

End of Conspiracy to Bleed Public

BRING THEM HOME NOW

FROM THE VETERAN

"The position of the unemployed in Canada is doubtless bad enough; the position of the unemployed Englishmen in England is very much worse; but the position of the stranded Canadian war veteran in England is simply agonizing!"

A well-known clergyman of Liverpool, England, in appealing to the Great War Veterans' Association of Canada to expedite the repatriation of stranded Canadians in England, epitomized the situation in this sentence. As secretary of a committee which has 40,000 unemployed upon its lists in Liverpool alone, the writer of the letter undoubtedly has come in contact with hundreds of Canadians, and consequently hereof he writes. The urgency of immediate steps to repatriate these sons of the Dominion, with their dependents, is stressed in the following extracts from the clergyman's letter:

"As a former Canadian citizen—and, I hope, an appreciative one—I feel compelled to draw your attention to the fact that a not inconsiderable number of Canadian ex-soldiers are at present stranded in this country, and even alone knows what hardships await them should they be so unfortunate as to remain here during this coming winter."

"The cause, to spend an indefinite period in the workhouses of this country under degrading conditions. At the present moment, I have a war veteran sleeping in my house. . . . He is a graduate of a Western Canadian university, and was a school teacher of high standing when he joined up. Yesterday I received an appeal for assistance from the son of one of your big manufacturers in Ontario, and have written to the other asking him to send passage money. Arrangements would be made for the repatriation of all stranded Canadian

war veterans in this country as soon as possible."

At the last session of the Federal Parliament the special committee dealing with ex-soldiers' affairs recommended that \$150,000 should be appropriated for repatriation of Canadians in England, and that an additional \$10,000 should be utilized for relief in that country. It was then estimated that some 5,500 ex-soldiers and dependents would be eligible for return passages.

As far as can be ascertained, any plan which might have been evolved since the adjournment of Parliament to put this recommendation into effect has not yet become operative, or at least operative in any noticeable degree. In order that the hardships which they have suffered in England might not be continued in Canada, the great majority of these people should have been returned to Canada prior to this time. Further delay will mean that many of them will land in Canada in the late fall or winter months, at a time when work is difficult to find and when the problem of living is intensified by the cold weather.

A concerted effort should be put forward to ensure that every Canadian veteran and dependent in England, before the close of the present month, is given the opportunity of repatriation. There should be no burden of "loans" imposed from the fund appropriated, but the money should be devoted to accomplishing the task with the least possible delay. If the amount is not sufficient, the appropriation of an additional sum must be made. Technical points concerning citizenship should not be allowed to interfere at this juncture. The nation was saved a large sum of money because these men took their discharges in England. Even with the proposed expenditure, the Canadian treasury will still retain the advantage. Prompt action is necessary.

DIRECT NEGOTIATION IS NOW LOOKED FOR

Developments in the Shopmen's Dispute with the Canadian Railways.

Montreal.—A move toward direct negotiation between the railway shopmen and Canadian railways may be looked for this week, according to information received at the offices of Division No. 4, Railway Employees Department, American Federation of Labor.

R. J. Tallon, president of the division; Frank McKenna, vice-president, and Charles Dickie, secretary-treasurer, visited Ottawa last week on matters connected with the situation.

Mr. McKenna and Mr. Dickie have returned to Montreal, and Mr. Tallon returns on Monday. Further developments are expected. The board of conciliation, which has been sitting in connection with the wage dispute between the Grand Trunk Railway Company and employees covered by the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees and the International Brotherhood of Railway and Teamship Clerks, adjourned after a meeting Friday afternoon until next Wednesday. The contentions of both parties to the dispute have now been submitted to the board.

Freight handlers, stationmen and night clerks are the grades concerned in the dispute, and in all about 7,000 men are affected.

SALES TAX DEFINED.

Editor Perkins, of the Cigar Makers' Official Journal, gives this definition of the sales tax:

"The rich will be taxed on what they spend and nothing on what they save. The poor will be taxed on what they spend, which means they will be taxed on all, for they must spend all to exist."

