



Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



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 A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

RAILWAY PROBLEMS

Throughout the civilized world, owners of railways and their employees are passing through a trying time. Close at home the United States companies are up against strikes and reduced freight rates, while the workers are bitterly opposing wage decreases and a large proportion of the men are now out on strike. Canada faces almost similar conditions, but so far none of the railway departments have suffered through a walk-out of the men. Strenuous efforts are being made to reach a settlement by the government, the railways and the employees. A delegation representing the men waited on Premier King and Hon. James Murdock on Wednesday and made a comprehensive statement of their case. The cabinet ministers promised consideration of the points set forth. The advantage of the Canadian situation over that of United States is undoubtedly due to the operation of the Industrial Disputes Act, as was stated by the Minister of Labor. This act is the product of the present premier and it has stood the test of time. In the present railway situation several bodies have applied for conciliation boards under the act and confidence is freely expressed that a solution will be found satisfactory to all concerned. The progress of events will be watched with interest throughout the Dominion.

It would be well for the organized worker of Canada to assist in every way possible, the Minister of Labor in order that all parties concerned will be satisfied.

Co-operation, no doubt will bring success, therefore it is advisable that every assistance should be given Mr. Murdock in order that the railway issue be brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

LABOR AND POLITICS

Mr. J. S. Woodsworth, M.P., has been telling labor audiences at Winnipeg that the two labor members at Ottawa, himself and Mr. Irvine, of Calgary, have been able to render in the house of commons useful service to the workers of Canada. He believes they have had a restraining hand on legislation that would have been detrimental to those people who sent them to Ottawa and that they have been able to get the viewpoint of labor placed before their fellow commons and before the country. If the Labor party in the house were larger Mr. Woodsworth believes that it would increase its effectiveness. Therefore he has been telling his audiences that it is highly desirable that labor should elect as many of its representatives as possible. Political action is good business, he says.

Mr. Woodsworth is talking sense. Labor must make its progress in Canada, as in every other democratic country, through the ballot box. In adopting any other method it is merely butting its head against a stone wall. Labor is entitled to every member it can elect to public bodies and is entitled to take all legitimate steps to elect its representatives.

The laws of the country are made in parliament, governments are the result of the ballot box, the administration of the law is in the hands of the representatives of the people. The people rule, if they have sense enough to use their power, and labor is entitled to a fair share in the business of governing the country. It should proceed to get it.

Two members in the whole house of commons are not much of a showing for Canadian labor.

Labor's political job is to go out and convince enough people in the country that its policies are for the general good and then to perform in office so that the support of the public or a substantial element of it will be retained. This is a job worth while working at. Instead of taking hold of the task with a will labor appears to prefer getting into groups under highly charged and voluble leaders who stamp and thump and pound and call each other liars and traitors and such like.

GIVES PROMISE TO PROTECT MINERS

Washington—Governors of 28 coal producing states were called upon in telegrams sent them Tuesday by President Harding to "second" his invitation to miners and operators to resume coal production and to give them "assurance of maintained order and the protection of lawful endeavor."

The president said he wished to convey to the governors the assurance of the "prompt and full support of the federal government, whenever and wherever you find your agencies of law and order inadequate to meet the situation."

CANADIAN MINES WERE NOT DISCUSSED

Washington—Owing to the adjournment of the general policy committee of the United Mine Workers of America, the Canadian representatives, William Sherman and Robert Livett, will return to Canada at once. It is officially stated that their visit here has been of no significance so far as the Canadian coal mining situation is concerned. At all meetings of the general policy committee the outlying districts are entitled to be represented. This accounts for the visit of the Canadian union officials. It was stated at union headquarters that the Canadian situation had not been discussed at any of the meetings of the committee.

TWO ALTERNATIVE TO PREVENT STRIKE

Winnipeg—Only two alternatives are open to prevent a strike of railroad shopmen throughout Canada—the termination of the strike in the United States or the withdrawal by the Canadian railroads of the reduction in wages—in the opinion of International union officials, declared E. C. McCutcheon, vice-president of the

BROADCASTS

From Overseas and Across the Border.

