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## Bill Murray Goes Up in the Air Over The Teamsters' Agreement

Challenged by John McNeill, President of the Cartage Association, the Teamsters' Business Agent Takes Trip To the Clouds

It's nothing new for people to go up in the air over the signing of an agreement. Sometimes one side of the argument "goes up in the air" and says "I won't sign it." That makes the other party "go up in the air" and say "by gum you'll have to sign it." No it's not uncommon for people to "go up in the air" over an agreement.

But why should anybody "go up in the air" because an agreement was duly signed, sealed and delivered, and both parties to the contract satisfied with the result? Well sir, Bill Murray, business agent of the Teamsters, did that very thing. After the agreement was consummated and everybody apparently satisfied, casting caution to the winds, Bill went right up in the air.

Here's the story: Mr. John McNeill is president of the Edmonton Cartage Association. He is also president of the Edmonton Aircraft Co. And after signing the agreement with the local Teamsters' Union, Mr. McNeill offered to stand the price of a trip with Capt. Tallyour in the Avro Machine, if Business Agent Murray would agree to "loop the loop," "nose dive" and the other sensational features of a real up-to-date joy ride. Mr. Murray was "on," and Sunday afternoon Bill went "up in the air" over the signing of a union agreement. Speaking to the Free Press Mr. Murray said regarding his trip:

"I only wish I had an agreement to sign every day with the stipulations

## DOMINION GOV'T REFERS LABOR LAWS TO THE PROVINCES

Say Dominion Gov't Is Without Authority To Enact Legislation Required

Following a ruling by the department of justice, the main international labor conventions to which the Dominion government representative assented at Washington last November, are to be referred for action to the nine provincial governments.

Principal among the conventions to be referred are: The eight hour day, the children's charter, which limits the age of employment of children in industrial establishments to 14 years; prohibition of the employment of young persons under 18 years of age and of women in industrial establishments during the night.

Early in the sessions the minister of justice stated in the house of commons that, in his opinion, the Dominion Parliament was without authority to enact the eight hour day, for instance, if considered as a purely Canadian question. This brought up constitutional problems and the point arose whether, in assenting to the treaty of Versailles and subsequently to the conventions, the Dominion had not assumed such an international obligation as, under the British North America act, would give the Dominion Parliament authority to enact an eight hour day.

The opinion of the department of justice has not been made public, but the tenor of it, it is understood, is that while Canada recognized the principle of the eight hour day as laid down in the labor section of the treaty of Versailles, there was no obligation imposed to submit the convention to the Dominion Parliament for ratification. Under the circumstances, it is held that the Dominion Parliament does not have the necessary jurisdiction and the conventions are therefore being referred to the Provincial Governments for such action as they may deem proper.

It is understood that there has been some suggestion of an interprovincial conference for discussion of the situation, but such a course is not considered necessary.

## CALGARY TYPOS BOAST HIGHEST JOB SCALE IN CANADA

Calgary Typographical Union now boasts of the highest job scale in Canada and one of the best on the continent. After negotiations extending over several weeks the scale committee finally secured an offer of \$45 per week for day work and \$48 for night work for a period of six months, from May 1, 1920. The hours remain the same as at present, i.e., forty-five days and forty-four nights. At a special meeting of the union, after considerable discussion, this offer was accepted. While this is a \$10 increase over the old scale it does not really represent the increase in the cost of living, but in view of local conditions, over which the union has no control, it was felt this was the best offer that could be secured at the present time.

America must back it to a finish. Ontario Labor says, "We will take up the gauntlet and fight the battle out at any cost. We give fair warning, and ruthless shams must be taken off the eight hour day or invite the most stupendous industrial conflict in the history of the Dominion. If the big interests would fight, then we must let them have it, though we 'advise' it will be best for them to think twice before they go too far."

