

# New Immigration Policy Canada's Urgent Need

## BRITISH LABOR PARTY NOT READY TO MERGE

One Great Part of Work is to Organize Newer Freedom for Women. But if Lloyd George Wants To Join Up, Will be Glad to Have Him as a Member.

LONDON.—The Labor party will not merge itself with any new party with other elements united with Lloyd George, according to announcements made at Labor party headquarters yesterday.

“However, if Lloyd George wishes to join our party we will be glad to have him,” was a remark made by the party spokesman.

During the past three weeks the party has been preparing an effort to double its number of members of parliament at the forthcoming election, it was declared.

The party has 400 candidates in the field, including twelve women, it was stated by Arthur Henderson, M.P., secretary of the party, who added: “One great part of our work will be helping to organize the newer freedom for women, who have the right to a million votes in the election.”

**Gained Fourteen Seats.**

“Our party,” continued Secretary Henderson, “polled 2,250,000 votes in 1918 as compared with 5,000,000 votes for the two others great parties—the Liberals and the Conservatives, then known as the Coalition to finish the war and win the peace. Since then, in parliamentary elections, we have gained fourteen seats, bringing the total to 75 seats.”

The Coalition government is evidently being followed by a reactionary government, with Labor misrepresented and conspired against by

## LABORER AND CRAFTSMAN

J. R. Clynes, M.P., on The Problem of Dual Interests.

The development during the last twenty years of Trade Union organization amongst laborers and general workers has been one of the outstanding features of our industrial life. Many foretell that it could not be done. For a long time the effort received only irregular encouragement. Its ultimate success was doubted. Sympathy was general, but not more general than disbelief in the attainment.

It was asserted that general workers would only pay a small contribution and that not for long. It was asserted that a small contribution could do little, but the result has shown that numbers and spirit often count as effectively as money, and that sufficient money is usually there if it is used on a plan by which small contributions are pooled, and financial resources for those who need them are derived from a large variety of workers while others are in a state of dispute. The pooling of funds and mixed membership explain a success standing to the credit of general workers as great as the victories of skilled workmen who pay high contributions. Yet by paying more general workers could do more.

Success must demand attention, and though the organized strength of laborers will vary in even a greater degree than variation in the case of craftsmen, it is safe to conclude that the future place of workmen in relation to machinery and the subdivision of labor in great productive workshops will necessitate a high level of organization for all classes of general workers. Changes in industrial organization and in machinery have created a problem requiring a united effort on the part of skilled and unskilled alike.

Though we commonly speak of the interest of Labor, the truth is that many interests and not one must be considered. If the interest of Labor were a unit and could be pursued in agreement with a thousand different grades of workmen, the tasks of organized Labor would be easier. Unfortunately we have to consider not one interest but many. Old difficulties have been inherited and new difficulties are being made every day.

## LABOR IS ROUTED IN THE MUNICIPAL VOTE IN ENGLAND

Early Returns Show That Conservatives Have Made Great Inroads and Party Has Suffered Losses.

LONDON.—The rout of labor was the feature of the municipal elections in a large number of boroughs throughout England on Wednesday. Up to an early hour Thursday morning the returns were incomplete, but it is significant that in ten of London's twenty-eight boroughs, the completed returns show that labor lost 149 seats, which had previously been held by a laboring, decent citizen.

“Labor wants real peace, and a social and economic organization which shall secure a reasonable standard of life for all.”

**Are Not Communist.**

“We are often referred to as Bolsheviks, whereas we are not affiliated with the Communist party. We were tarred with this in the 1918 elections. As a matter of fact, there has never been an effort or chance for a labor revolution in England. Besides, we are a duly organized, constitutional party.

**LABOR ANXIOUS MAKE SUCCESS NATIONAL RLYS.**

Among the Labor candidates already announced are Norman Angell, author and lecturer; Rev. Gordon Lang, General C. B. Thomson, one of the British military staff at the Versailles peace conference; G. M. Gillett, banker; Charles Diamond, editor of the Catholic Herald of London; Dr. Haden Guest, Russian famine relief worker, and Ferner Brockway, editor.

