

FRIENDS OF LABOR

ENTERPRISES THAT HAVE SHOWN A FRIENDLY ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE WORKING CLASS

FORCE THE EIGHT HOUR DAY

Demand of Labor. Deputation Calls on Cabinet and Ask Bonuses to be Granted Women Prior to and After Childbirth.

For the purpose of placing the Labor Education Association and four of his colleagues, and on Premier Drury and the Ca-

particularly desired by the deputa- was the enactment of a law to force the eight hour day. Mr. Moore stated that Labor was anxious to have it apply to all lines of endeavor with the exception of farming. Drury—"Why not include the rest?"

Moore—"We feel that farming is a family work. I also believe that the farmer would want the hour day."

The Congress, through its deputa- is also asking for a law to per- of Government bonuses being ed to women who are working six weeks prior to childbirth, six weeks after. This legislation is asked for under the heading of protection of women and men in industrial and commercial workings.

Raney—"The percentage of cases must be very small!" There are many in the textile industry," replied Mr. Moore.

Raney—"That must be so far as the first child is concerned, but after that?"

Afraid of Criticism.

Raney was sure that if Mr. Moore introduced such a bill he would be severely criticised. "He would be criticised for definite information," said Raney. "He would be asked how women were carrying babies while working."

Moore stated that the applica- for such legislation had come from the ranks of labor on the fact that it was for the protection

of the entire race. "He did not think it was necessary to bring detail on this particular issue for you," said Mr. Moore. "It has been wanted since you have been in power in 1919."

Mr. Rollo did not think that the bill would be supported in the House on the grounds that there was no necessity for it.

But Merson, vice-president of the Congress, stated that there were more women working in Ontario than ever before. He claimed the unemployment situation was to blame.

The giving to Canadian citizens equal opportunity to those of other countries in any provincial colonization scheme was heartily approved of by Mr. Doherty, as put forward by the deputa- "Might I suggest that some of the money that is being spent in England to attract farmers be spent in Canada for a back-to-the-farm movement," said Mr. Moore.

The close supervision of immigration activities by the government was also approved.

The deputa- asked that proportional representation be given a trial, Mr. Moore suggesting Ottawa. "We will make a start at it; will Toronto do?" asked the Premier and this satisfied.

As for a public holiday on election days, the Premier merely observed that he thought a half holiday was enough.

The principle of Karl Honnuth's one-man vote bill was approved by the deputa- Hon. Mr. Raney said he would undertake in the House to throw it out.

Consideration was promised by embodying a minimum wage clause in Government contracts.

Promises were given to investigate fully rehabilitation of injured work- men along the line of the civil re- establishment of soldiers. Hon. Mr. Raney thought it feasible, and an effort will be made to bring in a measure.

"Young man," said a pompous individual, "I did not always have this carriage. When first started in life I had to walk."

"You were lucky," remarked the youth. "When I first started in life I couldn't walk."

TRADES CONGRESS ISSUE DISTURBING PLEA FOR WORKLESS

Chronic Destitution Trying Patience of Working Class Breadwinners Everywhere.

London.—A manifesto issued by the Trades Union Congress general council, headed "National Unemployment," states:

"Chronic unemployment has reduced thousands of working-class homes in the country to a state of absolute destitution. The cottages of the workers have been stripped of domestic comforts, and even the elementary requirements of a decent existence have been sold in order to provide the necessary food to stave off starvation. The burdens imposed on local authorities by the heavy call for relief have been so great as to establish a state of local bankruptcy. Many local authorities are heavily in debt owing to having to meet a responsibility which should be borne by the nation without regard to the good or bad fortune of a particular area. Where unemployment is most severe co-operative societies and small traders have been brought to a state perilously near bankruptcy, and the long-continued drain on social resources has produced a state almost of social bankruptcy in certain areas."

Destitution.