"Millions of dollars are spent by proponents of the sales tax scheme, millions that can well be afforded by the rich as a matter of business, for if the sales tax is substituted for the excess profits tax or any increase in the income tax, it will mean more to them than any legislation so far passed by a Congress that is seemingly very partial to the desires of the so-called 'business interests.'"

ONE HOUR A DAY STRIKE

Have Dockers' Novel Protest To Free Comrades

Le Hayre.—The Havre dockers, who have been on strike in sympathy with the metal workers, have gone back to work, but they have decided on a unique method of proving their solidarity with their comrades.

One hour's strike a day has been agreed on; half an hour in the middle of each half day.

The Dockers' Union announces that this will continue until the 39 strikers arrested after the riot of ten days ago, and still refused the privileges of political prisoners are either set at liberty or accorded political rights.

OPPOSITION TO INCORPORATION

Canadian Trades Unionist Gives Reasons for Opposition to Incorporation of Unions.

"Business institutions do not incorporate to increase their responsibility or liabilities, but always for the purpose of limiting the same," says P. M. Draper, secretary-treasurer of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, writing in 'Canadian Congress Journal' against the incorporation of trade unions.

"The ground always urged is that 'unions should be incorporated and become amenable to the law, just like an employer, a partnership or any corporate body is.'"

"The short and simple answer is that trade unions, whether incorporated or unincorporated, are and always have been subject to the law, with no privileges that an employer, a partnership or a corporate body have, but with many disabilities that these have not."

"Incorporation of trade unions would restrict their activities to such as the courts decided to be good for them, and would place with the courts the power to interpret their constitutions and would further establish a property right for each suspended member, as was recently attempted by the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employees in the case against the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada for suspension. It would give power to the courts to dissolve trade unions for the supposed infractions of the purposes for which they were incorporated and in every way would serve as a deterrent to their growth and useful development."

"For the benefit of those who do not understand labor's rather chilly aloofness toward the law and judges, let me point out some of the reasons:

"The employer is held responsible for the acts of his agent only when the agent is acting within the scope of his authority. The union has, for one reason or another, been mulcted in damages for absolutely unauthorized acts of members, even where those acts have been committed without the knowledge or consent of the union."

"Organized employers who conspired together to drive a competitor into the ground—to ruin him—and have succeeded, were held within the law. Union members agreeing together, for even less drastic objects, have been enjoined and punished in damages by the same courts."

"The courts have frequently driven through acts of parliament to help the employer and to find a way to give judgment against the men."

"The courts have granted injunctions so wide in their terms as to leave it questionable whether the men could breathe without violating the injunction."

"It is the beneficiaries of the above system who urge unions to place their confidence in the law."

BRITISH ASSOCIATION DOES GOOD WORK FOR SCIENCE.

Sir Charles Parsons' gift of \$57,000 to the British Association will enable the council to make still further financial grants to its members engaged on the expensive work of research in pure science.

The association has never been a wealthy body, but out of its slender resources it has spent something like \$500,000 in subsidizing scientific workers during the ninety years of its existence.

Sir Charles Parsons, the inventor of the turbine, inherited his love of science from his father, the third Earl of Rosse, who was specially interested in astronomy, and built in the grounds of his Irish castle the giant telescope, which remained for over half a century the biggest in the world.

RESERVES OF COAL BRING FAMINE PRICES—STRIKE ENDS

FROM TORONTO TELEGRAM

Great Heaps of Coal and Near-Coal Disposed of Before Men Go Back to Work—Did Unholy Alliance of Banks, Owners and Labor Leaders Sacrifice Miners and Public to Expediency?

Return of the anthracite men to the mines brings to an end the greatest coal strike this continent has known.

Ostensible cause of that strike was a threatened reduction in the miners' wages.

Real cause of that strike was one of the biggest conspiracies against coal miners and public alike ever put over, according to a Toronto man thoroughly in touch with the situation both from a practical and an economic standpoint.

WERE MINERS BETRAYED?