Conditions during the engineering lock-out would have been used by the employers to suit their purpose if in that fight there had been less loyalty and sense of common-cause among the workmen. These conditions permitted large groups of general workers and semi-skilled men to try and advance their occupational interests at the expense of men whom the employers had locked out. From the beginning of the fight, however, those of us who had any claim to speak for the general worker knew that he would not take advantage of the situation created by the lock-out to pursue his separate interest, and thereby assist the employer in hastening the defeat of other men in the engineering trade.

That the general worker has a separate interest is beyond doubt. Whether that interest can be jointly pursued and secured without detriment to the wage standards of other men is a question which ought jointly to be considered from the standpoint of the mutual good of all. It was not the fault of the employers that they failed to use the existing circumstances of separate interest, and though such joint movement as existed for purposes of conference, discussion, and settlement was both imperfect and unsatisfactory, the Trade Union spirit within the societies survived the temptation of seeking separate advancement for particular sections without regard to the established rights of other sections.

The relation of the general worker and semi-skilled men to higher-paid men is a question which, if not settled on a basis of mutual rights, may be settled by force of economic circumstances in a way which would best suit the employers and be settled greatly to the detriment of every section of men involved. In no occupation can any group of craftsmen or men possessing the skill which apprenticeship confers disregard the ceaseless changes in methods of production and new devices in machinery. Men in many trades in the last 100 years have tried the plan of offering resistance to mechanical development or standing still, as though development would never touch their interests. Those who have followed this plan have fared worse than the men who in any occupation have recognized inevitable mechanical changes and have made the best bargain with the new methods which they could not ignore.

The less-skilled men in all branches of the engineering trades have never been fairly paid, and in normal times

cause it refuses to maintain a social and economic system which often results in unemployment, underpayment, squabbling and anxiety for multitudes of low-earning, decent citizens.

Incomplete returns of the municipal elections on Wednesday show labor lost 160 seats and gained 5. The Conservatives gained 100 and lost 11. No London results are yet available.

## IMMIGRATION A VERY IMPORTANT QUESTION FOR CANADA

The Government of Canada has been giving attention to the whole question of immigration and the Minister (Hon. Charles Stewart) and the officials of the Department, having in mind the statement of the Prime Minister that our agricultural settlers must be carefully selected in the country of origin, wisely directed on arrival so that they will not drift into the ranks of the unemployed in our cities, and so placed on the land that they will become substantial citizens of the Dominion, decided that the first thing to do is to have a survey of conditions existing in the countries from which we might expect to derive our settlers as well as throughout Canada.

In order to co-ordinate the efforts of the officials in those countries with the officials in Canada, so as to secure the best class of settlers and locate them on land where they will have the best chance to succeed, the Minister has interviewed the Provincial Governments and discussed the question thoroughly with them, and has succeeded in securing their hearty co-operation in this work.

Later a conference will be called at Ottawa of representative officials of these Governments and field officers of the Department of Immigration, at which a definite programme will be set out for each year's activities.

There is a tendency in some quarters to ask why the volume of immigration is not greater, and to urge that it be increased. The Government could open the gates and greatly increase the number of immigrants coming from Great Britain and the Continent, where there are many thousands of artisans, professional men, dwellers in cities, who would gladly come to Canada. If Canada had more places for city workers these would make most desirable citizens; but with urban employment in its present state it is deemed unwise to add still more to the numbers looking for work in the cities. Our activities for the present, therefore, must be confined to people who will engage in agriculture and household work and to “teen” age boys and girls.

A committee representative of the Government have had many conferences with the Canadian Colonization Association, an organization backed by private capital, that is going to endeavour to settle annually a large acreage of lands lying adjacent to the railways in Canada. This organization is endeavouring to work in conjunction with the British Overseas Settlement scheme, as well as bringing settlers with means from Great Britain, United States, Scandinavia, and the Continent. They will also encourage emigration from our cities to the country. The Government will assist them with a grant in order that they may thoroughly organize their welfare scheme.

