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Editorial Page of the Canadian Labor Press



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OFFICIAL ORGAN ALLIED TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF OTTAWA.

ENDORSED BY Hamilton District Trades and Labor Council.

Hamilton Building Trades Council.

Associated Federal Employes (Every member a subscriber.)



Entered at Ottawa Post Office as Second Class Postage.

The Canadian Labor Press

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS, LIMITED.

Editorial Office: JOURNAL BLDG., OTTAWA.

Toronto Office: 50-53 PAGE BLDG., 45 JARVIS ST.

Montreal Office: ROOM 6, MECHANICS' INST. BUILDING.

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

MISTAKEN NOTION.

CANDIDATES from the workers' ranks for public office, are now generously attacked as representatives of a class, and that their energies are bent solely and wholly for the alleged class they acknowledge as responsible for their position as public office aspirants. If this charge was true, and it carries no odium, a frank acknowledgment would often be in evidence, but as it is entirely erroneous the workers must continue denial to the mistaken notion of labor being a section of the community with its representatives having no other interest than those who present them for public approval. Denial is not sufficient, the enactment of laws, or seeking to advance same, is still the most valuable weapon to offset the false ideas advanced usually by its opponents, when it is shown clearly by such legislative ambition that measures enunciated are beneficial to all.

It is certainly the part of good social progress and policy for representatives to be selected in community manner, whereby unit ideas are consolidated, with separation of the wheat from the chaff. This is a common plan and system adopted in all sectional life, a system which eliminates to a great extent the irresponsible and non-representative individual. No fault may be found in the workers following this course, but in the gatherings of this kind labor differs in showing there are less barriers to joining in their community voice, than the very opponents who raise the class cry, a tone peculiar to the reactionaries of the workers' movement and the other extremes of our social fabric.

In this new world territory there is happily less of a dividing line and marked cleavage in the community than the old world knows, although attempts to mimic same are often in evidence, but it is too late in our social adjustment era to have any effect save to accentuate how undesirable would be its perpetuation. In this respect the workers and their candidates stand the strong stand they take concerning old world divisions may be one of the most prolific sources.

Argument is lacking that the workers or their candidates make for class, stand for class, or legislate for class; the facts point all to the contrary, and the increasing following to the cause would be misrepresented if their voice was understood to make for a class with privileges by those who are placed in positions to carry out their mandates. In this Dominion the International Trade Union movement may not be separated from the labor forces of legislative activity, which jointly stand for the elimination of class through co-operation and co-partnership in the industrial field as well as the elevation and advance in the well being of all units in the social fabric. Appeals for support to the workers' candidates in all sections are made to all. For the benefit of all and sundry are the principles which guide and are incorporated in platform and endeavor of responsible labor candidates.

RESULTS THE GUIDE

PREMIER DRURY has found it necessary to correct misleading headlines in the public press, given to his recent utterances made at Chatham, Ont. The press seized on an interpretation claiming the dissolution of the coalition of Labor and Farmer as inevitable, and the Premier claims such inferences attempted to be drawn are absolutely misleading and untrue. The labor element can well afford to bide its time as to the end of the effective co-operation in this regard. The first session was prolific to Labor, when remembering the passing of the Mothers' Allowance Act, abolition of property qualification for civic office, one day's rest in seven for firemen, and other measures the workers have advocated for years. Failure to achieve results is the only barometer to show that the coalition is ineffective, and upon the returns from the next session may accurate judgment be passed. In the interval, all's well, despite glaring headlines to the contrary.

OUT OF HARMONY

IF noise was any criterion of success, the recent elections for the British Columbia provincial House would have found the reactionary candidates in a position of control. They were to all intents and purposes, according to their organ, a full brass band; but results came placing them in an inferior position as regards direct representation to any of the provinces that have had elections during the past three years, not one of the eight seats in Vancouver being secured. The volume of music supplied is always plentiful, but it is evident that the tone is as thoroughly out of accord with the general public opinion as it is with the progressive labor policy, and the Kavanaghite March, with similar airs, has no response falling on deaf ears.

