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**OLD N. S. STIRS IN HER SLEEP**  
 The results of the Nova Scotia elections are gratifying to those who know the Province by the Sea. Nova Scotians have always taken their politics seriously, but thoughtlessly. The old parties have had a mysterious, almost superstitious, hold upon the people. In the heat of elections in the past, school boys have made the political faith of their fathers the basis of choosing sides in their football games—and youthful quarrels. The boys were "Liberals" or "Conservatives" because their fathers were. And the fathers adhered to one or other of the parties for the same reason. "Why our folks have always been Liberal" (or Conservative) was ever a sufficient answer to a query as to why a man supported a certain party. Thus, on the whole, was Nova Scotia politics.  
 But the election of this week has apparently shattered some political traditions in the Atlantic Province. One of the old parties has been wiped out, and Labor and the Organized Farmers will constitute the opposition in the legislature. Labor made a clean sweep of the largest industrial centre, all four members being elected in Cape Breton constituency. The result in Halifax is somewhat disappointing where the three Labor candidates have apparently been unable to stem the opposition of two morning and two evening old party newspapers. The success of the Farmers is pleasing and is an indication of how the Agrarian movement has "caught on" throughout the Dominion. Taken altogether the Nova Scotia elections reflect the coming of the new political era.

**THE FAILURE OF GIDEON**  
 We have been watching, listening, waiting and hoping, that Senator Robertson would speak. But disappointment has been our only reward. Lacking the courage of a Crerar, the conviction of a Clark, the wisdom of a Rowell, or the political sagacity of a Burnham, the "Labor" Minister of Labor is apparently content to throw in his lot further with the most reactionary and unpopular government that Canada has ever experienced.  
 We remember another Gideon who took his stand against the oppressor of his people. Not so our worthy Senator. His opportunity to declare himself on the side of the people has come—and gone. He stands today with the forces of reaction and torism. He has gone over to the camp of the Philistines. Where he might have been remembered for his courage and conviction, where he might have entrenched himself in the hearts of the people and gained the confidence of the class of which he once was a part, Senator Robertson will now only be thought of as one of the multitude who had their chance—and missed it.

**A FASCINATING AND PROFITABLE STUDY**  
 What is probably one of the very best books yet written dealing with the present-day British Labor Movement and the men who are prominent in the activities of Labor in the old land, is Arthur Gleason's "What the Workers Want," which has recently arrived at the library.  
 The book can well be described in the author's own words, when he writes: "It is a record of the aims and achievements of British Labor, telling what the workers want in their own words, and not what an intellectual thinks Labor ought to want." The work is up-to-date, and while there is no lack of detail, the book from cover to cover is interesting as a London novel. It could not be otherwise with Mr. Gleason's outstanding faculty of describing men and events. And as one reads, it is not difficult to understand the greatness of the British Labor Movement. Its power can be explained in one word—"men."  
 When we think of British Labor the names of not one but a dozen outstanding personalities present themselves to our mind. Henderson, Clynes, Thomas, Smillie, Hodges, MacDonald, Snowden, Williams, Webb and as many others, all stand out as leaders in their particular line of policy and reasoning. But all are great and no particular one could be pointed out as the dominating character. Today it may be Smillie and Henderson that agree on a certain point, tomorrow they may be on opposite sides of a question. Snowden will agree with Thomas on one question, today, and tomorrow he may be with MacDonald on another matter. A machine cannot develop under such circumstances. A close study of the present-day British Labor Movement is at once fascinating and profitable.

**LABOR AND THE REFERENDUM**  
 A finished product that is of less value than the raw material from which it is manufactured, has no reasonable right to exist. The continued production and distribution of such a product means the continuance of an economic waste that is indefensible from any angle from which it may be viewed. The liquor business comes under this head, and for this reason more than any other, thinking and progressive Labor men and Labor bodies are opposed to the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages in any shape or form. Economically the liquor business is incorrect and is not only useless, but is harmful to humanity. Therefore it should not exist.  
 The Independent Labor Party of Great Britain at its conference this year declared emphatically for prohibition by a two to one vote. This is probably the most progressive political Labor organization in the world. The Scottish Trade Union Congress in April of this year went on record in favor of prohibition. The Glasgow Trades and Labor Council took a similar stand by a vote of 99 to 32. In the United States the Literary Digest recently sent an inquiry to 546 Labor officials asking the question: "Has prohibition been a benefit to working men and their families?" And 345 answered emphatically "yes." Progressive Labor throughout the world is unequivocally in favor of prohibition.  
 Alberta citizens will in October have an opportunity to vote on the question of the importation of liquor into the province. Premier Stewart has promised to make the province "bone-dry" if the vote is favorable. The Alberta Federation of Labor has already, at the 1919 convention, taken its stand against booze of any description, and it is reasonable to expect that union Labor in this province will vote the same way in October.

