

# Saskatchewan Labor's Realm

ENDORSED BY THE REGINA TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL.

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## Saskatchewan Labor's Realm

Weekly Labor and Social Reform Newspaper.

Justice, Truth, Fraternity. "Labor Omnia Vincit."  
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### Technical Schools.

AT a recent meeting of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council the Typographical union delegates informed that body that the printers union was about to start a technical school for the benefit of the apprentices who were learning the trade.

Such a step on the part of the Typos is in perfect accord with their former history, and union printers may well be proud of their organization, which is ever foremost in the voicing of reforms and in the inaugural work of campaigns of education and progress.

There are many things of which the wage earners of Western Canada stand in urgent need, but foremost amongst them all is the pressing need of technical institutes. In this respect we are away behind the countries of Switzerland, Germany, Great Britain and the United States, where schools of science and technology abound, in which working men can, at very small cost, become thoroughly acquainted with the technicalities with which every trade and profession is surrounded, and a knowledge of which is indispensable in order to qualify the worker to fill those higher branches of the trade with credit to himself and with satisfaction to his employer.

It has been stated on many occasions by Canadian manufacturers that the average Canadian workman is ahead of most competitors for skill and craftsmanship but that he is away behind in the matter of technical education and is therefore not qualified to fill those higher positions which are more congenial and much more lucrative.

This, of course, is a condition of affairs greatly to be deplored, and the fact that thousands of Canadians are sending huge sums of money out of the country every year to correspondence schools and colleges to attain that technical education is sufficient proof of the need for such institutions in Canada, and is a satisfactory guarantee that the outlay necessary for the erection and equipment of such schools would be a profitable investment.

We heartily endorse the action of the Winnipeg Typographical Union, and wish them that success which the project deserves and with which it should be rewarded.

### John Burns and the Unemployed Bill.

THE debate on the Unemployed Bill in the British House of Commons was, productive of much wordy warfare if nothing else.

This bill was mentioned long ago, in the King's speech from the Throne in 1906, and the member who moved it mentioned, amid applause from the Labor Party, that it was long overdue. On the motion for the second reading of the bill being put to the house it was defeated by a majority of 149. The total vote being 118 for and 267 against.

During the discussion, John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, showed himself in his true colors. It is evident that the man who was honored with the confidence and support of the Socialists is now endeavoring to sever his connection with the party that made him its representative, and is prepared to sweep away all old ties and traditions in order to curry favor from higher position donors no matter what

their politics or sympathies might be.

The Right Honourable Gentleman's efforts to forget the days when he was a straight Socialist—the days when he carried the red flag through the streets of London—are sublime, though pathetic, and if ever the H-o-n-o-u-r-a-b-l-e Gentleman has the temerity to appeal to the electors again he will do so with the full assurance that the Socialists will do all in their power to assist him to forget. Just as surely as it is the prerogative of the people to make representatives, so also is it their privilege to un-make, and as the great heart of the world is ever the same, shams and hypocrites will be paid their reward in this generation with the same full measure that has been their portion in former generations and it is hoped that when the next batch of medals are handed out, John will receive his amongst the rest, with many thanks from a grateful and appreciative public.

Many complaints were made concerning the tone of one of his recent speeches, and the following extracts from the Labor Leader show how he dealt with his critics:

"Talking of the complaints about the 'tone' of his last speech, the 'Man of the Red Flag' broke forth into bitter taunts. 'Fancy these Revolutionaries,' said he, pointing at the Labor benches, 'talking about tone.' Then, with swelling breast and measured intonation, he proceeded, like little Jack Horner, to tell the house 'what a good boy am I.' 'Nothing can be said against my administration,' 'Just you look at the country! How it has progressed! Never was country like this one, and if you pass this Bill all these improvements will be arrested!' 'Humbug!' interjected Jowett at this stage. He had been listening to the President with gradually growing impatience. Mr. Burns stopped, quoted the doings of the Bradford Town Council; but 'we will change that.' 'We will alter that!' was flung back at him each time by the Labor M.P. Then the President wound up with the astonishing deduction that because the Daily Telegraph had one thousand applications for women workers in a single week there was no unemployed problem in the case of women. At times the Liberals gave a fainthearted cheer whilst Mr. Burns was speaking, but generally he failed to carry the House with him. There was rather the feeling that here was a man frittering away in petty personalities a great opportunity, and in conversation outside members have told their neighbours how Mr. John Burns has made enemies in the cabinet, and how a certain prominent Welshman has come out into the lists against him. It will be for the future to show us the truth.