Across the Atlantic.

What Our Brothers in the Motherland Are Doing.

OUR WEEKLY BRITISH LETTER. WESTMINSTER, England (Saturday)—There was a change at Westminster this week from the persistent obsession of the Irish question. On Thursday, a full dress debate took place on the Government's expenditure. For some time pressure has been brought to bear upon ministers and members alike by certain London newspapers, chiefly the Northcliffe papers, with a view to securing drastic reduction of the national expenditure. The Daily Mail has taken to publishing "black lists" of those members who have entered division lobbies in support of the Government's "spending" programme.

On Wednesday, quite a breeze was created by the demand, accorded to by the Speaker, for adjournment of the House of Commons to be moved, in order to call attention to a "definite, urgent, public, and important" matter. Members were thoroughly roused, and even Mr. Speaker confessed to "indignation" against the press attacks. When, however, the motion came up, the speaker announced that on second thoughts, he had made a mistake in accepting it under standing order 19, because it had not reference to the conduct of Government. He therefore appealed to Colonel Archer-Shee, who was to move the resolution, not to do so. Lobby opinion on this incident could scarcely be more pronounced. The history of adjournment resolutions. Next day, George Lambert moved that the Government should be re-elected, in view of the serious financial condition of the country to the sum of £808,009,000 for expenditure in 1921 to 1922. The motion gave still another impetus to the Government to score one of its sweeping successes.

Mr. Chamberlain's Defence. When J. Austen Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, rose on after five o'clock to deliver his apology, he could afford to indulge in a pertinent note of challenged innocence and easy confidence. He started by counter-attacking the press, and it is noteworthy that, for most of the time, he leaned over the "opinion" on the table in front of the Government benches, and at other times, turned away from the chair. The press gallery is immediately above the chair, and both attitudes described make it difficult for the gallery correspondents to hear what is said.

When the Prime Minister got up late in the evening to wind up the debate, he also, for the most part, turned his back on the chair, when he was not leaning over the box. In both instances it may not have been intentional, but it was felt in the gallery that this was a practical manifestation, subconscious no doubt, of resentment against the press in general.

Mr. Chamberlain has not the clear, bell-like voice which distinguishes the Premier's utterances, and even members who are not occasionally shouting "speak up!" Whereupon Mr. Chamberlain sulked the harder.

The important result of the debate was that the Government announced its intention of holding up all measures passed by the House, but not yet in operation—prominent among them being certain important sections in the Education Act of 1918—of the cutting of their military commitments in Mesopotamia, as a suitable opportunity arose, and of holding up the prospective ship-building scheme until the lessons of the war had been carefully learned.

Government's Heavy Majority. For the rest, the Government sought to justify its financial programme. There were some relatively powerless speeches in opposition—members themselves realizing that theirs was a lost cause, and no one was surprised at the heavy Government majority on division.

Good progress has meanwhile been made with the Irish Bill. It is expected to be back in the Commons early next week, having now passed through the committee stage in the House of Lords.

On Friday night the Prime Minister outlined the Government's policy toward the conclusion of a truce with Ireland. With sword in one hand and olive branch in the other, the Government is ready to welcome and to facilitate pourparlers with accredited Sinn Fein representatives, but murder must first cease, and a surrender must be complete, or at least a partial one. The London correspondent of the Chicago Tribune claims in an article in Saturday's Times to have acted in this way in the secret parleys leading to this decision.—C. S. M.

The Waiting Game.

BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

As soon as I am safe in bed I hear my dad downstairs. A-rolly! up the parlor rug and pull in' back the chairs. An' then I hear the hiss o' steam an' the rattling o' rumbling round. An' he an' I hear a bump, an' then a crash! sound. An' I just CANNOT get to sleep, because I know you see, he's a-battin' with the train o' cars he said he'd get for me!

