

# THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

Weekly News Letter.

Labor News  
From  
Coast to Coast.

An Official  
National  
Labor Paper.

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## President Chas. C. Shay Optimistic as to Future

For the past eight years Chas. C. Shay has been general president of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Operators. This was sufficient to call for his views when he visited the office of the Canadian Labor Press and incidentally congratulated those responsible for the general appearance and contents of the new weekly issue.

Whilst somewhat loath to speak of the past he has played the bringing up to the present state of efficiency his own organization, he gave the information that a membership of nearly 25,000 has now been reached with over 500 local units with expectations that the coming convention in May next in Ottawa, would see the future of the Cleveland gathering surpassed, where 350 credentials were accepted. A solid chain of local unions has now been established in every principal city or town of the continent.

Speaking on the general unrest now so apparent, he stated that this was a natural reaction to the war and it was now the war after the war to be judiciously treated but which nevertheless would be surmounted by the organized and methodical workers of the continent. The reconstruction period must be the path to the rights of the organized worker being maintained.

In reconstruction he is strongly opposed to anything that pertains to Bolshevism, and that anything that could happen, as it would cause a return to the days of barbarism, with conditions on a plane forty years ago. The I. W. O. and kindred organization tactics are un-American with no place for them on this continent. It is with them a policy of destruction and whilst some of their literature is palatable to read, no action or thought is constructive. It is anarchic without the decency or frankness of the anarchist.

The trade union movement is the logical route for the workers to make progress and to represent their conditions as represented by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and the American Federation of Labor. Through this movement the cause has shown marked progress. It is the movement that has always been either the leader or the front rank in advancing the general good of all. First in education, first in health measures and its efforts have not only bettered the conditions of the organized worker but all mankind has been benefited through its efforts.



## Don't Let It Topple Over!

### Our Heroes Have Bled to Save Civilization; Do Not Permit Alien Agitation To Overtake It



## Lieut. J. A. P. Haydon, M.C. Returned Soldiers' Ideals

Each week a thousand or more are returning from the battlefields of France and Flanders. With them come new ideals and every man who has seen service is desirous of a better life.

Now then, as we are fighting for ideals it might be well to state what some of our ideals are.

We must have working hours on a scientific basis. By this we mean that a man working in a foundry will have his hours of toil adjusted to the nature of his work. He will have as good health and strength as the man who during the same period has been employed on the land. On the other hand the man on the land must work so his health and strength is not impaired. By this we do not mean that a man working in a factory can work year in and year out twelve or fourteen hours a day.

The pay of all those who work for the nation must be according to his worth and the man with the single talent must be given a chance to develop that talent and given enough money to purchase his home, clothing and education his family.

We must have nationalization of the telephone, telegraph, cable, also of railways, waterways, mines and all natural resources.

The patronage system must be abolished. The men appointed to government positions be chosen by ability and paid accordingly.

Our educational system must be such that the same opportunity is presented to the son of the man with the single talent as to the son of the man with five talents for the father. It is the duty of the state to see that every child has an equal chance.

Women must be given equal suffrage with men and if a woman does a man's work she must be paid a man's wage.

There must be some of our ideals and we must see to it that we get them — not by force of arms, which most people who do not know how to believe, but by the quiet influence of J. A. P. Haydon, Lieut. 42nd Bn. R.H.C.

### LABOR CANDIDATE ALMOST "GOES OVER TOP"

Labor candidate Fred. R. Parnell along with his supporters are naturally jubilant on the showing made in the St. Catharines by-election. Regarders of what the final outcome may be, the vote cast was so close as to represent a remarkable change in public opinion. At the previous election, the late Conservative member, Dr. Jessop, got a majority of 1,529. He ran against ex-Mayor Wiley, then an Alderman, and a well-known labor man. Now Mr. Longden, who is a comparative stranger in the riding, holds the figures to almost the vanishing point.

The labor policy is now recognized as becoming a force in politics. Only a small vote was cast during the day, which was wet and disagreeable. In fact, only about a third of the total vote was polled. But in that vote, many surprises: Merritt, which has been regarded as a Conservative stronghold for many years, gave the labor candidate a majority of more than 100. The old town of Niagara and the village of Port Dalhousie also put him in the lead, while in the city the run was close. The township of Niagara, however, gave Mr. Parnell considerable of a majority.

Labor leaders, who led the campaign, London, Mayor McBride, of Brantford, Joseph Marks, and W. J. Cheevers, President of the local labor party, who led the campaign here, gave out statements that they regard the vote as a signal victory, and they will begin at once to organize for the next election.

