



Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



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 A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

UNEMPLOYMENT PALLIATIVES.

It is impossible to shut our eyes to the fact that the unemployment situation is of a world-wide nature and whilst we on this continent must take our position in the ranks of those seeking relief and solve the problem, the interlinking of this situation with our kindred overseas enters into same—the reflex being too strong to be ignored. Consequently ways and means from overseas give ideas to us as our actions are scrutinized in similar fashion and benefits may thereby accrue.

In dealing in this matter some of these viewpoints are given the following when it is stated that the greatest problem which faces the country today is how to find work for the million and a half able-bodied men and women now unemployed. Up to now they have been living chiefly on doles, or on each other, or on their friends. Unemployment insurance has broken down, the dole policy must be stopped before it further demoralizes the community. Some method of providing useful work with wages, and not wages without work, must be found. In the meantime, the Geddes Economy Committee has recommended the scrapping of the unemployment exchanges on account of the cost. They have never been efficient clearing houses for finding jobs for labor, and the biggest employers have always ignored them.

There are certain principles which must be followed when dealing with the unemployment problem, so that cures may not increase the disease. In the first place, the practice adopted of paying wages and not relief must be stopped, and the Ministry of health has already put a check on it. Relief when given should be in kind rather than in money. It should be enough to maintain the unemployed decently, but not enough to withdraw the stimulus for work and for more comfort. The policy of the labor exchanges has been to pauperize. The sole condition of relief from these institutions is that the applicants must be doing no work at all. This discourages men from taking on small jobs and making a start.

On the constructive side of national relief it is essential that the work found should be useful, and in the form of national development. While necessary in periods of depression, this work should at the same time be of a kind that can be reduced or discontinued when the progress of industry finds other work for the employed. Under the heading of national development works some road improvement—extremely necessary and urgent; the transformation of existing derelict or more or less useless canals to modern waterways, or new roads; afforestation, which has been talked about for years and is hardly yet begun, and reclamation of waste lands. All these works would be useful and remunerative national investments. The State would be justified in carrying them on temporarily, at any rate, on a national scale. It is important, however, that there should be devolution, and that these national works should be carried on in local areas under local supervision with State assistance.

At best all these national development schemes are palliatives, here is only one remedy for unemployment, and that is more productive work in the ordinary channels, but the problem cannot be solved in this country alone. The world is stagnating; unemployment is universal. The millions now starving and idle must become workers and consumers; the international exchanges must find a workable level. World credit must be restored and the

deadlock in foreign trade lifted before the unemployment problem can be solved.

UNION LABEL PROPAGANDA.

That the Union Label Trades Department of the International movement is in good hands in the person of J. J. Manning is beyond question and the activity in the line of propaganda is of the kind that strikes both ways—inside and outside—inside to those who are unmindful of their duty and outside to the opponents of the strong arms of the organized advancement.

In every nook and corner has been sent a message worth while when he states:

"One looking always for his rights is very likely to overlook the rights of others. What he thinks a strong sense of justice

may be a strong sense of injustice. Such a person is very anxious that every other trade unionist should demand the union label, shop card or working button of his particular craft, but he is apt to overlook the others.

"For instance, if he is a butcher, cigarmaker or garment worker, he sees to it that his organization gets your patronage. He lets the hatters, textile workers and carpenters look out for themselves.

There is nothing of which the great man is more afraid than smallness. The trade unionist who is worthy of the name, whether he is plate printer, baker or papermaker, will not demand recognition of his trade mark and neglect that of his brother the cooper, iron, tin and steel worker or metal polisher.

Words without works amount to nothing, so he will not if a tobacco, boot and shoe or glove worker, talk of seab gloves, shoes

or tobacco, while he employs non-union musicians, machinists, teamsters or chauffeurs.

What we should desire is that we shall all share alike. If every union clerk, electrician and sheet metal worker, while advocating his card or label, would speak a word for the wall paper trades, wire weavers and laundry workers, he would soon learn the true meaning of our movement.

Wrong cannot be righted, but it need not be repeated. If the union street car employee, stage employee or barber when he made the last purchase forgot the union broom maker, leather worker or stove moulder, let him remember them the next time. The man looking after the interests of the Allied Printing Trades must not forget the iron molder, the brewery, flour, cereal and soft drink worker, the hotel and restaurant employee, or the bill poster and biller.

Most of our troubles are caused by standing in our own light. We stand in our own light every time we fail to co-operate with our brother trades unionists by not patronizing the union label, card and button whenever we spend money. We all know the result of so-operation. We know it to be the only method by which we can hope to progress. Every successful enterprise of any nature has been the result of a large number of persons mutually interested, working for the same purpose.

Let us resolve to unite and all work for a purpose now, and let that purpose be a greater demand for the Union Label, Card and Button than ever before.

TEA BETTER LIQUID THAN COFFEE TO FACE DEATH ON, ASSERTED

The increased mental activity and endurance of the British aviator is due to his constant indulgence in tea, according to Dr. Allen Starr, of Columbia University. In a recent lecture, Starr declared, "While the American troops in France at first generally preferred coffee, American aviators invariably preferred tea before making hard flights, therein following the example of British aviators."

"The American aviators' testimonial to tea is the greatest that has ever been given, for it is absolutely pure of any suspicion of undue predilection or prejudice," concludes Starr. "Those United States flying fighters faced death on tea in preference to any other drink."



Could Not Sleep

Mr. Earnest Clark, Police Officer, 338 King St., Kingston, Ont., writes:

"For three years I suffered from nervousness and sleeplessness. I believe my condition was brought about by overwork. I had frequent headaches, neuralgic pains and twitching of nerves and muscles. I had indigestion, was short of breath and easily tired. I commenced a treatment of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, and seven boxes of this medicine relieved me of all my symptoms. I am now feeling one hundred per cent. better than I was, and have to thank Dr. Chase's Nerve Food for the good health I am now enjoying."

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Taking Advantage of Present Bond Prices

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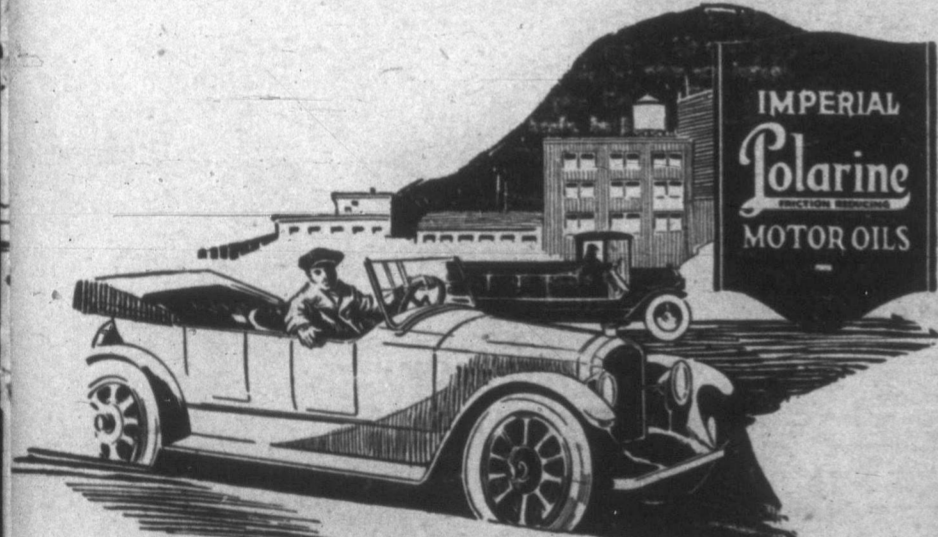
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