## C.P.R. WAITERS AT VANCOUVER ARE ON STRIKE

Demanding Increase in Wages Commensurate With the Cost of Living

A strike of waiters at the C.P.R. hotel at Vancouver is now in progress to enforce a demand for an increase in wages. Waiters in the Royal Alexandra Hotel at Winnipeg were supposed to strike at midnight Monday.

The hundred waiters at the Palliser in Calgary, also those at Banff are evidently not affected as they are at work, and it is not likely that they will be called out. The waiters at the coast are demanding increases commensurate with the cost of living.

## R. C. OWENS IS AUTHOR OF INTERESTING BOOK ON MONEY AND BANKING

To the average man the money system of the world is a closed book. What is money? Who makes it money? Who controls the issuing of it? These are questions upon which the majority of people are ignorant today.

Mr. R. C. Owens of Edmonton has written and published a booklet on the subject entitled "Daylight on the Money and Banking Questions." The work deals very thoroughly with the whole question of credits, showing the monopoly that is held in the control of the bankers and monied interests of the world.

For the modest sum of twenty-five cents Mr. Owens' book is many times worth the price. Copies may be secured from the author.

## MAY ESTABLISH SOVIET BUREAU IN CANADA SOON

II Negotiations Between M. Krassin and British Government are Favorable

Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, chief of the Soviet bureau at New York, has stated that the Soviet government of Russia may have a bureau in Canada in the near future if trade negotiations now in progress are continued.

The bureau, he said, would have no political significance, and would be merely a commercial office to look after the purchases which he hopes to make in Canada on behalf of the Russian Soviet Government. No definite arrangements have been made as yet for the opening of such an office, and it is believed here that the move will depend upon the attitude of the Canadian government, though so far as could be learned, authorization has not yet been requested from Ottawa by Martens.

In the meanwhile Martens has established a connection with Canadian manufacturers through the contract signed last week with Boyer, Sloan and Company, 603 Drummond Bldg., Montreal. The Soviet agent refused to discuss this contract or give out any further details concerning it, but it is believed that its fulfillment will be contingent upon the outcome of the negotiations now in progress in London between M. Krassin and the British Government.

If the British Government sanctions trading with Russia, Canadian manufacturers will be lined up ready to secure their share of the business.

## THE STRUGGLE FOR ORGANIZATION

Corporation Does for Business Organization What the Machine Did For Production

By Scott Nearing

The first great problem before the early Americans was the conquest of nature. To this problem the machine was the answer. The second problem was the building of an organization capable of handling the new mechanism of production—an organization large enough, elastic enough, stable enough and durable enough. To this problem the corporation was the answer.

The machine produced the goods. The corporation directed the production, marketed the products and financed both operations.

The corporation, as a means of organizing and directing business enterprise is a product of the last hundred years. A century ago, the business of the United States was carried on by individuals, partnerships, and a very few joint stock companies. At the time of the last census, more than four-fifths of the manufactured products were turned out under corporate direction; most of the important mining enterprises

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## NO TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY EVENING NEXT

On account of the Exhibition opening on Monday, the Executive Committee of the Trades and Labor Council have decided to postpone the regular meeting of the Council on that night. Circulars are being sent out to delegates advising them of a special meeting on Monday, July 12th, for the purpose of discussing whether or not the Council is prepared to turn the publication of the Free Press over to the Alberta Federation of Labor which body would make it a provincial paper, covering the entire province.

## CLOSED SHOP AGREEMENT FOR BRICKLAYERS

International Union Secures Good Agreement—\$1.25 Per Hour, 44 Hour Week

A forty-four hour week, \$1.25 per hour, and a closed shop, are some of the features of an agreement entered into by the Edmonton local of the International Bricklayers' and Masons' Union and the General Contractors' Association of the city.

Following are the terms of the agreement in full:

1. The classification of work governed by the members of the Bricklayers' and Masons' Union shall be the same as specified in the International constitution.