Crow's Strange Prey.

During a drive across Exmoor a party of motorists witnessed a remarkable incident. A crow was seen to drop to the ground and pick up a struggling object, with which it flew off. Presently the crow dropped it, but followed it and again mounted into the air. For the second time, however, the burden proved too heavy, and its prey fell to the roadside. The motorists found that it was a young rabbit the crow had tried to carry off.

An Academy Picture for Great Britain.

Members of the House of Commons, on reassembling after the Whitnau-tide recess, found installed in St. Stephen's Hall, the panel, painted by Mr. Frank O. Salisbury, depicting the Burial of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey. The picture was exhibited at the Royal Academy last year.

It was the wish of the late Sir Alfred Bird, M.P., to present the picture to the nation, but at the moment of its completion Sir Alfred met with his tragic death. His son, Sir Robert Bird, M.P., has now presented it as a memorial to his father.

New Zealand Will Do Her Bit.

Referring to the speech of Lord Lee of Fareham who had said that the Dominions were not bearing their share of naval expenditure for the defence of the Empire the Premier of New Zealand is reported to have said that New Zealand would do her duty. The apportionment of the cost to be borne by that country would be determined by the first Empire Council and would be subject to ratification by the parliaments of the Empire.

Did Not Care For Sport of Kings.

The examiners at a certain important public school always try to make their papers as up-to-date and interesting as possible for the pupils. During the last examination one of the questions read thus: "If one horse can run a mile in a minute and a half, and another is able to do the same distance in two minutes, how far ahead would the first horse be if the two ran a race of two miles at these respective speeds?"

One pupil returned his paper with the query unanswered, except that he had written on the sheet: "I refuse to have anything to do with horse-racing."

The Polish Peasants.

The one country in Europe which preserves its national costumes is Poland. The traditional dress, variable in different districts, survives to-day from the Middle Ages, the symbol during alien rule of Polish patriotism. It may be that with the coming of independence, the peasants will give up their beautiful garments, and in place of hand-woven fabrics, many hues, clothe themselves in the products of the town. At the moment, however, in every part of Poland they cling to the old fashion, and the spectacle on a Sunday morning, when men, women and children crowd to the district church, has the gorgeous coloring of a medieval mass.

It is in the district of Lowicz that you see these costumes in all their glory. A rich agricultural center, it is representative of that peasant culture which, rooted in the soil, has preserved its customs and traditions throughout centuries. Lowicz is some forty Polish miles west of Warsaw, on the main line to Posen. Some of the heaviest fighting between the Germans and the Russians took place in the neighborhood, and you can still see the ruins of a chateau which changed hands ten times within a fortnight. But through all the horrors of invasion the peasants carried on, and today they emerge in garments dazzling and beautiful as ever. Orange and yellow are the prevailing tints at Lowicz; the full skirts of woollen fabric, striped with green and purple, wine colour and blue, are worn with silk bodices embroidered in gold and silver, with full white sleeves and white aprons. The women wear the grey stone churches, touching the winter fields to sunshine.

Before the war the men wore the traditional colours like the women, but during the occupation male costumes were commandeered, and to-day they wear heavily braided jackets of black cloth, with a broad-brimmed hat which the local "kut" will stick a nosegay.

In a population of thirty millions the peasant proprietor forms a large majority. He has owned the land for centuries, lavishing the care and industry upon the soil inherent in an agricultural people. His holding averages twelve acres, sufficient to keep himself and his family in every comfort, with a margin of profit to spare. During the war agriculture was largely at a standstill, the soil neglected, the villages destroyed; but already sixty per cent. of devastation has been repaired, and the peasants have built themselves wooden houses, comfortable and weather-proof. Last

year's harvest was exceptional, and every farmyard had its stacks of golden grain, its well-fed cattle and fat pigs; every house was stocked with provisions of all kinds. The land is worked by the members of the family, with occasional neighborly assistance. The average peasant family is a large one, and the sons and daughters as they marry rarely leave the parental roof-tree, but, building a room for their own use, continue members of the household. The system seems to work without friction, partly perhaps because the young wives, their husbands, and single sons and daughters share equally in the profits from the sale of produce. The heads of the family take a larger percentage than the rest, who stand on equal terms.—Mrs. Cecil Chesterton, in John o' London's Weekly.