"This state of chronic destitution has been continued without any real effort on the part of the government to deal with the situation. Unemployment, benefits when provided, have been insufficient in amount to prevent the serious physical deterioration of a very substantial proportion of the population. The government have continued to ignore Labor's proposals for providing work at a rate of wages which would maintain the workers in a state of efficiency and have waited helplessly for the revival of trade under the guidance of private enterprise and the inspiration of private profit."

"Trade union funds have been depleted and trade union standards have disappeared. The unemployed army has been utilized as bargaining power by unscrupulous employers, who have taken the opportunity to secure unreasonable reductions in wages. During the period of chronic unemployment the wage bill of the country has been reduced by £13,000,000 per week, or £676,000,000 per year. This enormous reduction in the purchasing power of the workers, has in its turn, diminished the demand for labor. They reduced cost of production, which the employers alleged would lead to better trade, has not had that effect. The demand for commodities in our own market has been restricted, and the development of international trade has been retarded by our government's continued adherence to a foreign policy which prevents the reopening of our international trading relations."

Blame Government.

"In the name of the workers of this country, and also in the name of those who feel a genuine concern for the happiness and welfare of the nation, we protest against the government's prorogation of parliament until February 13. The state of affairs created by continued unemployment justifies the urgent attention of parliament without cessation until a satisfactory means of dealing with the problem has been devised. The action of the government in declaring a long holiday for legislators bears the interpretation of indifference to the deplorable state of a substantial proportion of the population of this country. This nation is still rich enough to provide food for all its members. In certain places even now a state of luxury exists side by side with poverty."

"We cannot allow the workless to fight their own battles. Their patience must not be exploited by those who can remain unconcerned so long as the sufferings of others entails no danger to themselves. We demand that the full resources of the government and the community shall be utilized for the purpose of providing work or satisfactory maintenance for the unemployed."

The manifesto then gives the text of a resolution to be submitted to the Labor demonstrations on Sunday, calling on the prime minister at once to summon parliament to deal with the problem as a national emergency of vital importance, and demanding that the government should provide work or maintenance.

THE JOKE IS SOMEWHAT STRIKING.

"I, sir, am a self-made man!" pompously admitted the Hon. Thomas Rott. "Ah, I see!" replied Old Gaunston Grimm. "You struck on yourself before you got the job completed!"

"Do you know 'The Star Spangled Banner' by heart?" "Yes," replied Senator Sorghum; "but I'm not trying to use it in this campaign. Practical questions are becoming so complex that my constituents won't be satisfied to hear me sing or recite."

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OTTAWA LABOR IS AGAINST LETTING DOWN THE BARS

Intensive Campaign for Immigrants Planned by Federal Government Comes in For Adverse Criticism. Fear Flooding of the Labor Market. One Delegation Claims Underlying Motive is to Lower Canadian Wage Rates.

One of the most important and largest attended sessions of the Allied Trades and Labor Council of this city was held this week and took up the question of Canada's immigration policy, at the same time drawing up a policy, unanimously endorsed by organized labor in this city, a copy of which will be forwarded to the officials, where it is hoped it will do the most good.

In the debate which followed the presentation by President J. A. P. Haydon, of the committee's report, for which he was responsible, delegates, in particular, President Tom Moore, of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, the secretary of the Congress, Delegate P. M. Draper, Delegates McDowell and Brown, expressed adverse criticisms of the intensive campaign planned by the federal and provincial governments of Ontario, for the purpose of flooding this country with immigrants.

The speakers, Tom Moore in particular, pointed out that a policy of result in nothing else but to flood such unrestricted immigration could the labor market to such an extent in its industrial section that the standard of living would be depreciated.

Delegate McDowell said that if the Anti Alien law now on the statute books had been honored more in the observance than in the breach, conditions could not exist, as they did in British Columbia, which was rapidly becoming Asiatic. He said that the underlying motive of the immigration by shiploads from the British Isles, was the lowering of the Canadian wage rate. Inducements were made to cities such as Manchester, Leeds and London, to take over "free" 160 acres of land from which they could obtain a glorious future. The immigrants, buoyed up by this false information, made the trip, and found at their journey's end, a dream, and they rapidly drifted into the cities and were soon on the unemployed list.