### COMMISSION AND TORONTO POLICE.

At a conference of the Board of Police Commissioners and a delegation from the executive of the Toronto Police Association, comprising P. C. McBurney, Evans and Gordon, recently, in the City Hall, Toronto, the Commissioners suggested that the Union give up its charter and resolve its present executive committee into a grievance committee to prepare for the carrying of complaints from the members of the Toronto Police Force to the board. This was the decision reached after a long and heated conversation, and the Toronto men departed with a promise to place the proposal before members of the board. The matter is to be referred to the Trades and Labor Council, with the idea of having a general move along this line. The carpenters contend that while the six-hour day move should be a general thing, that it is necessary for some organization to start the ball rolling. This they have done.

### CHAIRMAN GUNN HAS BEEN APPOINTED.

Judge Gunn, of Ottawa, has been appointed chairman of the Board of Conciliation which will deal with the dispute between the Canadian Express Company and its employees. The board is composed of representatives of the company, the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, F. H. McGuigan, of Toronto, represents the company, and F. C. Bancroft, of Toronto, the employees. The dispute has to do with a proposed new wage scale.

### JOBS FOR HULL AND OTTAWA IN BRIDGE BUILDING.

A contract will be let soon for the construction of a steel highway bridge over the Ottawa river between Ottawa, province of Ontario, and Hull, province of Quebec.

Work will also commence soon on the re-construction of the wharf superstructure and repairs to the wharf approach at Vercheres, county of Vercheres, Que.

### MAKING PROGRESS IN THEIR 8-HOUR CAMPAIGN.

President John Golden states that the United Textile Workers of America are making satisfactory progress in their fight to establish the forty-eight-hour week. Two-thirds of the Textile trade of Paterson and Lawrence is now on a satisfactory basis, the only show of non-success being that of the work of the radical element, which is however being slowly but surely overcome.

### JIMMIE IS BACK.

James Simpson, the Toronto labor leader, who has been speaking for temperance in the Antipodes, is back home again. He believes that prohibition will carry in New Zealand when the referendum is placed before the people there in April.

Mr. Simpson stated that New Zealand proposes to compensate the liquor interests to the extent of \$4,000,000, this being really the red-wolf of the license. If the referendum carries, prohibition will be introduced in New Zealand by June 1, 1919.

### WEALTH PRODUCED BY FARM WORKERS.

If to the estimated value of Canadian agricultural production in 1917, viz.: \$1,621,028,000, is added for land \$2,192,219,000, for buildings \$927,548,000, for implements, \$387,979,000, and for live stock \$1,182,951,000, the sum of \$6,380,745,000 is arrived at as the total estimated agricultural wealth of the Dominion of Canada for the year 1917, according to Part I, Agricultural Statistics, 1917, in the Census of Industry series, compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

### POSTAL WORKERS' DEMANDS

The Federation of Western Postal Workers, in convention at Saskatoon, passed a number of resolutions, demanding from the Government, among other concessions, one free railway pass yearly for each member of the Civil Service and \$100.00 per month for the absence with pay after every ten years' service, the appointment of a chief post office inspector for the West, with headquarters in the West, and the return of all exhibition papers to candidates after certification.

## FROM COAST TO COAST

### VANCOUVER CARPENTERS FOR 6 HOUR DAY.

At one of the best attended mass meetings of carpenters ever held in Vancouver, the question of wages and hours was thoroughly discussed, and after considerable debate, it was decided by an almost unanimous vote, to institute the six-hour day with one dollar per hour, from May 1st. It was pointed out by speaker after speaker, that there were already many men out of work, and that with the soldiers returning, amongst which were many carpenters, and many of these again being union men, that it was the duty of the organized labor movement to prepare for these men, and to take such steps as would provide as many men as possible with work. It was also pointed out that placing a returned soldier in a job, by turning another man out, was no solution, and that the solution on the job, both in respect to wages and other things, would depend on the number of men on the unemployed list.

### ONTARIO PUBLIC WORKS TO EMPLOY 40,000 MEN.

Public works already under way or about to be started in Ontario will directly provide employment for approximately 40,000 men, apart from the number who will find work turning out material for Government orders. On Government works and enterprises of various kinds there will be spent in Ontario this year roughly \$24,950,000. On new buildings alone nearly two millions will be spent. The programme calls for new buildings and repairs to existing buildings in Toronto amounting to \$658,500; Brockville, \$76,800; Hamilton, \$20,620; Kingston, \$110,000; London, \$104,000; Mimico, \$85,600; Orillia, \$119,650; Penetang, \$17,000; Whitby, \$42,000; Woodstock, \$123,500; Ottawa, \$56,650; Normal schools at London, Hamilton, North Bay, Peterboro, and Stratford, \$10,200; Belleville, \$50,000; Brantford, \$7,500; Guelph, \$12,100; other expenditure, \$139,450; new construction and repairs in Northern Ontario, \$204,670.