## The Railwaymen And the Companies

Open Shop Notices Posted—Men Invoke the Aid of the Lemieux Act—Jas. Somerville appointed.

Notwithstanding the many reports which have appeared in the press, little or no real progress has been made in Winnipeg between the railway officials and the shop organizations which received notice of termination of schedules at the end of April.

It is of course impossible to conjecture what the real intentions of the companies are, but the many conferences which are being held, and which appear to have no other object than that of gaining time, have only served the purpose of awakening the men to a fuller consciousness of impending trouble which has resulted in the men strengthening their position by

consolidating their forces all along the line.

The memorandum of conditions which the companies propose shall hereafter prevail, and which have been posted in the different railway shops, is to all intents and purposes an open shop notice. Under it the nine hour day is recognised and the company propose to treat with the men individually in the matter of wages instead of through the Brotherhoods, which is the natural process where the union is recognised.

Latest dispatches state that the trouble between the companies and the men will be settled by a board of arbitrators. This was decided by the men on Saturday and an application was filed at Ottawa for a board to be appointed, covering the disputes of the different organisations under the Lemieux act. James Somerville, second Vice-president of the machinists, has been appointed by the mechanics as their arbitrator.

Now that application for a board of arbitration has been made, the new schedule proposed by the railway companies will not be in operation at the end of April, as the old schedule must be maintained until the decision of the board of arbitration is reached.

The C.N.R. men will very likely also apply for a board of arbitration.

### Notes and Comments.

It is reported that John F. Leheney, late organiser of the Socialist Party of Alberta, has resigned from the Socialist party in favor of the Anarchists. Farewell, a long farewell to all thy usefulness.

The Brandon Trades and Labor Council is doing things in the Wheat City. It was decided at their last meeting to seek the enforcement of the Factory Act and the appointment of a Factory inspector. A resolution to build a new Trades Hall was introduced by Del. Fulcher, and the consensus of opinion was that the time had arrived when the local unions of Brandon should possess a hall of their own. The resolution was referred back to the unions for consideration and support.

Of a total of 347 homestead entries made in February, 1908, by persons

coming from the United States, there were 120 from North Dakota, 52 from Minnesota, and 22 from Wisconsin.

The representatives of the Stonecutters' Union regarding the work to be done on the stone for the new Parliament Buildings are being considered by the Government, and it is confidently hoped that favorable consideration will be given to their request.

The Bricklayers' Union has called the attention of the Trades' and Labor Council to the fact that laborers are being employed by the City to build manholes. Many competent bricklayers are walking about in search of jobs, and the Council will no doubt send a deputation to the City officials on behalf of the Bricklayers.

Advertisers in the REALM are requested to send in their changes of advertisements to the Caxton Press not later than Wednesday morning in each week, so as to ensure prompt publication of the paper on Friday morning. This is necessary in order to keep the men posted on the Saturday sales.

At the annual meeting of the Lincoln Paper Mills Co., Ltd., of Merriton, Ont., a bonus of gratuity was voted to the employees of the Company amounting to six per cent. of their wages. The gratuity was awarded as a tangible expression of appreciation on the part of the company of the faithful services of its employees, the directors reporting that the greatest amity and good feeling prevails in every department of the company's mills. The practice was first introduced by the company at the beginning of the present decade, and has been continued each year since.

In British Columbia the amendment of the Master and Servant Act passed in 1902, having reference to deductions from the wages of employees for medical attendance, was originally made applicable only to cities and towns of more than 3,000 inhabitants. This limitation is now removed.

There will be a meeting of Regina Typographical Union No. 657 on Saturday, May 2. Members should turn out in full force.



## A Saving Chance on Suits

On Saturday we will sell 50 well made, Stylish Tweed Suits, in sizes from 36 to 42, at a very SPECIAL PRICE.

These suits are new and are properly cut. The regular prices were \$10.00 and \$12.00, and many of them were not made for our Saturday price, which will be

**\$6.75**

**R. H. WILLIAMS & SON, Ltd.**

The Glasgow House, South Railway St.