

# Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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**THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS**  
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.

### A Common Mistake of Tariff Opposition

THE Toronto "Daily Star" in its issue of February 19th points out editorially that Canadian manufacturers themselves are to blame if they do not get their proper share of business, for even with tariff protection they do not take the opportunity of underselling their foreign competitors and thus capturing the market. As an illustration they take a certain article made in both the United States and Canada, and the price in a Canadian store for either product is \$1.50. The Canadian article has a protection duty of 35 per cent, and the "Star" wants to know why the manufacturer, instead of profiteering (?) with the 35 per cent allowance, does not seize the apparent advantage and sell his article cheaper.

THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION IS VERY CLEAR. THE GENERAL RATES OF TARIFF PROTECTION IN MOST CASES ARE BARELY SUFFICIENT TO ALLOW FOR THE DIFFERENCE IN PRODUCTION COSTS, LET ALONE LEAVING ANYTHING FOR AN EXTRA MARGIN OF PROFIT.

TARIFF PROTECTION HAS ALWAYS BEEN NEEDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF OFFSETTING DIFFERENCES IN PRODUCTION COSTS AND WHILE THE DUTIES LEVIED ON COMPETITIVE LINES FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES MAKE GOOD FODDER FOR THE OPPOSITION PRESS, IT DOES NOT ALTER THE FACT THAT WITHOUT THIS PROTECTION CANADIAN INDUSTRIES COULD NOT OPERATE AT ALL.

### Is there British Freedom for Everyone

ACCORDING to a recent decision handed down by the Attorney-General of the Province of Ontario in the case of Mr. A. M. Orpen, this does not exist.

History tells us that throughout the ages, the English race has always fought and died for freedom for everyone. The creed of the British is perfect freedom of action, thought and speech so long as it does not conflict with the law of the land. The Great War which lasted from 1914 to 1918 with its heavy toll in life, money and goods was fought to hold this rule inviolate so that we might say that the guiding star of the Britisher's life is "FREEDOM." If therefore this rule holds good in the British Isles, it should apply with equal force to Canada which is part and parcel of the British Empire.

Mr. Orpen has spent considerable time and money in the interests of the working man in an endeavor to remove the heavy form of taxation and recover a large amount of back taxes which have been collected and which burden one of the greatest amusements of the middle classes to-day, that of horse racing, but to date Mr. Orpen has met with nothing but strong opposition from those in authority who have apparently not delved into the history of horse racing and its close connection with the sport-loving British, but see in it only an opportunity of reaping large sums in the way of taxes from the patrons and without considering the drastic results of such an action.

We would like to point out to our readers that over one million dollars was taken last year in the form of taxes in the Province of Ontario alone from the sport of horse racing from approximately fifty thousand people, the most of whom are working men of moderate means. Now, why should these fifty thousand working people be burdened with this extra amount of taxation for the benefit of the rest of the province which includes rich as well as poor?

One of the strong traits in human nature is that of speculation in all its varied forms and it is manifestly unfair to penalize this trait in one class and section of the community unless it applies to all others. Horse racing is an exciting and pleasurable sport that provides means for the average man to indulge in his desire for speculation in a mild form. The class of people who are financially well fixed, do not patronize the form of speculation that horse racing provides for the simple reason that it does not give them sufficient excitement to satisfy their craving for speculation, a craving which is greatly enlarged through their adequate financial resources. But that does not say that they do not speculate. No, it only means that their speculation runs in another form such as the stock market where opportunity is provided every day in the year for much larger gains or losses. As a matter of fact everyone's life is made up of speculation in one form or another and without it the world would stand still.

How about the principles of the Magna Charta? We as ordinary people have been given to understand from our school books and histories that a certain King of England sat back on his throne and said to some of his subjects who are Common People: "I will do as I like, I will not listen to you, I am the King." This did not please the subjects so they banded themselves together under an able leader and drew up a document and presented it to the King at the same time informing him that it would be just as well for the sake of his "Head and Crown" if he signed it and the King who was a prudent man and figured that discretion was the better part of valor signed it. This we have been taught was one of the great events in English History and several painters have made it immortal on canvas and the document was known as the Magna Charta, the common people were satisfied with it and went away with the understanding that forever more "there is no wrong without a corresponding remedy, and a British subject is always entitled to have his rights adjudicated upon even at the Seat of the Throne if necessary." Now it may be that our present Attorney-General Mr. Orpen has not as yet heard of this great event in History as he has taken exactly the same stand as the above King took. The story of the case of Orpen vs. The Attorney-General told so that we common people may understand it is as follows: Mr. A. M. Orpen figured that the tax of 5% on all bets was coming out of the pockets of the working man and thinking that the tax was unjust, consulted able Counsel, who informed him that it was Ultra Vires

of the Provincial Parliament, this boiled down so that ordinary people may understand it means that the Tax is "unlawful" and beyond the powers of the Provincial Government. So, Mr. Orpen went to see Mr. Nickle about it in the same manner as our forefathers went to the King, and suggested that in the opinion of able Counsel the Tax was unlawful and to settle the matter he would like to have it tested in a Court of Law, but the able (?) Attorney-General simply sat back and in as much said: "I will do as I like, I will not listen to you, I am the King." Now, Mr. Orpen being a peaceable man and figuring that the King (Attorney-General) has enough trouble on his hands at the present time over another 5 p. c. matter, is simply abiding his time. He will, however, expect, along with all other fair minded men and lovers of British Justice, that when the next Provincial Election comes along, and it looks as if that time is not far distant, the working men and women will do the same as their forefathers of old, "band themselves together under an able leader and instead of the weapons of old use his BALLOT to say to this "King," we will not stand for this injustice it is against the fundamental Principles of British Law and Justice for which Englishmen have been laying down their lives for centuries to uphold. So "Off With his Head," we will put a man in his place who will give us British fair play and justice to all irrespective of color, class or creed.