The Department of Immigration will make a strong drive to secure agricultural workers and settlers, who will go upon our free lands located in the northern portions of Canada. The Department hopes to work out this scheme in co-operation with the Provincial Governments, which will assist in the direction of these very desirable settlers when they arrive within the Provinces. It is hoped they can be settled in congenial surroundings so far as schools, churches and social activities are concerned.

A very important field, in the opinion of the Minister, is that to deal with in bringing to Canada carefully selected boys and girls from Great Britain. Mr. G. Bogue Smart, who is in charge of the juvenile work, has just returned from Great Britain and reports that there are a very large number of desirable children who can be brought to Canada, and he is now engaged in working out arrangements for the placing of them in the rural homes of Canada.

Another promising field is that of the repatriation of many of our splendid Canadian people who in recent years have gone to the New England States. It is hoped to attract a very large number of them back to their native Provinces, as well as to Western Canada.

The Minister is very optimistic with respect to the future, especially in view of the splendid crops which have been harvested this year throughout Canada, and which will materially improve conditions. A continuation of our present prosperous conditions will undoubtedly in the near future make it possible to absorb not only agriculturists, but all those people in other walks of life who are anxious to come to Canada from Great Britain and elsewhere.

## GOVERNMENT WILL ALLOW MEETINGS

The government has decided to lift the ban that was placed on meetings by civil servants in government offices after hours. In a communication to Associated Federal Employees of Ottawa Premier King states in reply to the union's request that the rule be rescinded, that the cabinet has discussed the subject, and has arrived at the conclusion that no sound reason exists for a continuation of the rule.

From now forward civil servants will be permitted to hold meetings after business hours in government buildings for the purpose of discussing civil service questions.

The ban on meetings in government offices was imposed in the fall of 1920 following the formation of Associated Federal Employees who held organizational meetings in departmental offices, etc. Premier King's communication has been received with much satisfaction by civil servants everywhere.

## NO COAL SHORTAGE NEED WORRY US

“Canada has sufficient coal to last 30,000 years,” Dr. Charles Cassell, Deputy Minister of Mines and chairman of the special committee of Government scientists empowered to investigate the possibility of adapting Canadian bituminous to furnace use as a means of relieving the situation in the “acute coal area,” informed Canadian Press last night. The “acute coal area,” he explained, stretched from the western boundaries of the Province of Manitoba to Montreal, and it was within these limits that the demand for some solution was the most pressing. Dr. Cassell said that the first report of his committee would be in the hands of Hon. Charles Stewart, Minister of Interior, within a few weeks. Complete information as to Canada's coal fields was already in the hands of different Government departments and this would be collected and arranged for the use of the committee.

## CRITICAL STATE OF SOUTH RUSSIAN METAL INDUSTRY

Results of Soviet Government Inquiry.

The facts revealed by a special commission of inquiry appointed by the Soviet Government show that the metal industry in South Russia has touched such a low ebb that only the most urgent and radical measures can save it from complete destruction, stated the Russian Supplement to Industrial and Labour Information, the weekly publication of the International Labor Office of the League of Nations at Geneva.

These facts are taken from the findings of the Commission published in detailed form in the *Economicheskii Zhizn* (Economic Life) a Soviet Government publication. The total output of the metal works in Southern Russia at the present moment amounts to only 4 per cent. of pre-war output, while orders on hand represent 15-25 per cent. of the present possible output of the works. This shortage of orders, added to the fact that the price paid by the State is considerably lower than the cost of production, has resulted in the works being run at an enormous loss.