Last year I got a motor boat, that had a regular screw. An' was supposed to run around like a great big vessel do. But he'd he got a hold of it an' would it up too tight. An' when I got it Christmas Day it never would run right. An' course, if I'd a got it first, I'd not let him do it. But he can't wait till Christmas Day—he always beats me to it.

—Selected

REFUGEES FROM CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE ATTEMPT INVASION OF CANADA

Dominion Government States That All Immigration Has Been Discouraged and Are Considering Further Action.

A difficult immigration situation has come about as the result of an attempted invasion of Canada and the United States by thousands of refugees from Central and Eastern Europe. In the United States the movement has become so alarming that Congress is stated to be considering drastic measures to check it. Similar action on the part of the Canadian parliament may be found necessary at the coming session unless it is found that the present law and regulations are sufficient to control the situation.

During the last few days, the Minister of Immigration has received a number of telegrams from many parts of Canada, most of which are in the following terms: "Jewish citizens of — strongly urge that Jewish immigrants not in port be allowed to remain in Canada. Jews of means will deliver to government bonds covering any required amount guaranteeing that no Jews permitted to enter Canada within specified time will become public charges during any specified period. To deport those immigrants back to the horrors from which they escaped would be a crime against humanity."

Come Despite Warnings. Officials of the Immigration Department state that people from Central and Eastern Europe are arriving at Canadian ports despite repeated warnings and advice given to parties concerned. Since the outbreak of the war all publicity in continental Europe and countries has ceased, and every effort has been made to discourage the movement in question. Booking agents and steamship companies know the law, but they persist in sending these people forward, knowing that in a great many instances they are not entitled to land in Canada. When these people are debarred entry the steamship companies must defray their living expenses, and carry them to the port from which they sailed, free of charge.

In administering the law the department is treating all alike, regardless of race or creed, and to permit these people to land, contrary to regulations, would be to encourage others to come at a time when the federal, provincial and municipal governments here are already facing a serious unemployment situation.

While refusal to permit these people to land may cause hardship and inconvenience," says a statement issued today, "the department holds the view that any criticism to be made in this connection should be directed against those responsible for creating the hardship resulting from the department's ample evidence to the effect that interested parties, without the authority of the department or the transportation companies, are carrying on an active propaganda in certain European countries with a view to making money out of these distressed people."

Discourage Emigration. "During recent months, owing to approaching labor conditions in Canada, every effort has been made to discourage emigration from the British Isles except in the case of persons going to relatives or unless they have ample means to tide them over a considerable period of time. Quite recently the money qualification has been raised to \$250 per head. In the face of this restriction, the department cannot see its way clear to relax its regulations in favor of emigrants from Europe, many of whom are without means, and would be seeking immediate employment on arriving in this country. The offer of employment to these people is not considered sufficient in view of the fact that there are a considerable number of people in Canada, including returned soldiers, who are seeking employment."

Hon. J. A. Calder, Minister of Immigration and Colonization, stated that the above statement represented the condition of affairs now existing and the attitude of the Government towards the problem. He added that the whole subject was now under review, but he saw little hope for abolishing the restrictions now in force.

The Pressing Need For "P. R."

By J. A. P. Haydon.

The recent municipal elections in Great Britain illustrate the pressing need for proportional representation.

Mr. John H. Humphreys, secretary of the British P. R. Society, says: "The results show many striking instances of unjust and distorted representation."

From the figures available we are absolutely with Mr. Humphreys.

The three illustrations given below are, unhappily, not exceptional.

Liverpool Municipal Elections, 1920.

Parties	Votes	Seats
Conservative	67,874	20
Liberal	16,813	5
Nationalist	11,942	5
Labour	11,141	5
Co-operative	3,686	—

There were straight fights between two parties in every ward. The figures above can be set to speak for themselves.

Leeds.

Parties	Votes	Seats
Labour	25,305	2
Liberal	20,476	7
Conservative	20,016	7
Independent	4,482	7

There were eight three-cornered contests. The largest party (Labour) obtained two seats, while two parties, each receiving much less, popular support, obtained seven seats apiece.

Still more striking is the third example:—

Bradford.