2. The hours of labor shall be for the first five days of the week, 8 hours per day, commencing at 8 a.m. till 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

3. The minimum rate of wages for Bricklayers and Masons shall be One Dollar and Twenty-five Cents (\$1.25) per hour.

4. All foremen shall receive not less than ten cents per hour over journeyman's wages.

5. Overtime shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-half from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Double time from 9 p.m. to 8 a.m., Saturdays from 12 noon, Sundays, New Year's Day, Dominion Day, Labor Day and Christmas Day.

6. Employers shall pay in cash every two weeks. If members are kept waiting they shall be paid at the rate they have been receiving.

7. In the employment of Bricklayers and Masons only members of the International Union shall be employed provided the union can supply the necessary men in forty-eight hours. It is further agreed that as soon as the organization is in a position to furnish men any men hired under above conditions will be replaced.

8. This agreement to remain in full force until and including May 31st, 1921.

9. It is understood and agreed that an agreement for the period following that specified in this agreement shall be negotiated during the month of February, 1921, and that notification of any change desired by either party shall be conveyed to the other party and arrangements made for a joint meeting of representatives of each party to this agreement during the first week of said month.

The local union was assisted in negotiations by Walter Smitten of Calgary, who was sent here by the International Union. Local bricklayers are satisfied with the terms of the agreement which is similar to that in effect in other western cities.

Daniel Macfee, president, and J. B. Gillies, secretary, signed the agreement for the Contractors' association, and R. Knowles and F. Marshall, president and secretary of the union, signed on behalf of the men.

## SEAMEN'S UNION WILL REORGANIZE TRANSPORT WORKERS

(By the Federated Press)

Sydney, N.S.W.—The Seamen's Union of Australia has initiated a movement to re-organize the Transport Workers' Federation of Australasia.

It is proposed to link up in the Federation the following unions: Merchant and service guild (shipmasters and officers); marine engineers, marine cooks, butchers and bakers, marine stewards, and pantries; waterside workers, and coal lumpers, trolly and draymen, crane employees, shipwrights, and marine painters and dockers.

One of the aims of the new Federation will be to arrange so that no competing organization will enter into any strike without the consent of the others. A second aim will be to decide what steps should be taken to gain satisfactory settlement of all disputes.

The scheme is part of the general movement in Australia to gain complete control of industry by unions in order to bring about a more equitable distribution of products than is at present possible.

## LOCAL PRINTERS HAVE RECEIVED WAGE ADVANCE

Pressmen and Stereotypers Also Granted Increase by Edmonton Publishers

The local Typographical Union recently concluded negotiations with the publishers of the city, and a new agreement has been entered into involving a considerable increase in wages. The new scale is \$45 weekly for day journeymen, and \$48 for night men. Forty-five hours constitutes a week's work in both cases.

Although agreements with the other unions do not expire until October, the publishers with characteristic fairness, have granted the increase to pressmen and stereotypers, thus continuing all mechanical staffs upon an equal basis.

## UNITED FARMERS HAVE TAKEN ACTION AGAINST WHOLESALERS

United Farmers of Ontario have issued a writ against Medland Brothers, wholesale grocers, of Toronto, for damages for failure to deliver to the United Farmers' Co-operative Company, 13 carloads of sugar at \$16.50 per hundred pounds, contract price. The writ has been served.

The Toronto Telegram says: "When the case comes to court, it is understood allegations will be aired that the Dominion Sugar Company at Wallaceburg has tons of sugar in storage in various buildings in Chatham and Wallaceburg, and that the refinery has been forced to close owing to the fact that there is no place to store the raw material, which is now blocking the yards at that point."

## RESIGNATIONS EXPECTED FROM A.F. OF L. COUNCIL

Duncan, Mahon, Valentine and Fischer Are All Expected To Resign

By Laurence Todd, Staff Correspondent.

The Federated Press. Washington (Wash. Bureau).—Three or four resignations from the executive council of the American Federation of Labor are expected to be reported, as the result of understandings reached at the Montreal convention.