OUT IN THE VIRGIN WILDERNESS



Astoria Lake, near Chrome Lakes, headwaters of the Astoria river in Jasper National Park. The lake and river were called after the first ship sent out by John Jacob Astor's company in the attempt to monopolize the fur trade of the world.

FAMOUS "WITS" OF HISTORY

Little Stories of Men and Women Whose Sayings Are Still Remembered
 By MARK STUYVESANT

HOW DR. JOHNSON DEFENDED HIS REPUTATION AS A JOKESTER.

The "great Dr. Johnson," the man who revised and compiled the dictionary as we know it, married a woman who had children as old as himself. She was called "the Widow Porter," and is described as having been a tittering, short, fat, coarse woman, with "a face full of paint." But Johnson adored her. She was witty, and, perhaps, in her wit lay her charm for him.

Johnson, however, alluded to her as "the pretty creature," although his biographers always remind the reader at this point that Johnson's eyesight was very poor indeed. He cared more for her opinion of his writing than for any other criticism.

When Johnson proposed to the "pretty creature" there was a brilliant group of men in London who met regularly. Among them Goldsmith represented poetry and literature of a light vein, Reynolds the arts, Burke political eloquence, Gibbon was the historian, and Garrick was the actor. In this brilliant group Johnson dominated, and the club finally became known as "The Johnson Club." His conversation was more sparkling with these friends than at any other time. He expressed the reason for this by saying: "They have the ability and knowledge to send back every ball I throw."

At one of the meetings of the club, Johnson made the statement that he disliked punning. He said: "I hate a pun. A man who would perpetrate a pun would have little hesitation in picking a pocket." "Perhaps you have no ability to play upon small words," remarked Boswell—who afterwards wrote "The Life of Johnson." "Sir!" roared Johnson. "If I were punished for every pun I shed I would not be left a puny shed of my punnish head."

When the patience of Miller, the bookseller, had become exhausted at Johnson's delay in sending the final pages of the dictionary, he was one day delighted to receive them at last. He vented his feelings in the following: "Andrew Miller sends his compliments to Mr. Samuel Johnson, with the money for the last copy of the dictionary, and thanks God he has done with it."

Dr. Johnson replied: "Samuel Johnson returns his compliments to Andrew Miller, and is very glad to find (as he does by note) that Andrew Miller has the grace to thank God for anything."

Soldiers Want Pensions First.

The Canterbury, New Zealand Soldiers' Association passed a resolution at a recent convention opposing the spending of \$5500,000 for a National War Memorial until adequate pensions had been paid to badly disabled soldiers and the widows and mothers of deceased men.

New Zealand's Railway Problems.

The railway tariff in New Zealand is being revised under a Board of expert railwaymen acting with the government. The effect of motor traffic is being keenly felt by the railways and an effort is being made to use this form of transport as a feeder for the railroads. The New Zealand Government point out that the State Railways of Australia lost nearly \$30,000,000 during the year 1921-2.

Ballroom Decadence.

Outspoken criticism of evil effects arising from the unrestricted granting of dancing licenses to hotels, clubs, dancing palaces, and adventurous persons was made yesterday at the conference of the British Association of Teachers of Dancing in Aberdeen by Mr. J. E. Macnaughton, of Glasgow, a well-known dancing instructor.

Brighter Sundays.

Voting was equal at Paddington Council yesterday on a resolution by Council yesterday on a resolution urging the desirability of allowing spaces during certain hours on Sundays.

Girls used fewer cosmetics in the old days.

But courting was done in the gloaming and taste counted for more than looks.

It must be nice to be a banker and have nothing to do but open up occasionally between holidays.