Parties	Votes	Seats
Labour	33,810	11
Liberal	30,700	11
Conservative	29,870	12
Independent	21,415	12

There were only four three-cornered contests in the 23 wards. The Labour Party, though it polled the largest number of votes, got no representation, while two smaller parties—Liberal and Conservative—obtained 11 and 12 seats respectively.

All fair-minded men and women will agree that results so unjust are bad from the point of view of communal citizenship and destructive of the whole structure of representative Government.

Municipal elections in Ontario are conducted along the same lines as in Great Britain and if figures were available results here would show the same results. We have repeatedly stated that we shall never have Government of the people for the people, by the people, whether it be civic, provincial or federal until we establish proportional representation.

Proportional representation is not only desirable but is necessary to good Government. It will give fair play to all citizens and will enable every party to elect its just representation. Under our present system of election many good, faithful legislators are defeated. "P. R." will enable every party to retain its ablest leaders.

All believers in constitutional Government know that "P. R." sounds the death knell to the "dir-ty actionist," Bolshevists, and others who seek to destroy responsible Government.

Senator Robertson, Minister of Labor, speaking of the work toward harmony between workers and employers accomplished by the International Union, described the Trade Union movement as the strongest factor in stabilizing the Canadian economy. The government was deeply impressed by the recent referendum in favor of labor affiliation. Make the impression stick by having the courage of your convictions. Affiliation with labor means membership in it.

Under the judgment, Girard is offered the choice of receiving an annuity of \$71 for the remainder of his life or a bulk sum of \$1,885 compensation for the loss of his left eye, which was injured by a piece of rock flying into it while he was employed for Gillies Brothers. In November, 1918, Girard, who was then living in Ottawa, secured employment with Gillies Brothers through an employment agency at Ottawa and went to work at Schyan Point, in Pontiac County. On February 20th, 1919, he was working with a hammer breaking rocks to clear a road, and so much as a chip of the stone flew and entered his left eye. He was removed to the Ottawa General Hospital, Water street, and after nine weeks his eye was removed.

Engaged in Ottawa.

The action was commenced in the Superior Court of Pontiac County, the claim for an annuity of \$247 or \$1,885 as a lump sum being sued for under the Quebec Workmen's Compensation Act. The company pleaded that as Girard had been employed in Ottawa, and as the head office of the company was in the province of Ontario, the recourse of Girard for compensation was under the provisions of the Ontario Compensation Act and was not an action for the courts of the province of Quebec.

The case came to trial on October 15, before Judge Weir in the Hull Superior Court, and it was contended by Mr. Auguste Lemieux, K.C., counsel for Girard, that the contract called for Girard to work in the Province of Quebec and it was the laws of the province where the work was performed that applied. Mr. Lemieux also set up that the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board was not a court of a tribunal in a legal sense and that it was not clothed with judicial authority.

Where Work Done.

In his judgment, Justice Weir holds that as the work was being performed in the Province of Quebec at the time of the accident, the laws of the Quebec Workmen's Compensation Board should apply, and that as the defendants had appeared in the Quebec courts and had accepted their jurisdiction he awarded judgment to Girard.

The action was brought in the Hull courts as the amount of compensation claimed was greater than that which would be allowed under the Ontario Compensation Act.

Why a Union Man?

No movement has brought so much happiness to the greatest number of homes as the trade union movement. A non-union man derives benefits from this movement without rendering an equivalent in return.

The action contemplated by Federal Union 66 to secure an adequate standard of wages is in itself a sufficient reason why the union should receive the support of every thinking civil servant.

The union of states for mutual progress is an essential in human society. The union of men for the same purpose is just as great.

Take the "B" out of BONUS, and put it ON for a living wage on the Government. Mr. Crichton favors a standard pay-check. Shift the hyphen. Make it standard-pay.

Keep awake. Fairness is a cat with nine lives—and the Pussy-footers know it.

Here's To Woman.

Once Our Superior, Now Our Equal.—Cath.

