time.

U.M.W.A. WOULD INSTITUTE CLOSED SHOP PRINCIPLE

Will Agree To Keep Out O.B.U. If All Mines Will Adopt Closed-Shop Conditions.

A meeting of Alberta coal operators was held in Calgary, Wednesday, to consider a new proposition of the United Mine Workers, to the effect that all mines throughout the province adopt the closed-shop principle. On that understanding the United Mine Workers will agree to keep out the O.B.U. and to make every effort to discourage the campaign which that organization is now carrying on.

N. C. Piteher and R. G. Drinnan represented the mining interests outside the Edmonton district. An order-in-council to the effect that all the coal mines in the Edmonton district have been released from the jurisdiction of the Dominion mines commissioner, W. Armstrong, and are now free to go their own ways, make their own agreements, and run their own affairs, has been passed at Ottawa. The reasons given for wanting to separate from mines district No. 18 were entirely different from those obtaining elsewhere and that the orders issued by Commissioner Armstrong were almost invariably hard to follow in this part of the district.

WINNIPEG TRADES COUNCIL ENDORSES LABOR CANDIDATES

The Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council, Tuesday evening, endorsed the whole of the labor candidates in the civic affairs for the municipal elections on the 28th.

A resolution was also passed to support the defence fund of the right labor leaders facing charges of sedition, now in the courts. It was recommended that this matter should be taken out of the hands of any union and made a separate issue wherein all the labor elements could support the defence. H. J. W. Powers, a member of the Typographical union was elected president of the council.

A conference was held in Halifax last week for the purpose of forming a Western Union Cable Employees Association. This association will embrace practically all the employees engaged in the operation of the Western Union trans-Atlantic cables in America. Its aims and objects will be the regulation of salaries and adjustment of grievances through collective bargaining and co-operation.

LABOR COMMITTEE ROOMS

LABOR HALL, PURVIS BLOCK
Over Dominion Cigar Store, Corner First and Jasper

For information as to whether you are on the list and where you vote. Any information regarding the campaign gladly given. Those desiring to give their services in aid of the Labor candidates ask for Mr. Freeman.

MECHANICS' LIEN ACT LEAST UNDERSTOOD BY WORKERS

Act That Should Be Instrumental In Securing For Workers Wages For Work Performed.

(By Walter Smitten)

This measure, one of the most technical on the Statutes, is probably the least understood by the workers and at the same time is one that should be instrumental in securing for workers wages for work performed.

The basis of the measure is the principle that the owner of land should be held responsible and accountable for payment in respect to improvements made thereon. The method of protection provided is that the person performing the work or supplying material for the improvement may within thirty days after completion of his service file through a Judge or a Clerk of Court a lien against the land for the amount due him. The effect of this is that the land or improvement may not be used until lien claims are settled provided the lien claimant institutes proceedings before the expiry of ninety days.

Wages Should Have Priority. This measure practically provides protection merely for wages of workers engaged in Building and Mining operations and then consideration is given to liens in accordance with priority of filing. The result of this is that usually the worker who is not in as good a position to ascertain the financial standing of the person having the improvement made, is the last to file a lien and as a consequence very often is not in a position to collect the wages due him. This should not be, wages should have priority over all other claims.

Then again there is no good reason why it should not be possible to file a lien at any time provided there are finances available from those having the improvements performed, for often we find workmen who are prepared to give consideration to an employer whom they believe to be temporarily embarrassed with the result in some cases that said employer who may be unscrupulous neglects to meet his obligations and the worker loses the amount due him. Ample protection would be provided the owner of the land if an affidavit were required of the contractor, before

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P.E.I. RURAL MAIL CARRIERS POSTPONE THREATENED STRIKE

The threatened strike of rural mail carriers in Prince Edward Island, called for November 22nd, has been postponed until December 22nd, because the acting premier of Canada has wired the union that their grievances will be given careful and sympathetic consideration.

MINERS OF NOVA SCOTIA THREATEN TO GO ON STRIKE

Say They Will Come to Alberta Where the U.M.W. Have Secured Jobs For All.

Miners of District 26, headquarters at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, have threatened to strike and come in a body to Alberta, where jobs are awaiting them, unless the company settles the dispute in which the men are asking for a ten per cent increase, and the company offers about one-sixth of the demand.

The award of the Minto conciliation board provides for an increase of one cent per box of coal mined. The men are getting about sixty cents per box now and the ten per cent increase they are asking would have meant about six cents per box more. J. C. McLaughlin, the district secretary said that it would not be an ordinary strike. There will be no loafing about of unemployed strikers, according to mine leaders. The minute the strike is declared the men will be provided with transportation and full facilities for the journey to Alberta, where jobs for all have been secured by the U.M.W.

NEWS OF THE LOCAL UNIONS

CIVIC SERVICE No. 52

A notice of motion will be given at the next meeting asking that a heavy penalty be placed on anyone acting as news suppressor or press censor without authority.

On Monday morning Bro. Dave Robson left his glasses at home.

And it came to pass that on the first workday of the week David left his tent and made his way to his daily task, which was in the Tower of Babel; but he had forgotten to bring his glasses with him. His daughter seeing what she thought to be his glasses in a case, hurried to the second Hall of the Lower with them, for peradventure her father had sore need of them. The glasses were not his, however, but his wife's, and it was heard by those assembled that by wearing them he could see things exactly as the owner saw them. And all the messengers and maidservants were astonished for they knew that a great miracle had been wrought in the house of David.

Miss L. Varley is leaving for a trip to England early next month. We wish her a safe journey and a good time.

Bro. Ruff has shot two cotton tails. Orders for pelts should be made without delay for from the demonstration of elation at the result of the hunt it would appear that they are very rare.