Become Disgruntled.

President Tom Moore queried if it was surprising that these misguided immigrants became disgruntled and lost their faith in constituted government, when they found that they had been induced to come to Canada by false statements. He quoted the case of Cornish miners imported to Northern Ontario mines who had found conditions not as represented, and had left for other parts, humorously remarking that they had found they couldn't stand the climate or "the loss of their beer." He explained that the anti-alien law only applied to contract labor from the United States, and said that Great Britain should exercise greater supervision over the employing booking agents there who obtained commission on all labor engaged for Canada and who were consequently not very particular what information they handed out to the intending immigrant, as long as they succeeded in persuading him to make the trip to the Dominion.

Delegate Draper said that while Labor had no objection to welcoming immigrants from the British Isles, these should at least be told what conditions they had to face and should have work provided for them when they arrived here. Statistics showed that Canada had all the artisans, mechanics and laborers for whom work was obtainable, and it was a wrongful policy to flood the country with this class of labor. He said that bringing immigrants to Canada by falsely representing conditions was the easiest way in which to make them Bolsheviks and anarchists.

President J. A. P. Haydon commented that the British press was saying "Canada needs men," while here looking for employment, and the press might better emulate the example of the South African government, which publicly advertised that there was unemployment in that country and that none need apply unless

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they had two thousand pounds and were willing to do pioneer work. A copy of the resolution adopted will be forwarded to Premier Mackenzie King, and the minister of immigration, also Premier Drury of Ontario and his minister of colonization, the Trades and Labor Councils of Hamilton, Toronto Windsor and Montreal.

The Resolution Adopted.

The following is the resolution: "That the Canadian government be requested to make representations to the British government which would make possible a closer supervision of all immigration advertising and the control of booking agencies in Great Britain."

"We believe that in all instances the intending immigrant should be advised of the possibilities in Canada; the economic conditions; the seasonal nature of most agricultural work; the climatic conditions; and the extent natural resources are held out of use by private capital and speculation."

"We protest against bonuses or grants to any and all agencies."

"We believe that in order to relieve congestion in our industrial centres, land settlement schemes should be made available to citizens already located in Canada."

"To prevent hardship and uncertainty all medical examinations should take place at the port of embarkation."

"We believe that the fullest and closest co-operation should exist between the immigration department and the Employment Service Council of Canada, and that all labor hired outside Canada should be included amongst the prohibited classes, except it be secured through the Employment Service of Canada."

"We reiterate our demand for the exclusion of all Orientals."

FORETOLD DIRE RESULTS OF THE GREAT WAR

Late Max Nordau Prophesied That Lot of Conquerors Would be More Tolls, Hard and Gloomy.

Paris.—Admirers of Max Nordau, noted philosopher, and Zionist leader, who died in Paris yesterday, pointed to him as something of a prophet in his own time.

Arrested by the French during the war, but subsequently paroled, Nordau went to Madrid where he predicted that the great struggle would have dire results. To him is attributed this statement:

"The vanquished will carry an insupportable exasperation, and even the conquerors will soon be pervaded by deep disappointment and wrath when they realize the fact—as they will—that their efforts, their sufferings and triumphs will have yielded them no palpable effort whatever and will not have rendered easier and more prosperous their existence and that of their families; on the contrary, will have made it more toilsome, hard and gloomy."

Dr. Nordau was one of the leading disciples of Dr. Herzl, founder of political Zionism, and for years was an active leader in the movement. Spending his youth as a physician in Budapest, his native city, he moved to Paris in 1880 and became a student of literature, art and social questions. His work for the Zionist cause began in 1897, but his active championship of the movement ceased after the great war, when his health became impaired and when the policies of Zionism's leaders were in disagreement with his own belief. Dr. Nordau was in his 74th year.

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