WHAT GOES INTO YOUR HUSBAND'S LUNCH-BOX?

By Jean Prescott Adams.

The wives of the men who go to work each morning realize that what they prepare for that noon lunch-box is most important in the health and comfort of their men. Men who are doing hard manual labor need, with their cup of hot coffee at noon, food that is both substantial and appetizing. Some women tell us that they spend as much trouble and time getting up this cold noon lunch as they would over a hot meal, and they are right to do so. However, they can make their work easier if they plan and cook the night meal, they prepare something that will go into the next day's lunch-box as well.

This does not mean that the working man who must carry his noon meal should be given "left-overs." Far from it. For instance, boiled beef for supper provides first-class sandwich filling for the next day. There are few hungry men who do not appreciate cold beef sandwiches but you can make them nicer by adding a chopped and lightly salted white cabbage leaf, chopped green, or sweet peppers or some thin slices of dill pickle.

Or, suppose you have pie for supper. A cold quarter of it will not be so good in the lunch-box as would a little pie baked in a saucer at the time you bake the big one for the family.

Men who work hard need what we call protein foods; of these meat and eggs are the best examples. When you serve an egg with ham you do not need so much ham as when you eat it with bread alone. A fried ham and egg sandwich is both good and hearty. So is a sandwich of crisp bacon and thin slices of hard-boiled egg.

The mainstay of the cold lunch is generally meat and bread in the form of sandwiches. For this reason vary the sandwich materials as much as possible. Use different kinds of bread—some days whole wheat bread, homemade brown bread at another time, or a crusty roll in place of the usual slices of white bread. The fillings, too, can be varied and still be hearty. Dry sausage is good, and so is a cold fried sausage slipped inside a nice fresh roll.

With the sandwiches a man needs a relish. There is room in the lunch-box for a small jar with a screw top in which you can put a relish like cold slaw, or a salad of chopped apples, celery and onions. For some reason many men laugh at slaw but at the same time they like them.

Don't forget that the man needs something sweet. Sugar adds energy. Doctors tell us that chocolate is so energizing as alcohol without the bad effects of the latter. That is why it is worth while making good cake for the lunch-box; cake is real food, not only a dessert.

Put up the food daintily. Don't use pieces of newspaper, or even coarse brown paper next to food. Save pieces of clean tissue paper and the waxed paper that comes inside many cracker packages or wrap the different items of food. Keep everything separate and the contents of the lunch-box will not only look better—but taste better.

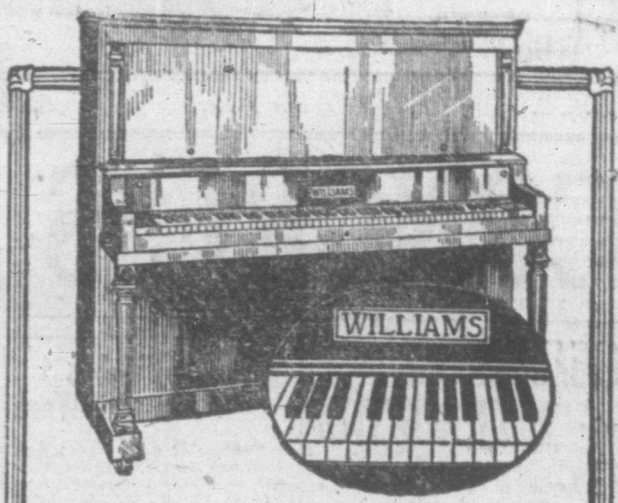
He who is continually finding fault with the work of the union usually does very little to help either the officers or the organization.—Ex.

Some married men have so much tongue for breakfast, and so much tongue for dinner that it is no wonder they take a little chicken for lunch.—Ginger.

Something divine still lives in the heart of that man, however far from the paths of rectitude he may have wandered, who loves flowers, dogs and little children.

"Kindly Old Gentleman: 'And are you catching fish, my little man?'"

"Little Man: 'No, gov'nor, givin' 'em their rattles.'—Morning Post.



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