The economic effects of co-operative buying are three-fold: (1) It saves money and thus lowers producing costs; (2) it forces better prices and services from retailers and manufacturers; (3) it opens to us an avenue for getting facts as to the cost and value of the services of retailers.

F. Wilson arrived in Edmonton late on Tuesday night. It was with difficulty that the bewhiskered person could be recognized.

K. Orr and J. Paterson were received into the Union at the last general meeting. J. Paterson was an old employe on the engineers' staff and we are glad to see him back on the city's staff again.

Application is being made for affiliation with the Alberta Federation of Labor.

Nominations will be received at the next general meeting for officers for next year. This notice is given so that you will have a full opportunity to select those that will give you the greatest service and don't forget to support them when you have made your selection.

FIRE FIGHTERS

Brother W. G. Murray, Labor candidate for Alderman, has resigned from the Department, and has been appointed business agent and organized of Local No. 514, Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers. His ambition will be to put Local 514 on a pro-strike basis. There is no doubt that Local 514 will be one of the strongest locals in the city in a very short time under the able management of Mr. Murray.

Local 209 is about to lose one of its oldest members in the person of Bro. O'Doherty, who has resigned to return to Ireland, his home land. Bro. O'Doherty joined the Fire Department on the 1st January, 1914. He received leave of absence on the 16th of March, 1915 to join up in the famous 49th Battalion, with which unit he served overseas. He saw much fighting with the 49th, and was twice wounded. On his return he was again one of the Fire Fighters. The membership wishes Paddy a safe voyage.

The members of No. 2 Hall are looking forward to a pleasant time on Friday night, the occasion being their annual social and dance in the Hall.

The next regular meeting of Local 209 will be held on Wednesday the 26th. Important business which affects all members will be dealt with, there are also interesting reports from committees to be submitted. Every member who can, should be present.

O.N.R. MACHINISTS

The regular meeting of Local 817, I. A. of M., was fairly well attended, considering the weather; possibly the advertising in the shops of Mayor Clarke's intended address helped some. With President Woods in the chair and other officers in their places, business was soon completed and the usual "haranguing" under "Good and Welfare" assumed the proportions of a stiff debate.

Many volunteered for election campaigning, but no one heard them volunteer. Clarence Smith and Arthur Cairns are already into the fight but their work as explained by themselves was more of a free lance variety, Cairns being one of the Finance Committee of the campaign body selected by the joint meeting of the Dominion Labor Party and

LABOR MEMBER FOR CALGARY CENTRE VISITOR IN CITY

Alex. Ross, Recently Returned From Old Country Discusses Labor Conditions There.

Mr. Alex. Ross, Labor M.L.A. for centre Calgary, was a visitor in the city during the week. Mr. Ross recently returned from the Old country where he had been since March of this year.

Impression of Leaders. In the course of a chat with the Free Press representative, Mr. Ross touched briefly on his impressions of the Labor movement in Britain. He spent a week at the Trades' Union Congress convention, and was deeply impressed with the intelligent manner in which the assembled delegates approached the question under discussion. Asked as to his impressions of the leading Labor men, Mr. Ross did not hesitate in stating that Arthur Henderson was undoubtedly the most outstanding man in the movement. Mr. Clynes impressed Mr. Ross as possessing a brilliant analytical mind but lacking the breadth of vision of Arthur Henderson. Mr. J. H. Thomas is a strong man and reveals to some extent the characteristic temperamentalism of the Welshman. Bob Smilie struck Mr. Ross as a remarkably clever leader, but impressing the close observer as being somewhat of a demagogue. Mr. Ross discussed the questions of the day with a large number of the men who are prominent in the British Labor movement.

No O.B.U. in Britain. Asked as to the movement toward industrial unionism, Mr. Ross stated that the tendency to consolidate the several units of Organized Labor was very strong indeed, but the movement was strictly along the lines of federation and amalgamation. There was no desire to eliminate craft autonomy and the O.B.U. idea was not considered at all.

MACHINISTS TAKE ACTION ON THE CUMMINS BILL. A circular letter from the headquarters of the International Association of Machinists to all their locals dated November 3rd, contains a call to quell the futile and childish revolts in the ranks of Labor when the whole fabric of its rights is threatened. It reads in part as follows:

"The armistice was signed November 11, 1918. Automatically hostilities have ended; technically we are yet in a state of war. The return of industry from war to peace is not readily accomplished. The sacrifices made by Labor and the part played by Labor in this great struggle seem to have been forgotten by those who were so much in need of the protection of Labor during the critical period.

"It is very evident from events that with the signing of the armistice on November 11th, actual hostilities ceased in the World War and Labor thought that by the signing of that declaration that the world was made safe for democracy. It appears that big business, special privilege, and others who are seeking to destroy the standards created by Organized Labor, have looked on this declaration as a declaration of war against the trade union movement, both in the industrial field and in the legislative field. Individual contracts have been used in many instances to bring a condition under which our Organization could not exist. Laws have been introduced which have been introduced

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Trades and Labor Council. Machinists President Woods and S. McLaughlin were finally the volunteers allowed to work for the good of the majority; Scott and Findlay! Eh! What!

The shop committee reported progress in shop matters; but it was left to the membership, as explained by the Federation delegates, to see that all matters of a grievous nature must be put in the hands of the Federation Committee at once. Fifty Dollars was granted to the campaign fund of the Dominion Labor Party.

The turntable at the round house is being equipped with an air engine to take the place of the strong backs of "humans." We're gettin' eddicated!

When will the turn of the tool room come for a general overhaul! Hey Harry! You gotta big ham'r!

Anybody hear the "Seniority Whistle"??

Brother Sommerville expects to be in Edmonton by the end of this week.