For highway construction, provincial highways and county systems aided by the province, it is estimated \$5,000,000 will be spent.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA LUMBER WORKERS.

Lumber workers of British Columbia produce annually about 75,000,000 feet of cedar lumber, over 2,000,000,000 cedar shingles, in addition to large quantities of telephone, telegraph and other poles, railway ties, and fence posts.

The forest of British Columbia contains about half the total quantity of timber in Canada. There are over one hundred and eighty different species reaching tree size in Canada, over seventy of which produce lumber and take an active personal interest in the returned men who apply for work.

There are still, however, a very large body of returned men seeking work. This fact is shown by the figures of the various employment bureaus, where between thirty and forty per cent of the returned men who have applied for work have not yet been placed. It is also demonstrated by the answers given to the questions on the registration card for the approaching civic elections, the majority of the registrants stating that they are out of work. G. W. V. A. officials say that the co-operation of the employer must be much further than at present before there will be any relief in sight. The conference between local G.W.V.A. representatives and the Canadian Manufacturers' Association is expected to assist considerably.

The Canadian Labor Press trusts that co-operation between employer and returned men will become general throughout Canada.

### EMPLOYERS GIVING PREFER- ENCE TO RETURNED MEN.

The G.W.V.A. states that there has been a marked betterment in the attitude of employers towards returned men during the past two weeks. "Signs will now be found outside many Toronto factories to the effect that preference will be given returned men. Many employers who were formerly content to issue general instructions to their foremen are now no longer content with this half-measure and take an active personal interest in the returned men who apply for work."

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### TO TAKE IDLE MEN TO JOBS.

The Trades and Labor section of the Ontario Committee on Reorganization of Resources is planning a campaign of free railroad fares for men out of work to get to points where there is work. For example men out of jobs at Sudbury will no doubt be taken free of charge to the Cobalt and Porcupine mines. Labor and capital are represented on the committee as follows:—Dr. W. A. Riddell, superintendent of the Trades and Labor Department, is chairman, and among the members are Sir John Willison, C. F. Bailey, Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture; W. E. Turley, of the G.W.V.A.; Walter Rolio, labor leader of Hamilton; Hugh Stevenson, of Toronto (a new labor representative); Col. Gregory, of Leamington; and Messrs. Mallory, of Frankford, and McCallum, of Shakespear. The committee discussed the general employment situation and considered a number of suggestions to assist the employment agencies or bureaus in their work.

### CANADIAN SHIPBUILDING IN "ROUGH SEAS."

A warning that "it will be difficult, if not impossible," to maintain the shipbuilding in Canada because of the high cost of producing ships as compared with cost in Britain, especially if it is to be interrupted by labor disputes, was conveyed by Hon. G. D. Robertson, Minister of Labor, in a telegram to Mr. Justice Murphy, who is investigating wages / difficulties in the Coughlin yards, Vancouver.

Hon. Mr. Robertson fears that the Government should discontinue the fixation of prices, and that wheat should be thrown into the open market.

The farmers, who he said had made tremendous profits during the war, should be satisfied with a dollar and a quarter for a dollar and a half for their wheat, instead of the present fixed price of two dollars and a quarter. The speaker stated that the day of machine politics had gone by as the result of the war, and that the common man would have a hundred times more say in the management of the country than they had in the past.

### KINGSTON HEARS CARVELL.

The Trades and Labor Council of Kingston was addressed by Hon. E. B. Carvell, Minister of Public Works, dealing with the unemployment problem.

He said that it was possible in the future to get the country as much for his goods as he did in war times that wages would have to come down, but they would never be as low as they were in pre-war days. But the Minister did not see how the wages could come down until the cost of living took a drop, and the cost of living would not decrease materially until wheat became cheaper. He declared that the Government should discontinue the fixation of prices, and that wheat should be thrown into the open market.

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### TO HOLD WESTERN CONFERENCE.

A western interprovincial conference of labor is to be called early in March, the city of Calgary, B.C. having been tentatively agreed upon as the seat of the conference. The labor movements of British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan have already expressed their sympathy with the project. It is intended that the annual convention of the British Columbia Federation of Labor be held during the first three days of the week, and that the balance of the week be given over to the Western Conference.

### PRESENTATION AT KINGSTON

James Fuller, of Kingston, Local No. 54, International Machinists, who has been in the employ of the Canadian Locomotive works for the past seven years, and whose genial disposition has won a host of friends, was visited upon by a committee of his fellow employees on the eve of his departure for England, and presented with an address and a set of combination locks. "Jim" Fuller was a good workman, a good fellow, and a good citizen. The best wishes of all fellow men across the water, accompanied by a large group of his friends, were expressed to him as he departed.