Parties to that conspiracy were the American banks, which had advanced huge sums of money to the mine owners; the mine owners, who had great stocks of coal and near-coal on their hands for which there was no profitable market; the high officials of the Miners' Union and of the American Federation of Labor, who played the interests of the men they were supposed to protect into the hands of the banks and of the mine owners.

REASON FOR THE STRIKE.

Before 1914, six hundred and eighty-seven coal mines in the United States supplied coal for the home market and for export. Up to that time the export business was small compared to the home demand.

German drive of the early days of the war put France's great coal fields out of action. France was forced to look to England for coal. Demands of Britain's navy more than doubled under war conditions. A great impetus was given ocean-borne trade, and merchantmen demanded more and more coal. England's mines were incapable of supplying all these needs. Export coal business of the United States rose by leaps and bounds.

Vessels that plied between United States and Europe filled their bunkers as far as possible at United States ports. Often they got supplies there for the round trip.

RESERVES OF NEAR-COAL.

As a result of this thousands of new mines were opened in the United States. In order to get to seams of good coal great quantities of inferior quality stuff were produced and lay at the pit mouth. That near-coal was still lying there at the beginning of 1922.

American banks had advanced enormous sums to open these new mines. Decrease in demand for coal and high cost of production threatened those mines with extermination and the banks with the loss of security for their loans.

CAPITALIZED THEIR RESERVES.

The only solution to the problem lay in capitalizing these great reserves of coal and near-coal. Cost of producing that coal had already been met. Sale of that coal at strike prices would be velvet and would put both mine owners and banks firmly on their feet.

The banks applied pressure to the mine owners. The mine owners, nothing loth, called in the big officials who were supposed to guard the men's interests. The strike was called. Thousands of men were thrown out of work by the connivance of men in the high places of their own unions.

Production stopped. The vast reserves of coal and near-coal were disposed of at famine prices during the course of a strike that looked as if it would cause such a scarcity that even inferior coal would be worth its weight in gold.

SOFT COAL MEN BACK FIRST.

The last of the reserves of coal and near-coal were disposed of. Mine owners and union leaders gathered in conference. The soft coal men went back to work.

By sending the soft coal men back first the mine owners could sell lignite to homes and factories that ordinarily used anthracite. Now that the hard coal men have gone back, these users, fed up with the dirt and comparative inefficiency of lignite, will eagerly pay famine prices for hard coal.

TO RECOVER U. S. MARKET.

To a casual observer this would appear to be a complete campaign—a clean sweep. But this unholy alliance did not neglect details. Homes and factories in the northeastern states had turned during the strike to the mines of Nova Scotia to supply their needs.

The situation had developed so that it looked as if a permanent market had been lost to the mine owners of the United States and gained for Nova Scotia. That situation had to be remedied. It is not definitely known whether the action taken by International labor leaders to remedy that situation was part of the original bargain with the mine owners or not, but it is thought that the American mine owners foresaw the situation and arranged for its remedy.

CALLED NOVA SCOTIA STRIKE.

That remedy came when American labor leaders, through their International affiliations, called the miners' strike in Nova Scotia. That shut off the northeastern states from their new source of supply and regained that market for the product of American mines.

MINES AND PUBLIC PAY.

And now the hard coal men are back at work. Everything is as it was before the strike, with these notable exceptions; prices are higher; the banks' big loans are safe; the mine owners' are on velvet through the sale of their reserves of coal and near-coal at famine prices.

That position has been bought for the banks and the mine owners by the privations of a five months' strike, by the suffering of workless and wageless miners and their families.

That position will be paid for by the suffering of a public who will be forced to go without minor necessities of life to purchase coal, the primary necessity of life through winter in this part of the Northern Hemisphere.

Everybody is back at work now, sadder and wiser, except the men who engineered and profited by this strike.

They ought to be able to live as gentlemen of leisure for some time to come.

The motto of the British Undertakers Association is "Onward." It is the use of appropriate slogans like this that does so much to ensure a nice steady flow of customers.

