

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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OFFICIAL ORGAN ALLIED TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF OTTAWA. ENDORSED BY Hamilton District Trades and Labor Council. Hamilton Building Trades Council. Associated Federal Employees (Every member a subscriber.)

The Canadian Labor Press

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS, LIMITED. Editorial Office: JOURNAL BLDG., OTTAWA. Toronto Office: 50-53 PAGE BLDG., 45 JARVIS ST. Montreal Office: ROOM 6, MECHANICS' INST. BUILDING.

A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

BRITISH MINERS' STRIKE.

WITH a favorable ballot result of the members of the British Federation of Miners, the unanimous strike of the workers in this very essential industry will be brought to an end. Perhaps even before these lines are read the hard-headed, big-hearted group of men engaged in coal delving in the Old Land will be again in the producing class.

It can be gathered in the running story told in cable despatches that the question of a two-shilling increase, or any increase, was not the vital of the difficulty, but only a detail which could easily have been surmounted; the essential was the finding of a plane for permanent adjustment as near as possible was the desired goal.

In 1917 Mr. J. Winston, a leader of the South Wales miners, attended the Trades and Labor Congress as the fraternal delegate from the British Trades Congress. His addresses were rich in information, and he claimed that the South Wales miner was the most militant section of the Miners' Federation.

Whilst the agreement to be submitted is at the present time somewhat hazy, the fact that the heads of the two sections have endorsed the compromise settlement is sufficient for the ranks of labor and those outside to appreciate that a satisfactory solution has been found to what otherwise appeared as a check-mate position.

CAN IT BE WORKED?

PROPORTIONAL representation is finding favor and new friends daily. Its possibilities for the fair reflex carrying with it the voice of the various sections of society is responsible for the growing adoption of this plan.

STRIKE WITHOUT SANCTION

AN illegal or unauthorized strike generally comes to an untimely and unsuccessful ending. Examples aplenty have been presented to prove this statement, yet there are still those who persist in refusing to be benefited by experience.

Across the Atlantic.

What Our Brothers in the Motherland Are Doing.

OUR WEEKLY BRITISH LETTER. WESTMINSTER, England (Saturday).—Ten days ago the government introduced the Emergency Powers Bill, which would give it the same kind of special executive powers which it enjoyed under the Defence of the Realm Act during the war.

The first handful of speeches in Monday's debate seemed to justify the prediction of a very tough passage for the bill and the government. From all sides the measure was vehemently assailed.

Lady Astor declared that the bill was not a provocative one, but that it was the only approving thing she had to say. In common with Mr. Asquith, Lord Robert Cecil and J. H. Clynes, the Labour leader, she explored the ill-timed policy which had prompted such a measure at such a moment.

Then came the "magic vote" of the Prime Minister which the bill passed its second reading within an hour.

Tuesday and Wednesday were filled with committee proceedings, speeches, frequent divisions and one really remarkable speech by Sir Gordon Hewart, Attorney-General, who has like all good lawyers, a tendency to become somewhat more than the mere forensic.

Only one voice, sounded a note of warning, and that was Sir Frederick Banbury's. The baronet, who represents the City of London, is a veritable Dame Partridge, and is perplexed to know what the mantle as parliamentary financial expert is passing to Lieutenant-Commander Hilton Young.

THE NEW YPRES.

The ancient town of Ypres, that of old was the assembly point of rulers and the trying place of warriors; the venerable city about whose walls was woven many a national romance; Ypres that for over four years held steady and firm before the fiercest onslaughts of the Germans—until she has become the burial ground of an Empire and her splendid edifices now lie in ruins.

The new Ypres is slowly rising from the ruins of the old, and 4,000 workmen are engaged in clearing away the debris, and in building temporary wooden structures. Owing to the interference which it would have with the official plans for reconstructing the city, no private building operations are allowed within the ramparts.

It has been mooted that the ruins be left just as they are, and a new town be built on a fresh adjacent site. It is claimed for this scheme that the district would become a Mecca for the world, and that the consequent prosperity would go toward compensating the people for the loss of their homes.

Peace with Turkey having been signed, and the termination of the war being on the eve of legal recognition, the Education Act of 1918 will operate in new directions as from January 1, 1921. All child labor will be abolished in factories, workshops and mines, and authorities may raise the age of compulsory attendance to 15.

BANKERS LECTURE WORKERS WHILE TRUSTS SHUT DOWN FACTORIES

Spirited Replies to Bankers Made by President Gompers and Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor.