James Duncan of the Granite Cutters, first vice-president, will resign as soon as he is confirmed by the senate as a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

W. D. Mahon of the Street Railway Employees will resign, according to persistent report, in order to give his whole attention to his own organization. He has attended few council sessions in the past year. He sought, and received, "vindications" at Montreal after being attacked by the Sheet Metal Workers.

Joseph Valentine of the Molders is in poor health, and on account of his steadily increasing burden of council duties, he wants to get out.

Jacob Fischer of the Barbers, elected this year by a slender majority over Johnston of the Machinists, is said to be ready to give way to some man more able to defend the old guard policy against the progressives.

## LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS WILL PULL ALL MEMBERS' TEETH

New York (N.Y. Bureau)—In order to care for the health of their members the New York locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union have purchased a house at 131 East 17th street, which will be equipped with the most modern medical and dental apparatus.

## UNION BAKERIES SELL BREAD CHEAPER THAN NON-UNION SHOPS

Tacoma, Wash.—Union bakeries here are selling bread at 15 cents a loaf while the non-union bakeries are charging 16 cents and passing on to the customer the increased cost of unskilled work.

## MILWAUKEE POLICE ASKING INCREASE OF \$50 PER MONTH

Milwaukee.—The Milwaukee Police department, numbering 540 patrolmen and 45 detectives, is seeking an increase in wages of \$50 per month. The present monthly pay of patrolmen ranges from \$135 to \$147, which is obtainable after five years' service.

## LIBRARY WORKERS BEING UNDERPAID SAYS TRUSTEES

Milwaukee.—The resolution recently passed at the convention of the American Library Association at Colorado Springs which denounces the low wage paid library workers and also asks that a wage sufficient to enable libraries to make a decent livelihood be paid, was endorsed by W. L. Pieplow, president of the Milwaukee library trustees here. "There is no question but that the library worker is underpaid," said Pieplow. "We will have to give them a living wage to do justice."

## LABOR LEGISLATION ASKED BY ALTA. FED. OF LABOR

Continuation of Series of Articles By Walter Smitten, Secretary

## CENTRALIZATION OF ADMINISTRATION OF LABOR LEGISLATION What We Asked

We urge the Government to place the administration of all legislation directly affecting labor under the Workmen's Compensation Board until such time as a Department of Labor is created.

## What Was Passed

The Workmen's Compensation Act was amended giving the Board power to adopt safety regulations deemed advisable for the prevention of accidents in the various industries coming within the scope of the Act and require employers to put same into operation. Meetings were held by the Board in Calgary and Edmonton during May of this year to which were invited representatives of employers and employees who were asked to discuss with the Board the safety regulations then in operation in British Columbia and to suggest any additions or alterations they deemed advisable. Following these meetings regulations were adopted by the Board which were published in the Alberta Gazette June 15th, 1920, becoming operative July 15th, 1920.

While this will no doubt prove beneficial to quite a number of wage workers and is undoubtedly a step in the right direction it does not go nearly as far as the Federation desires. There are still a number of measures on the Statutes directly affecting labor, the administration of which is under control of various members of the Cabinet Council, for instance we have the Mines Act under the Minister of Public Works, Regulations Governing Theatres under the Provincial Secretary, Factories Act under the Attorney General, while it is difficult to learn under which department some measures come, among these we have Mechanics' Lien Act, Railways Act, Employment Bureau.

During the discussions at the meetings recently held by the Workmen's Compensation Board we requested regulations dealing with the use of counter weights for the moving of scenery, provision for piping away poisonous gases created in the operation of motion picture machines. It was determined that power to make such regulations was not vested in the Board but in the Cabinet Council through the Minister and that the protection desired could only be obtained through this source despite the fact that without these provisions the possibilities of accidents are greater.