Widow Porter he told her candidly that he had no money, and that his uncle had been hanged.

She replied that she cared nothing about what any of his family had done, and that, although she had no relatives who had been hanged, she had fifty who deserved to be.

A Scotchman, proud of Buchanan's fame as a scolar, and as a tutor to Mary Queen of Scots, once asked Johnson:

"What would you have said of Buchanan had he been an Englishman?" "Why," said Johnson, "said of him, sir? Why, I would not have said of him, had he been an Englishman what I will say now of him as a Scotchman, that he was the only man of genius his country ever produced."

He Told Her Candidly He Had No Money.

FIGURES SHOW EXPORTS INCREASE

Imports were the outstanding feature of the trade of Canada for the three months ending with June. The increase in domestic exports for the three months over the corresponding quarter in 1921 was \$11,414,000, while the decrease in imports, on the same comparison, was \$15,971,000.

The total value of domestic exports for the three months ending June last was \$172,824,000 as against \$161,409,000 for the same quarter of 1921. The total value of the imports for the quarter ending with June, 1922, was \$175,485,000 as against \$191,456,000 for the corresponding quarter of last year.

The decrease in imports was quite general, and appeared in free as well as in dutiable goods. The decrease in free goods over the three months period was \$3,702,000, and on dutiable goods it was \$12,268,000.

Only three classes of imports showed an increase for the quarter this year. These were fibres, textiles and textile products, iron and its products and miscellaneous commodities. The first of these classes rose from \$20,944,000 to \$24,224,000; the increase in the second class

was from \$29,236,000 to \$30,256,000, and in the third instance from \$6,604,000 to \$6,512,000.

Similarly only three classes of exports failed to show an increase. These were animals and animal products, non-metallic minerals and products, and miscellaneous. The first of these fell off from \$27,584,000 to \$25,000,000, the second from \$5,449,000 to \$4,112,000, and the third from \$4,232,000 to \$3,594,000.

For the month of June by itself exports showed an increase over the previous month and over June of last year as well. Imports for June were less than for May but more than for June of 1921.

Imports for June, 1922, were valued at \$61,668,000; for May, 1922, \$65,121,000, and for June, 1921, \$57,643,000.

Exports of domestic products for June, 1922, were \$71,760,000; for May, 1922, \$69,146,000, and for June, 1921, they were \$58,576,000.

All efforts to save civilization seem worth while until you watch the antics of some youngster who has inherited a million or two.

The infant prodigy doesn't always become a world-beater. Old Job cursed the day he was born, but he had a hard time in later life.

PARENTS AS EDUCATORS

NATURE STUDY FOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

By Augusta M. Swan.

When Froebel was looking for a name suitable for his system of education, he did not call it "Child School," or "Child House," but "Child Garden," and he intended that the "gardener" of the kindergarten should be the teacher herself. Nearly half of Froebel's Mother Plays deal with the things of nature. At one time he said, "A little child that freely seeks flowers and cherishes and cares for them in order to wind them into a bouquet for parents or teachers cannot be a bad child, or become a bad man. Such a child can easily be led to the love, and to a knowledge of his Father—God—who gives him such gifts."

Love of nature is the heritage of childhood. It is a tendency in every child of every land, be he black, white or yellow. All nature is akin to childhood; birds, animals, flowers, insects are all beautiful to children, even the "lovely crawling caterpillar," and the "creepy snail."

We all know how a dog will allow a child to stumble over him, recognizing the action by only an expression of long-suffering indifference; he will stand all kinds of teasing which he would not tolerate from an adult. There seems to be a silent but mutual understanding among young animals of all kinds whether they have four legs or two.

As primitive man opened the early scenes of his life among the wonders of nature, so the child needs the experience of the race in nature wonder and play. All natural phenomena are matters of personal interest to

the young child; and towards the moon, stars, sun, wind and rain he feels the inherent interest of the race. It is well to be able to tell the children the names of the plants and flowers they bring, and to awaken in them a longing to know more of the wonderful life of the bird, bee and other insects.