In view of this, the Committee decided that the only solution to the problem was to close all the metal works in Southern Russia with the exception of three, each equipped with one blast furnace, and to concentrate the entire production programme in these three works. Even to realize this scheme, the Government will have to spend at once about 550 million roubles, a rouble being calculated at 3,400 to the \$1, of which nearly 400 million are classed as “arrears in workers' wages”, while a monthly subsidy of 750 million roubles will also be needed.

The Russian Supplement, which appears fortnightly, contains valuable information on conditions in Russia collected by experts from the principal Soviet publications, from all the important newspapers of Europe and the United States and from Russian publications appearing abroad.

## WILL RAISE WAGES STREET CAR MEN

Mayor Cousens, of Detroit, to Make Changes for Men's Betterment.

DETROIT.—Platform men on the Detroit municipally owned street railway lines are to receive a wage increase and shorter hours if the plan announced today by Mayor James Cousens, acting head of the Detroit Street Railway Company is carried out.

In addition, the platform men will receive an annual vacation with pay, under the plan. The new plan will be tried out on one line of the city for the next month, and if found practical, will be extended to all other lines, the mayor announced.

Operators of one man street cars will receive a wage increase of five cents an hour, while other workers are to be given the 8-hour day at their present wages. The present working day is nine hours.

A proposal that the Detroit United Railway be denied the use of the city streets for its inter urban cars will be voted upon Nov. 7, the city council today voting down a resolution that the proposal be taken off the ballot. If the proposal is adopted, inter-urban passengers would be required to transfer to city cars at the city limits.

## KIND OF MAN CANADA WANTS

Mr. Tom Moore, President of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, arrived at Liverpool on the Canadian Pacific liner Montclair. Mr. Moore is representing the workers of Canada at the International Labor Conference at Geneva.

In an interview with our representative, Mr. Moore stated that the Britisher Canada wants is the man who will make the Dominion his permanent home. Canada, he said, is entirely British, and Canadian labour felt preference should be given workers of Great Britain in any immigration policy. But it was unwise to induce the unemployed of the cities of this country to go to Canada until trade had sufficiently recovered to ensure them an opportunity of escaping from the sufferings of further unemployment.

## HISTORICAL SURVEY

Continued from last week.

gether different category; and here I plead strenuously for the widening of the bracket. What Canada wants is not the farm labourer as the term is used in the Old Country, but the man who from his environment or training is fitted to undertake agricultural work, as a preliminary to becoming a permanent settler on the land. In England agricultural labor is the lowest paid class and it has long ago lost its best to the towns. The securing of the country side for agricultural laborers with the aid of an illustrated motor car and unlimited literature would soon exhaust the steam and pryoke resentment among British farmers. It seems to me unproven that agricultural settlers must be wholly or even mainly recruited from farmers and farm laborers.

The Ontario Unemployment Commission in 1916 recognized this point: “The number of farmers and agricultural laborers in the United Kingdom is not excessive, but it should be feasible to utilize other elements in the population in the development of our natural resources. In the opinion of many who have studied the situation at first hand, it will be found practicable to train dwellers in British cities, towns and villages for successful careers on the land.” (Report page 32.)

This opinion is corroborated by evidence from Australia given before the Dominions' Royal Commission. “My experience,” says one witness, “is that the town lad will learn his work quicker than the country lad will, if he wants to go on the land. He is smarter.” And again, from another, “Practically all the lads that come to us are from the cities and in the great majority of cases from the city and suburbs of London.” These do very well after a preliminary training. “In Lancashire I met an enormous number of young fellows who could drive a horse or a couple of horses, and who were a bit handy and had a bit of it on them.”

