

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



The Canadian Labor Press
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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

RENEWED UNION LABEL AGITATION ESSENTIAL

What is material to the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' organization is just as pertinent to the other branches of the trade union movement...

In the meantime the opponents of organized labor were busy at work centralizing their efforts for a concentrated attack in order to advance aggressively at the proper time against anything and everything which they considered as a bulwark in the activity of organized labor.

One of the strongest bulwarks in this connection was the union label.

As far as the activity of our own organization is concerned the union label is one of the fundamental conditions in the maintenance and preservation of wage and working conditions...

In the union label our organization possesses its sharpest and most effective weapon against the final monopolization of the bread market and seab bakery goods.

If the fight against the union label is of such tremendous importance to our worst enemies the agitation FOR it with all means available should be of still greater importance to ourselves.

It is essential and absolutely necessary that the unrestrained activity on the part of these would-be union destroyers be counteracted by means of a propaganda in favor of union made products...

The principal cause of the present evils in the struggle for existence on the part of the organized workers against the united power of organized capital lies in the disgusting lack of solidarity among the union people...

The speaker was extended a vote of thanks by the chairman, Mr. G. J. Desbarats, who spoke of President Moore's position in the labor world...

CONGRESS PRESIDENT TELLS OF OPINIONS

(Continued from Page One)

are allowing the distance which separates us from them to make us indifferent, which is a mistake. Geneva today is the arsenal of peace, from whence is coming the message of brotherhood...

President Moore said the name labor applied to the conference was somewhat of a misnomer, as only one-fourth of it was representative of labor...

He regretted some governments seeking economy had endeavored to exercise it in connection with the conference by not sending labor representatives, which had created an unfavorable impression amongst the great mass of the toilers.

The important questions at the conference had been those of the universal eight-hour day, the one day's rest in seven, and the inclusion with other labor of agricultural workers...

Labor was then promised full recognition and its place in the councils of the different nations. This could not be brought about by a return to normalcy, for that had not been a world fit for heroes to live in...

dian toilers, while they had their opinions in 1914, did not wait for the U. S. to enter the war.

President Moore said in reference to the efforts of the conference to secure a day's rest in seven for the workers, that if this was obtained it would have a far-reaching effect.

Mr. Moore expressed pride at the part which Canada had taken in the past two conferences, and congratulated the existing government with following on with the policy instituted by the old regime.

He gave some brief impressions of a trip he made through several important German cities, after the conference, and said that the published information about this country was entirely false.

"I am not a financier," said President Moore, "but when such conditions can be brought about amongst the workers by a metal-gold—I say it is time that some others beside those who manipulate it should be brought into conference when industrial issues are to the fore."

Most of the streets except in Berlin were dark, due to lack of coal, owing to the demands of the reparations committee, which had almost destroyed the purchasing power of sixty millions of people...

In the state factories there was evidence of the destruction of supposed war machinery by the Allies, and it was the opinion of those who were actually conversant with conditions, that Germany could not get ready for another war without eight months' open preparations.

It was curious to note in the big factories like Krupps', where international capital was invested, that big boring machines formerly used for war purposes, but now employed in peaceful pursuits, had not been destroyed as had machinery in the state-owned factories.

The military occupation of Germany, in so far as the French zone is concerned," said the speaker, "gives the inference that decisions are made more for the purpose of benefiting French industrial concerns and eliminating German competitive efforts, than from actual military necessity."

"It is certainly necessary to impress upon Germany the enormity of the crime she has committed and perhaps to exact reparations, but it is advisable to use a method which is creating suffering for our own people."

"In my opinion the only way in which to relieve the unemployment situation is to restore the purchasing value of the workers' wages in all countries."

ONTARIO PHYSICIANS TO HAVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Ontario Medical Association is arranging to send out a questionnaire to every practitioner in Ontario, and a committee has been appointed to act in an advisory capacity to the provincial board of license commissioners.