The Chinese President has conferred the Order of the Excellent Crop on Mr. Herbert D. Sumner, of Peking. This is, of course, a much more dignified Order than that of the war-time Sergeant-Major, who used to tap them on the shoulder to the tune of "Hail-out, you."

Rioters in Bulgaria have attacked several former Ministers and cut off their beards. It is a great pity these Balkan peoples can't even play "Beaver" without getting rough.

DEMOCRACY IN INDUSTRY ENDORSED BY BISHOPS

Declare Comfort and Saving Wage Must be First Charge.

Portland, Oregon.—Unanimous approval was voted by the house of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church in United States to declarations framed by its social service committee that "the worker who invests his life and that of his family in industry must have, along with the capitalist who invests his money, some voice in the control of the industry which determines the conditions of his working and his living. There must be established a sane and reasonable democracy in industry. The worker of to-day is rightly seeking self-expression and self-determination in industry as well as a livelihood from industry."

The bishops also unanimously affirmed that "all nations should associate themselves permanently for world peace and good will. We believe in a warless world and dedicate ourselves to its achievement."

Other declarations of the church social service platform, as adopted

by the bishops, are: "Human rights must take precedence of property rights. Therefore a minimum subsistence wage, and if possible a comfort and saving wage, must be the first charge on industry, and the public as well as employers must be willing to pay respectively their proportionate shares of this charge."

"Co-operation for the common service must be substituted for the present competition for private advantage as the paramount motive and end of all industry."

"The right of labor, equally with capital, to effect an organization, and the corresponding responsibility on both sides for the exercise of the power so attained, in strict accordance with the moral law as serving this common good. Negotiation through collective bargaining must take the place of the ruinous strife of strikes."

Bishop T. A. Gaele, of Tennessee, was to-day elected president of the national council of the Protestant Episcopal church, which position he has held since the national council was created three years ago.

DEMAND FOR LABOR BETTER IN ONTARIO.

Reports throughout Canada Indicate Decidedly Better Conditions.

An increased call for labor has been noted throughout Canada in recent weeks. In the Western Provinces, especially, the demand for workers has been extremely active. There is now an actual shortage of skilled labor. This scarcity is largely a seasonal one, and will be remedied as soon as outdoor work begins to slacken.

It is noteworthy, however, that wages have mounted in various departments of industry during the past month. Men going into the lumber camps are receiving \$35 a month and board, as compared with an average of \$28 last year. Some reports place the wage for bushmen as high as \$50. This serves to indicate that the supply of suitable labor is not too plentiful.

The general situation in Ontario is summarized by the Employment Service of Canada as follows:

"Increases in the demand for farm workers were indicated by the reports, orders being received in large numbers at Ottawa, Peterboro, Kingston, Brantford and Guelph. Activities in the building and construction group were very brisk, with many new projects under way. At Sarnia, Guelph, Brantford and Toronto there was an increased demand for carpenters and skilled building tradesmen, while at Peterboro and Port Arthur, elevator carpenters and concrete and steel construction workers were required. Street paving, highway, bridge and dam construction provided work for many at various points, particularly at Cobalt, Oshawa, Pembroke and North Bay. Section gangs, brush gangs and bridgemen were in demand for railway extension and maintenance work at points near Port Arthur, North Bay and Toronto.

"In the logging group, a few placements were made from Toronto, Port Arthur and North Bay. At Cobalt little difficulty was felt in securing experienced workers to fill the vacancies offered. In the manufacturing group, requests for saw-mill men were received in considerable numbers at North Bay, Port Arthur and Cobalt, while at Chatham the sugar industry absorbed a few workers. The textile industries continued busy, and women workers for clothing and

knitting mills were required at Kingston and Toronto.

The demand for women for household and institutional work remained approximately the same as formerly, the calls being received chiefly at Belleville, Hamilton, London and Toronto.

PROMINENT LABOR MAN FOUND DEAD IN SHED

Thos. F. Wood Was Agent of Plasterers.