**LABOR'S RESPONSIBILITY AND EDUCATION**  
 Knowledge is power. If history teaches any lesson it is that the disease most fatal to States and Empires is ignorance. There is only one way to counteract ignorance and that is by education.  
 Upon the workers of this country who are beginning to realize their power and become politically conscious, a great responsibility rests. A responsibility that will become greater as the industrial activities of the country expand. More and more will the men and women of Labor be called upon to take their places in the direction of the nation's affairs. Will they be ready? British Labor has asked itself this question and has proceeded to deal with the problem in a practical manner by the promotion of adult education and the demand for the extension of the school age, continuation classes, etc. Here in Canada and Alberta we must do likewise. In the first place we must agitate for a wider use of our present educational facilities. The University must be made to serve the people. Under its supervision adult classes should be promoted throughout the province and working people given an opportunity to avail themselves of the means of obtaining the knowledge and training they desire. But if this work will not be undertaken by the proper authorities, the question should not by any means be permitted to drop there. It is a work that Labor in a co-operative way can well carry out.  
 Within the ranks of the workers we have the latent ability, the natural resources of power and administrative capacity that only await the development of education. From Labor's ranks must come the demand for greater educational opportunities. If necessary we must create the machinery.

**THE CRIME OF THE "BABY-VAMP"**  
 "Anise," a special writer for the Federated Press, very effectively deals, in this issue, with one of the cruelest of our social wrongs. That is, the child upon the stage. A duplicate of the performance pictured in Anise's article was lately presented at a local theatre. Such a desecration of innocent childhood is enough to strike deep into the heart of every father and mother. The Rotary club has adopted child welfare as one of its activities. Why was it silent in the face of such a despicable thing? The "baby-vamp"! And this a civilized "Christian" land.  
 Local, provincial, or even federal authorities may not be in a position to stop this outrageous thing at its source, but they all can at least refuse to

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allow such performances to be staged in this country. It is primarily up to the Dominion or Provincial governments to take action, but if they fail to do so then we in the cities should refuse to give our assent to this debasing and demoralizing desecration of childhood. Surely the theatre-going public of our country are not being pleasurably amused by seeing tiny tots brought down to the level of the cabaret woman. A terrible example of the possible depths of human degradation is the crime of the "baby-vamp."

**EDITOR'S NOTES**  
 Edmonton in 1921!  
 Trades and Labor Council meeting Monday.

Great Labor picnic, Sports and Concert on Civic Holiday, August 9th. Something doing for every member of the family.

A U.S. judge has declared that the I.W.W. is a political organization. In that respect it differs little from its Canadian adjunct.

Last week the Free Press carried two stories dealing with the organization of bank employees. One instance in Britain and the other in South Africa. Like the result of a stone being thrown into water, the farther the ripples extend the greater becomes the circle influenced, so is the growth of the workers' movement.

Snowden, Henderson, MacDonald, Smillie, Hodges and as many other British Labor leaders are not in favor of the introduction of the Soviet system in Britain. Would they be classed as "un-educated"?

**DR. ROYAL MEEKER RESIGNS TO TAKE UP EDITORS JOB**  
 Commissioner U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Will Be Editor of Swiss Paper

Dr. Royal Meeker, commissioner United States bureau of labor statistics, has resigned to accept the position of editor-in-chief of the monthly bulletin of the international labor office of the league of nations, published at Geneva, Switzerland.  
 Dr. Meeker reorganized cost of living studies on the practical basis of the family budget, or the market basket, so that dry statistics could be easily understood. His war-time studies of wages and living costs were accepted as authentic and his findings were of value to the organized workers in arbitration proceedings.  
 This important work is ignored by congress, which has failed to appropriate sufficient funds to maintain the efficiency of this department. The same is true of the bureau of conciliation of the department of labor. Both of these bureaus have been compelled to release employees engaged in most important work.  
 Ebelbert Stewart, assistant chief of the bureau of labor statistics, succeeds Dr. Meeker. The new commissioner has been connected with the government for over 30 years in various economic capacities. Prior to that time

**LABOR EDUCATION COMMITTEE DOING EXCELLENT WORK**

**Begin Third Year With Every Labor Organization of N.Y. Co-operating**  
 (By the Federated Press)  
 New York (N. Y. Bureau).—With practically every labor organization in Greater New York co-operating, the United Labor Education Committee initiated its third year of work in an out-doors conference near New Rochelle. Setting as the task of the committee the creation of a new labor culture to supplant the present education based on domination, a "new culture based upon the co-operation of equals of free, independently thinking personalities," chairman J. M. Budish sounded the note which was echoed in the talks of delegates through the day. Representatives from 56 union locals, including those of the two teachers' associations, expressed again and again their determination to broaden the work of the committee in order to bring about a new freedom and rene

of power in the labor world.  
 The broadened plans of the committee for the coming year's work include lectures and classes for local unions on subjects of particular interest to them (and to be chosen with full autonomy by the locals themselves); community lectures and classes for workers living in the same neighborhood; the maintenance of recreation centers and of a clearing house for information and advice; and concerts, forums, and community singing. But the committee decided to go farther than the conventional educational features. Regarding itself as a factor in bringing about the control of industry by the workers, the committee voted to arrange a series of special courses for shop chairmen in every industry "for more fundamental training in labor problems and the problems with which every industry is directly concerned." It voted for special courses for officials of labor organizations, and for the training of teachers for the labor movement, by "trying to develop the more advanced members of the organization so that they themselves may become teachers in time, and by supplying professional teachers with knowledge of the labor movement and its needs."  
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