

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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PRACTICAL BEST SUITED.

THROUGH the resignation from the Ontario Provincial Government of the Deputy Minister of Labor, Dr. W. A. Riddell, a vacancy now exists, and the Hon. W. Rollo is receiving lots of advice as to the qualifications the office calls for, more especially from sources who neither supported the minister nor colleagues of either section of the coalition party now controlling the legislative destiny of the province.

From the several sources of advice having no common interest in the advancement of the Labor-Farmer forces in the political field, there is a fearsome evidence in undercurrent tone that this position may not be filled by one whom college walls have not enclosed and science masters given instruction thereto, failure of such recognition being predicted to lead to an unsatisfactory appointment.

Work undertaken and directed from the viewpoint of general good can find a suitable supervisor from the ranks of organized labor, the college trained mind having no monopoly on the school of thought which enlarges vision to see other than from the section of society in which it is placed.

Gates closed to executive ability and control other than the college graduate is unthinkable and rules progress at one sweep out of court. The minister himself received the major portion of his training at Broom Factory, and his strong evidence of practicability reflects credit on the economic classes of the International Trade Union movement, a secondary training well fitting him for the responsible position he holds.

NOW THE TRIO.

"WELCOME to the ranks of directly represented workers in the legislative channels." This was an unwritten yet correctly interpreted message extended to Nova Scotia trade unionists, after the successful results of the recent elections had been made known.

The Labor and Farmer candidates received assistance from other provinces in direct platform. Organizer Varley, of the A.F. of L., being right in the fight, and trace of this source being effective is strongly in evidence, with the organized International Trade Union movement the undisputed proof on which the Labor campaign was fought and won.

Looking at the fingerpost there can be no mistake in reading same, that to have elections in any of the provinces means the success of candidates carrying the banner of the workers' party. The same message has similar interpretation to Federal elections, whenever they may be called. There is but one danger to this

ATTACKS ONTARIO GOVERNMENT AND UPHOLDS PRESIDENT MOORE.

The Provincial Hydro-Electric Commission is the creature of the Ontario Legislature. Its drastic regulations affecting the rights of Labor officials should be carefully reviewed by the Cabinet of the Farmer-Labor Government, and if the ethics of capitalism are being applied to a great Government undertaking the most effective remedy should be applied.

In its attack on the Ontario Government, the Banner makes reference to "hero worshippers." We too, have seen "hero worshippers" and if some of those ambitious Labor politicians, who seem more anxious to gain political capital than to protect the rights of Labor, would cease worshipping Premier Drury, then real progress would be made.

When Premier Drury appointed a "dual commission" to investigate the Hydro-Radial proposals, President Tom Moore, of the Trades and Labor Congress, while addressing the Ottawa Trades and Labor Council, stated quite frankly Labor's objection thereto, a summary of which appeared in these columns at the time.

In the dying days of the last session of the Ontario Legislature the workers on the development work of the Chippawa Canal threatened a general strike. Some of the Labor members of the Ontario Legislature visited the scene of operations and pleaded with the workers to remain at work and they would use their good offices to have a commission appointed to investigate the dispute.

What Our Brothers in the Motherland Are Doing. LONDON, Eng. (Saturday).—In the British Labor world a quiet spell is expected while the leaders of the Miners' Federation, headed by Robert Smillie, are meeting their international "brethren of the pick" at the conference in Geneva, and at the same time the Independent Labor Party, including J. H. Thomas and J. Ramsay MacDonald, are attending the second international in the same city.

OUR WEEKLY BRITISH LETTER. LONDON, Eng. (Saturday).—In the British Labor world a quiet spell is expected while the leaders of the Miners' Federation, headed by Robert Smillie, are meeting their international "brethren of the pick" at the conference in Geneva, and at the same time the Independent Labor Party, including J. H. Thomas and J. Ramsay MacDonald, are attending the second international in the same city.

Rest Strike Likely. Harry Gosling, president of the Transport Workers' Federation, is of the opinion that there is real danger of a rest strike. The National Union of Former Service Men is reported to be organizing such a strike as a means of bringing down prices, and co-operation of the trade unions is being invited.

The idea of the proposed strike is that the landlords will be powerless to set against thousands of tenants, and will be compelled to bring pressure to bear on Parliament to reduce the cost of living, the proposal being to confine the strike until prices fall 20 per cent.

Co-operative Societies' Protest. On the one hand a strike is threatened among the co-operative employees unless an agreement is reached with the directors of the Co-operative Wholesale Society at a conference next Wednesday, and on the other hand, the Middle Classes Union is demanding that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should impose a tax on co-operative societies on the same lines as that which is now borne by limited liability companies.

Here's To Woman.

Once Our Superior, Now Our Equal.—Can. Women jurors were empanelled in England for the first time last week, when six women formed a part of the jury in the Bristol quarter sessions.

WOMEN TO SIT ON JURIES IN BRITAIN. Women jurors were empanelled in England for the first time last week, when six women formed a part of the jury in the Bristol quarter sessions.

The prosecuting counsel, in addressing the jury, departed from the time-worn "gentlemen of the jury," and said, "ladies and gentlemen of the jury." The new phrase caused a murmur throughout the proceedings, but the cause of justice was not more than slightly perturbed.

BRITISH WOMEN'S WORKING HOURS. The British Parliament has recently had before it a bill seeking to give statutory effect to the decisions of the League of Nations industrial conference at Washington.

Union Threats Repudiated. Councillor Tom Kirk, secretary of the West Hants branch of the National Union of Railwaymen, has spoken very frankly about the question of direct action of British Labor to enforce a withdrawal of troops from Ireland by the Government.

"UPLIFTERS" MUST PAY. A jury has awarded damages in the sum of \$2,500 to William McCue against the Russell Sage foundation. The young man's picture was printed in a book published by the foundation with the legend "The toughest kid in hell's kitchen."

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SILVER. Over 20,000,000,000 dollars worth of silver and gold metal "must be found," says the American Chamber of Commerce in London, to back up the Thirty million dollars worth of paper money issued floating in Europe today, in addition to America's increasing volume of trade with China and India creating an almost unlimited demand for the precious metal.

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