### RUSSIAN PAPER "PRAVDA" SAYS COMMUNISM RAMPANT IN CANADA

London, Eng.—"The success of Communistic propaganda in Canada" is the subject of an article in the Moscow newspaper "Pravda," recently reproduced by the London "Post" which quotes the article.

This article asserts that special Communist lecturers have been travelling through Canada, and that the number of Canadian members of the Communist organization has increased considerably in the last few months, so much so that several Communist training schools have been organized in different parts of the Dominion.

Canadian Communists, according to the article, are preparing to issue a special weekly supplement to their central organ, which appears fortnightly in Yiddish.

"In the course of the last few months," the "Pravda" article says, "the Canadian Communist Party has been carrying out a most bitter war against the so-called One Big Union in Nova Scotia and against the Canadian trade unions. The Communist Party in Canada also organized the recent miners' strike in Western Canada, and is at present actively engaged in setting up soviets of unemployed in various parts of the country."

### OPPOSE HIGHER INDEMNITY

Strong opposition to the proposed increased indemnity for Provincial legislators was voiced at a recent meeting of the District Toronto T. and L. C. meeting. Indeed, there was no support whatever for the proposed move. J. W. Buckley, representative of the Railway Carmen, remarked that a certain committee of the Legislature had been prepared to assume high freight rates to be a cause of industrial depression and to assume that a reduction in wages might result in an improvement. "If these members think they can restore prosperity by decreasing wages, let them start at home. Let them reduce their own wages," he said. "They are considerably overpaid by the people of the Province as it is."

James Simpson remarked that members of the Provincial Legislature received a comparatively better wage than members of the Federal House. He was of the opinion that members of the Legislature should receive pay in proportion to the work they did. "Four hundred dollars a year would be jolly good pay for the members of the House," said James Stevenson, and Mr. Buckley closed the discussion with the suggestion to "put them into the street and see if they could be hired a bit cheaper."

The problem of unemployment was also discussed at length. Several delegates ridiculed the tariff as a remedy, pointing out that unemployment existed in the United States, under protection, as well as in countries tending toward free trade. The Social point of view prevailed during the discussion.

### Women in the Building Trades

No fewer than 1,743 women in England were employed in trades having to do with building. Two hundred and sixty of them were employed as managers, 76 were glaziers, 127 tile-layers, 84 stonecutters and dressers, and 69 slate workers and slate masons.

### Mistaken for Striker

Harry Goldstein Assaulted Outside His Home

Toronto, Ont.—Harry Goldstein, 197 Grace street, a designer for the Toronto Skirt Co., St. Patrick street, was assaulted and injured by an unknown assailant, as he was leaving his home. Goldstein is believed to have been taken for a member of the Garment Workers' Union, and when men arrived in a taxi near his home, and as Goldstein walked down the street, one of them jumped from the taxi, struck him once on the head and again on the hand. A cut was inflicted in his head, necessitating five stitches, and his thumb was fractured in an effort to ward off a second blow. The men escaped in the taxi without detection, although people watched the assault on the street.

### Plan May Day Demonstration

The Jewish Socialist Party notified Secretary Watt of the District Trades and Labor Council, Toronto that it intends to hold "the first May Day demonstration in the history of Toronto."

### Notice of Internat'l. Summer Schools

(I. F. T. U.) arrangements have been made provisionally for two International Summer Schools, of a fortnight each, to be held by the I. F. T. U. next August. One of these will be at Brunsvik, near Stockholm, and the other at Prague, Czechoslovakia. The following lecturers have promised their services, and will lecture on the subjects specified below:

Rickard Sandier:—(President of the Swedish Workers' Educational Union)—"The Socialization Question in Sweden, as compared with Socialization Theory and Practice in other Countries."

Engelbert Graf:—(Leading German Workers' Educational Lecturer):—

1. The Concentration of Capital and the Modern Capitalist. The Effect on the Trade Union Movement of the Modern Trend of Economic Development.
2. Transformations and Innovations in International Trade, Industry and Finance since the World War.
3. The Relations between International Politics and International Trade Industry, and Finance.
4. Raw Materials and Transport as the Basis of European Trade, Industry and Finance.

J. W. Brown, (Secretary of the I. F. T. U.):—1. The International Trade Union Movement.

2. International Workers' Education.
3. The Trade Union Movement in Various Countries.

Spencer Miller, (U. S. A.), Secretary of the Workers' Educational Bureau of the U. S. A.—The Labor Movement and Conditions in the United States.

C. V. Bransnaes, Minister of Finance of Denmark, has also promised to lecture at Brunsvik.

Engelbert Graf, J. W. Brown and Spencer Miller, as above.

There will also be lectures on the Labor Movement of Czechoslovakia, and recent developments in that country, of which fuller details will be given later.

For Brunsvik, the charges for board lodging and tuition will be £1. 15s. per week. (Brunsvik is situated on Brunnsvik Lake, in the midst of

beautiful scenery.) There will be bathing and boating facilities, and visits will be arranged to Stockholm and Copenhagen to the centres of the Swedish and Danish Labor Movements, and to interesting localities in the neighborhood. Similar plans are being made for the Prague School.

In both schools, lectures will be either given in or translated into English and German; translations into French will be provided if the number of French-speaking students is sufficient to warrant it.

Only 475 alien industrial workers who were specially skilled men were admitted to Great Britain last year. Deportations totalled \$69.

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Copies of the Regulations issued by the Department of Education may be obtained from the Deputy Minister of Education, Toronto, Toronto, December, 1924.

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