There is one feature of the system that has been adopted that it behooves the wage workers to take cognizance of which is that the cost of administration of the various safety regulations adopted will be met out of the accident fund. Last year we had the cost of administration of Mining Rescue Work and Electrical Protection Regulations borne by this fund and this year with the addition of the very necessary regulations affecting other industries, if these are to be administered effectively, further charges will have to be met. This means that the wage worker who is unfortunate enough to meet with an accident will be called upon to pay a quota of the cost of administration through reduced indemnities. This must be the logical outcome of this if it continues for the assessments made on the payrolls of employers must conform with the assessments made in other Provinces or there will be a howl from them and as this is the only source of income the Board has the greater the sum required for administrative purposes the less there will be left to pay indemnities.

Some may say that the number of accidents prevented as a result of the enforcement of these regulations will more than save the amount required to meet the cost of administration which is probably true but there is another factor that should be considered. The safety regulations adopted do not afford protection to the worker alone, but to the public in general and in some cases property, particularly in the case of connection with Mine Rescue Work and Electrical Protection Regulations. Thus again an accident not only affects the person receiving same but the productivity of the community is affected also, the more persons there are actively engaged in useful production the more prosperous the community is and consequently every accident prevented as a result of the enforcement of these regulations, indirectly, beneficially affects every person in the Province, therefore the logical conclusion is that the cost of administration should be borne out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the requirements of the Federation have only partially been met. What is actually required is the creation of a Department of Labor responsible for the administration of all legislation directly affecting labor with the cost of administration borne by the community as a whole.

Amendments to the Coal Mines Act will be considered next week.

## CAPITALISTS HAVE LEARNED HOW TO CO-OPERATE

Business Men Accepted the Dictates of Experience As Basis for Procedure

(By Scott Nearing, Staff Writer, The Federated Press)

The early American enterprisers—the pioneers—began a single-handed struggle with nature. Necessity forced them to co-operate. They established a new industry. The factory brought them together. They organized their system of industrial direction and control. The corporations united them. They turned on one another in mortal combat, and the frightfulness of their losses forced them to join hands.

The business men of the late nineteenth century has been nurtured upon the idea of competition. "Every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost" summed up their philosophy. Each person who entered the business arena was met by an army of savage competitors whose motto was "Victory or death." In the struggle that followed, most of them suffered death.

Capitalist set himself up against capitalist in bitter strife. The railroads gouged the farmers, the manufacturers and the merchants and fought one another. The big business organizations drove the little man to the wall and then attacked their larger rivals. It was a fight to the finish with no quarter asked or given.

The "finish" came with periodic regularity in the seventies, the eighties and the nineties. The number of commercial failures in 1875 was double the number of 1872. The number of failures in 1878 was over three times that of 1871. The same thing happened in the eighties. The liabilities of concerns failing in 1884 were nearly four times the liabilities of those failing in 1880. The climax came in the nineties, after a period of comparative prosperity. Hard times began in 1893. Demand dropped off. Production decreased. Unemployment was widespread. Wages fell. Prices went down, down, under bitter competitive selling, to touch rock bottom in 1896. Business concerns continued to fight one another, though both were going to the wall. In 1896 it jumped to \$26,000,000. Normal conditions were not restored until 1899, when the boom that accompanied the Spanish War put business again on its feet.

The catastrophe of the nineties coming as it did so close upon the heels of the panics that had immediately preceded it, could not fail to teach its lesson.

The period between 1897 and 1902 was one of feverish activity directed to co-ordinating the affairs of the business world. Trusts were formed in all of the important branches of industry and trade. The public looked upon the trust as a means of picking pockets through trade conspiracies and the boosting of prices. The Sherman Anti-Trust Law had been passed on that assumption. In reality, the trusts were organized by far seeing men who realized that competition was wasteful in practice and unsound in theory. The idea that the failure of one bank or shoe factory was of advantage to other banks and shoe factories, had not stood the test of experience. The tragedies of the nineties had showed conclusively that an injury to one part of the commercial fabric was an injury to all of its parts.

There were other reasons, of course, for the formation of the trusts, but the rapid move away from competition and toward combination, was made by men whose experience had taught them the wastefulness of competition.

The generation of business men (Continued on page 8.)

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