### LONDON, ONT., AND LABOR'S PLANKS.

London, Ont., may buy out the Bell Telephone Company, if a reasonable price is quoted, to give the people the freer use of a very important public utility. One of Labor's planks is ownership by the people of public utilities.

Mayor C. E. Somerville is in favor of this progressive move. If the company does not insist on a prohibitive price.

### MANITOBA FAVORS \$1,000 PENSIONS.

The Manitoba Legislative Assembly has put itself on record in favor of liberal pensions and allowances for soldiers and their dependents, by adopting a proposal that the pension for total disablement should be placed on a basis of not less than \$1,000, with proper provisions for wives and children.

### CONGRESS PRESIDENT AT HAMILTON.

Tom Moore, President of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, addressed a crowded meeting in the Labor Hall on Friday, February 14, held under the auspices of the Independent Labor Party. It was Mr. Moore's first official visit to Hamilton. He addressed the head of Canada's Organized Labor Movement. He richly deserved the magnificent reception which awaited him for his discourse was forceful, clean-cut and right to the point. Harry Bourne, President-elect of the party, was chairman. He was installed in office by Retiring-President School Trustees Walter K. Iolilo.

### LABOR A GREAT FORCE.

Labor today was a mighty force to be reckoned with, and the unrest which was seen among the masses of Canada should be taken as an indication that the workers no longer intended to trust their destinies in the hands of the old line party politicians during the reconstruction period, emphasized Mr. Moore. Referring to the St. Catharines by-election where Mr. Longden, Socialist-Labor candidate, was elected, he said that it was a great victory for the workers. He said that the workers had no use for him, Mr. Stockdale stamped for the Hearst crowd.

### ST. CATHARINES' LABOR PARTY.

The Independent Labor party of the city is sending out a circular which has the right kind of an appeal. It believes in constitutional methods and that the best place to strike is at the ballot box.

In the riding of St. Catharines it has no organization or members ten days before nomination, yet it has taken hold and is not only organizing branches in the constituency, but is also organizing a campaign that is dumbofounding the old line parties and the old line politicians.

The local I. L. P. has established a permanent Provincial organization in order that it may act in co-operation as far as possible with independent parties, and the producing class for the purpose of electing men or women who will stand by the democratic principle of a socialist class movement, with all that the term implies.

### MUNICIPALITIES TO DEAL WITH ALIENS.

The summary interment of aliens of enemy nationalities is entirely within the discretion of the various municipalities, empowered by the latest order-in-council. According to the Minister of Labor, the municipalities have now the required power to appoint such advisory committees, which will co-operate with the judges who have the power to inter such aliens upon summary application. The formation of such committees and their personnel is entirely a matter for the municipalities to decide. There is nothing in the order providing that such bodies must be formed, but under the new law full authority is given for the formation of the committees if the various designated municipalities so desire.

### WOMEN CARPENTERS

CHICAGO—Carpenters can't resent themselves to having carpentry taught by women in the manual training schools of this city. The situation is laughable to these unionists, who suggest that practical men be put on the job, as members of this union are qualifying themselves for these positions and some of them have already passed an examination in the subject. It is necessary, but if it is the intention to develop skilled craftsmen, teachers should be in possession of this experience.

### COPPER MEN AGREE

WASHINGTON.—The department of labor announces that as a result of conferences between officials of the department and delegates representing the workers in the copper industry of Montana, Utah and Arizona, the men have appointed a permanent joint committee, which is empowered to confer with the managers of the industry with a view to establishing a working agreement, which will cover a period of readjustment on a peace basis.

### GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONTROL COLD STORAGE.

Concerning cold storage, Mr. Moore said such plants should be controlled and operated by the Government. Because such plants had been privately owned, food prices had fundamentally been enhanced prohibitively and unfairly.

Advised "Getting Together," "Yes, my advice is to get together as often as possible with the manufacturers throughout Canada. Such gatherings, being employers and employees would help to eliminate misunderstanding," exhorted Mr. Moore. Questioned regarding prohibitions, he said, from his observations, and the mass of correspondence and resolutions received at the Trades Congress Office at Ottawa, there was no general demand for the return of open air and the selling of spirits. He believed, however, a mild beer should be sold.

### EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Undoubtedly should the Government enact legislation establishing an eight-hour day, six hours was sufficient for miners. Five working days weekly would suffice for any man or woman.

Opposed Wage Reduction. "There must be no wage reduction," emphasized Mr. Moore. Wages must increase materially or stay where they are. Commodity prices, however, must come down. The inflated cost of raw materials was responsible for present high prices.

Unemployment a Crime. Mr. Moore concluded his remarks by stating almost grandly, "Unemployment is a crime."