Of a child, to see how many different kinds of clovers we usually find, and no one seemed bored. We need not be surprised if questions of real scientific value be asked by the children—"Why do people call those white flowers dogwood?" was the thoughtful inquiry of any one of my kindergarten children. "How do birds fight snakes?" "What is the grease inside the buttercup used for?" "Is it true that only female polar bears hibernate?" "Why does the mullein have such a fuzzy coat?" This shows a spirit of real inquiry. How the child's imagination grows as he pictures the building of the nests, the return of birds and insects! Their songs become part of his nature, and give strength and sweetness to his life.

To cultivate direct observation, to enlarge the growth of character, to stimulate the imaginative powers, in other words to see things, to know things,—does it not seem worth while? Who knows the inspiration given to an embryo artist, poet or scientist, when we wander with the fairies through the meadows and woods, enjoying with them the concert of insect, bird and breeze?

MORE MONEY TO SAVE ST. PAUL'S

Is St. Paul's in London in danger? There have often been scares of this kind in the past—and now the question arises in a very acute form.

Measures for the preservation of the famous dome of the cathedral have been in progress for some nine years, and now the funds which the public subscribed for the work are nearing exhaustion.

The work has not been continuous, for it is constantly interrupted to enable the services to be held. The possibility of temporarily closing the cathedral is now being discussed.

In making an appeal for further funds the Dean and Chapter ask for \$500,000 to "preserve the sacred building from serious dangers that now threaten it."

At least this sum will be needed in the next few years to carry on the necessary repairs. It is only a small part of the total expenditure that will be required before the fabric can be said to be in a satisfactory condition.

A Grave Position.

The present position of St. Paul's indeed, is regarded as grave. A special commission of engineers and architects report that it is of the unanimous opinion that the surface of the piers and arches supporting the dome should be examined without delay from adequate scaffolding in order that protective measures may be taken regarding loose and defective stone work.

The Dean and Chapter state "It is well known that owing to the rusting of iron dowels and to other causes, much of the decorative work and veneer that has been largely used in the cathedral has become insecure." It is London's duty, the authorities claim, to keep St. Paul's—the parish church of the British Empire—secure and sound for all time.

It becomes increasingly evident that deciding what to do about Russia is simply a matter of deciding what Russia will stand for.

We judge by examining the "intellectuals" we have met, that an intellectual is one who can talk about nasty things without embarrassment.

The funny part of it is that the man who is too practical to believe in the saving power of faith will take a stranger's word.

Statesmen are reminded that something unpleasant happened to Noah's neighbors who were content to "await developments."

THE MUSKOKA LAKES.

The Muskoka region of the "Highlands of Ontario" was for centuries the chosen hunting ground of the Hurons. It was the red man who gave the musical name Muskoka (Signifying "clear sky") to this land which held supremacy over all others in his affections, and he christened the islands, promontories, masses above sea level—gives splendid views, rocks, lakes and rivers in a manner that showed his appreciation of the beauties of his forest home. No happier appellation than "clear sky" could have been adopted, as the altitude of the region—one thousand feet mesopheric conditions. Muskoka spreads its manifold charms to blue skies flecked with soft, white clouds. It is a delectable land, brilliant with rich coloring, its air pungent with the fragrance of the pines, its waters cool and clear; moreover, a land of many pleasures, offering a wide variety of health-giving, open-air sports and pastimes suited to all ages. There are about 100 hotels in the district that cater to those of modest taste as well as those who are most fastidious. The Canadian National Grand Trunk Railways have issued a handsomely illustrated booklet with list of hotels and which can be had free on application to H. R. Charlton, General Advertising Agent, Grand Trunk Railway System, Montreal, P.Q.

The True Delight

In a drink of "ICED" SALADA Tea is fully appreciated on a hot summer day. The young fresh leaves impart a delicious flavor and such cool refreshment that "ICED" SALADA has become a tremendously popular summer beverage. Enjoy the flavor—Just try it.

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