The questionnaire, upon the answer to which the association will determine its stand, contains six queries. This includes question as to how far the doctor is from the nearest drug store and the nearest vendor, whether the present quart bottle containing 40 ounces of liquor should be reduced in size, the doctor being asked whether a maximum package of 12 1/2 ounces would meet the needs of his practice.

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MONTEREAL TRADES COUNCIL'S REPLY

Montreal, February 25, 1922. To the Honorable L. A. Taschereau, Prime Minister of Quebec.

On behalf of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council permit us to say that the declarations you have made to the House concerning the Quebec Typographers' strike have astonished not only the delegates of this Council, but all the members of the International Union in the Province of Quebec.

The members of the International Union in the Province of Quebec have always rigidly obeyed the laws governing the country; they have never in any circumstances that they were living up to the letter of the contract entered into between themselves and their employers; but, on the other hand, they claim the right to fix for themselves their own conditions and wages without being influenced by anyone else and they will further continue to take advantage of the inalienable rights conferred by the constitution of this country, permitting any matter to belong to the organization—labor or otherwise—that he may see fit without regard to any legislation that may be adopted by any government to try to prevent the organization from functioning normally.

Although we regret much the attitude you have seen fit to take on the occasion of a difference between employees and employers, in which your government was not even directly concerned, we express the wish that the cordial relations that have always existed between you and the Trades Council will continue in the future for the best interests of all.

For the rates and Labor Council, J. T. FOSTER, President.

ALPH. MATHIEU, Secretary.

Replying in the provincial legislature assembly to a letter addressed to him by the secretary of a Montreal workmen's club strongly denouncing his attitude on the matter of international unions in connection with the recent printers' strike in Quebec, Hon. L. A. Taschereau, premier of Quebec, said in part: "do not need to protest. But I find my revenge in one phrase of this letter which says that when I made the statement in this house all the members except one applauded my words. Let whoever wrote this phrase learn it by heart and let him know that in the province of Quebec, whenever an attempt is made from outside to direct our working men in a course other than dictated by purely Canadian sentiments we shall be opposed to this guidance, and all the deputies of the province of Quebec will applaud."

The letter stated that the premier had made a violent attack on the international workmen with the object of breaking and destroying the international union, and that the statement of the premier concerning this attack had been greeted with applause by all members of the house except one labor member.

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ONTARIO TO BECOME RATIONAL

"Unless all signs fail, we will see the public sale of beer and wine recognized by law in Canada," said George H. O'Neill, Canadian manager of the United Hotel Company of America, in an interview at Quebec with the Quebec Daily Telegraph.

"Canadian public opinion is slowly veering around to a point where a law will be demanded that will place the liquor business upon a right basis. The saloon as an institution has gone forever, and no one with an ounce of common sense wishes to see it return. It was an institutional curse, and it is to be attributed the prevalence of prohibition. It will be wet along specified lines with in a year."

SOUTH AFRICAN MINERS RETURNING TO WORK

The South African striking miners are returning to work in increasing numbers, Reuter's Johannesburg correspondent states. Over 1,000 strikers have gone back to work so that, with the officials and others, there are now 5,000 men at work along the Reef.

DISCUSSING RAILROADERS' WAGES AT CHICAGO

Charges that the railroad generally had not held proper conferences with their employees before bringing requests for wage reductions to the railroad labor board, and that only

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ONTARIO MOTHERS' ALLOW

Ontario's Mothers' Pension which is now steadily expanding call for disbursements this year \$1,400,000. This is twice the which the Board spent last year on the scheme went into active operation. There are now 3,975 and 9,500 children under the provisions of the act. As far as it is available, it works out to 11 widows and family in every 12 is being aided under the terms Mothers' Pension Legislation.

GENERAL STRIKE IN SOUTH AFRICA

The joint executives of the Transvaal Federation of Trade Unions South Africa have called a sympathetic strike in support of coal miners, to begin March 7, international president of the union.

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