Our experience in the war, showed that by training the civilian could be made into a first rate soldier, and surely the same is true of the pursuits of peace. The question of preliminary training is difficult. Should it be done in the old country or the new? It seems to me that it should be shared. The Boy Scout Movement in Britain is an impressive demonstration of the value, as well as the joy, of restoring the town. The mechanic's craft was in the 19th century the country was the town. The mechanic's craft was more attractive to an alert youth than work on the land. But industry itself is now changing in content. More and more of the town worker's life is spent in the monotony of reiterated performance in charge of (or rather in subjection to) automatic machinery. The profound consequences of this change—and the same thing is happening on both sides of the Atlantic—have not been realized yet. But I believe it to be an important factor in the widespread dissatisfaction of the working classes with their present lot. For her own sake Britain must get as many back to the land, that is, by allotments, small holdings, and contact with nature. If Britain trained more for the land, she could spare more; and the knowledge that there was a steady outlet in the Dominions for some of the lads thus trained through channels which good parents would gladly see promising children take, would be the means of re-establishing the attractiveness of an agricultural life, and thus hold the Old Country as well as the Dominions. Surely here is a great field of work.

“I am sure there always be external work, such as railway work, to carry the men through the winter! Old timers is the worst insist that the best settlers are those who feel their own way and build up their position slowly, abstaining from an extravagant use of expensive machinery (purchased on credit) and relying on themselves and their horses. The moral, however, of this is not that assistance is undesirable, but rather that assistance must be given wisely. When left altogether to himself, the settler is exposed to those very forces which make land settlement a speculation and a temporary camping ground.

To be continued.

(1) Direct financial assistance in the form of loans for the purchase of land, livestock and equipment and buildings, which may be as high as \$7,500 per settler. This is a greater total advance than a loan company having regard to the credit of the settler could afford to make.

(2) Indirect financial assistance. The Board by local knowledge has been able to save \$4,000,000 on the purchase price of land. It has also been able to save \$1,000,000 by discounts on purchases from implement firms.

(3) General direction.—The Board has its superintendents at its district offices and a staff of 200 field supervisors, each of whom deals with 100-150 settlers. This staff is employed in assisting the settler to select his land and equipment and to make a start on right lines and in securing the prompt repayment of the loans made by the Government.

Since the summer of 1920 the financial situation has been very acute, especially in the West. In November of that year the first big repayment month, the showing for Ontario and the Maritime provinces was nearly 100 per cent. of payments due, and the average for all Canada 54 per cent. The failures have been few; and in the 600 salvages with which the Board has had to carry through it came out to the good on balance the higher value realized on the sale of the land covering the loss on equipment and stock. Considering that the Board had to undertake the work as a measure of re-establishment and to set at once on a big scale, its achievement is surely outstanding.

The Soldier Settlement Board must of necessity continue until a substantial amount of the \$80 million outstanding loans are repaid. Would it not, therefore, be possible to use this organization of the Board as a part of the permanent machinery of land settlement. Mr. J. B. Bickersteth, the Warden of Hart House (University of Toronto) in his vivid book, “The Land of Open Doors,” tells us what was the frequent experience of the homesteaders in the Pre-War, and as some would have us believe, the gold-en days of immigration.

“A man and his family.” I summarize his description, “scrape together money enough to get to Edmonton, buy a wagon, a team of oxen, a stove and provisions and have a little left over. Land finding is often made expensive through unscrupulous land guides. On arrival he puts up a barn and shanty and lives for the first year on the remainder of his capital. In the second year the pinch comes. If he has landed in an out of the way spot, there is probably no road over which a threshing machine can get to him. So he feeds his crop to his cow and calf; and himself goes off to work in a logging camp on the railroad, leaving his wife and children to spend one winter alone. If a railway comes into his neighborhood, the price of his holding goes up, and he is tempted to sell and get out—either for another venture or into the town or back again to his old home.” I do not deny that some came through this trial and achieved splendid and permanent success, but I ask these three questions:

(1) Was it not in the aggregate wasteful, because so often starting with a choice of location based on ignorance?

(2) Was it not in the aggregate productive of unnecessary suffering, especially for the women folk, through the isolation of one homestead from another?

(3) Was it not in the aggregate a waste of time and energy, which could have been used in other ways?

As an American actress lost a valuable necklace two hours after she arrived in Paris. It is not often that actresses have to wait so long as that.