Winnipeg.—Thomas F. Wood, 723 Lipton Street, was found hanging from a cross-beam in an old shed near the corner of Wellington and Wall Street Tuesday afternoon, dead. A piece of electric wire to which his braces had been attached had been used and the wire end which had been fastened round his neck had cut deeply into the skin. The deceased was a victim of tubercular trouble which had greatly depressed him. A younger brother died of consumption about a year ago. Deceased was 45 years old and is survived by his wife and a young family.

He had been for many years prominent, and one of the most popular men in local labor circles. In 1912 and several years following he was business agent of the Plasterers' union and his executive ability was above the average.

The deceased left to go to his work as usual at his trade as plasterer on the new Wellington school on the morning of September 16. He never reached the school, and later his disappearance was reported to the police. Dr. McConnell, provincial coroner, ordered the removal of the body to Bardal's undertaking rooms pending the official investigation. It is likely that an inquest will be held.

King Boris of Bulgaria is anxious to marry a young, pretty and very rich bride. He seems to have got the right idea that almost any man could learn to love a girl like that.

Since last year, we read, the Lady Golf Champion of Kent has had her hair bobbed. Another famous golfer who adopts this style is Mr. Lloyd George.

We hear that an enterprising cinematographer in the Near East has made a "retarded-action" picture which will enable the movements of the Greek army in retreat to be followed by the human eye.

THE MAN IN OVERALLS

Items of Interest in the Labor World at Home and Abroad.

STRIKE IS FEARED.

Railway shopmen in Toronto expect to be called out on strike at any moment. Local officials state that efforts are being made to avoid this step, but are not optimistic in regard to their success. The principal grievance of the employees is the reduction from 77 cents per hour to 70. This followed the abolition of time and a half for Sundays and holidays.

FAIR WAGE CLAUSE.

The Provincial Government's Fair Wage Clause was the subject of discussion by delegates to the Building Trades' Council in the Labor Temple last night. According to some of the speakers the clause differs from that of the Federal Government. The provincial idea is that a fair wage is the prevailing rate, irrespective of the district or locality in which it is operative. Secretary John Doggett had had some correspondence in regard to the matter with the Ministers of Labor and Public Works.

WOOLLEN TRADES REVIVING.

John Flett, representing the A. F. of L., and Arthur Crawford, of the International Union of Sheet Metal Workers, attending the meeting of the Building Trades' Council last night, when Mr. Crawford spoke of conditions on the Pacific coast and in the prairie provinces. He laid emphasis on the fact that the woolen trades in the west had made a marked recovery in tone.

CAUSING TROUBLE.

The enemies of the trades union movement in Toronto who are not employers, are endeavoring to cause discontent among members of the Street Railwaymen's Union. The method is to move among the men who have been laid off and say: "If your officers were any good they would have you back on your jobs. If we had charge of the situation we would soon show the Transportation Commission what they should do."

The fact is that the officers of Division No. 113 of the International Union cannot compel the commission to put any number of cars on. "The only thing we can do," said one of the officers to-day, "is to see that every man that goes out on a car does so under proper union conditions. There is not a word in our agreement about the number of cars. If the citizens are content with the service, then matters will go on under present conditions."

BARBERS' UNION.

Executive Officer W. Shaughnessy, of St. Louis, representing the International Barbers' Union, with Canadian Representative Worthall, are touring Canada in the interest of their business. They left Toronto this morning for Kingston and Montreal.

RUSSIAN PEASANTS FIGHT RED FORCES

Serious uprisings have occurred in the north Caucasus and Georgian districts. The outbreaks were said to have been caused by the refusal of the people of these regions to contribute to the grain tax. The conscripts in these districts have refused to report for the army. All the Red forces stationed there have been dispersed.

There is fighting between the punitive expeditions sent by War Minister Trotsky and the insurgents. Latest reports say that the people of the Terek province have joined the insurgents.

The Bolsheviks are organizing a campaign against Vladivostok. Japan began to evacuate that territory on October 6, it is reported, and the Bolshevik fifth army hitherto stationed on the frontier of the friendly Siberian republic has sent large detachments toward Khabarovsk.

General Dietrich is said to be concentrating his Primorsky forces in the district of the Ussuri to defend Vladivostok.