With mills and factories closing down and operating on short time all over the United States, the American bankers' "confession," at its annual convention in Washington, called on labor to "produce more" the price was to be reduced.

The incident of these money lenders brought spirited replies from President Gompers and Secretary Morrison of the A. F. of L. President Gompers declared that a survey of the activities of the bankers would shock the nation.

Secretary Morrison said: "The need for greater production to the thousands of workers who have been laid off. Let them tell the bankers to get on with their work."

BRITISH TRADE UNION CONGRESS PUTS IT UP TO EMPLOYERS.

Written Specially for The Canadian Labor Press.

To those who have developed a habit of attending the great Parliament of Labor, the British Trade Union Congress, the outstanding features of this year's proceedings were the very excellent way in which the business was handled and expedited, and the introduction of a number of resolutions in the way of new business.

An atmosphere of unreality shrouded the general proceedings, the same results being carried for many years, and any action that might reasonably have been expected was calmly forgotten until the matter of ratification for a number of years for a number of years past have occupied prominent positions on the platform—on the seats generally reserved for members of the parliamentary committee.

The process of elimination has proceeded a step further this year; the student of social and political science who is called to retain their seats, while a fourth had to give way to another nominee from his own organization (who, however, failed to get placed). The records of the four new members show them to be nearer in keeping with the active aggressive element than those whom they succeeded in displacing.

In a preceding article your correspondent endeavored to emphasize the power of the machine in the matter of ratification, pointing out the efforts of the miners, led by Mr. Smillie, to fight down the pernicious practice. It speaks volumes for the wisdom in which the miners' president is held by the congress that he has secured a place on the committee. His personality alone is responsible for the clearing of the way for the miners who have suffered the fate of all who practice and refused to bargain with other organizations for mutual support.

There were other indications of the seriousness of the delegates; it is no little thought that suggests to the student of social and political development to look to congress activities if one desires a glimpse of future legislation rather than to the political gatherings and petty

EUROPE TO THE CAPE IN FIVE DAYS.

Rigid airships, carrying 100 passengers, may within the near future make regular passages to the Cape, reducing the time taken from 15 days to five, says the Herald of London, Eng.

This possibility was outlined at the Air Conference in London recently by Commander Sir Trevor Dawson, R.N., who said it was not considered that there would be any difficulty in obtaining the necessary passenger support for weekly or bi-weekly services from Europe to South Africa, India, Australia, or South America.

This would necessitate passenger fares about \$4 per seat, higher than the present first-class steamship rates, and mails at \$4 an ounce.

POLAND—THE WATCHMAN OF EUROPE.

(Christian Science Monitor.) If the Poles succeed in keeping back the tide of Bolshevism from western Europe, they will be once more playing their former role of the watchmen of Europe.

The problem now is a regular airship service between England and India, for example, would be about 24 1/2 per ton-mile, if four tons of cargo and 100 passengers were carried each way per week.

Here's To Woman.

Once Our Superior, Now Our Equal—Cain.

FEDERATION OF ONTARIO. A resolution petitioning the Ontario Government to include domestic servants as beneficiaries under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and also that they come under the provisions of the Minimum Wage Bill, was unanimously adopted at a meeting of the United Women's Educational Federation of Ontario, held at Hamilton this week.

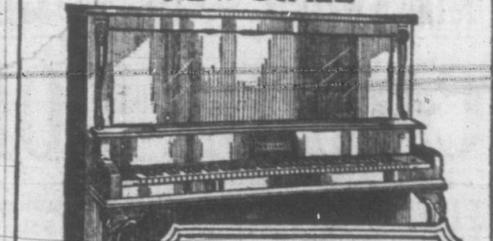
Miss Mary MacNab introduced the matter of all domestics being paid a minimum wage. She appreciated that to the Workmen's Compensation Bill, the same as any other class of labor. Such a step would break down class distinction, Miss MacNab said.

The Federation also passed a resolution calling on Hon. R. H. Grant, Minister of Education, to install swimming pools in all public schools in Ontario. Every young Canadian should know how to swim, the meeting contended, and if every public school had its own swimming tank the number of drownings in Ontario each summer would be greatly lessened.

At the last meeting of the East Hamilton I.L.P. branch a resolution was carried unanimously asking Secretary Mrs. J. Inglis to write to the police commission recommending the appointment of a woman judge and also two policewomen.

The Canadian Labor Press is desirous of receiving articles of general interest and fictional ones, and will be pleased to consider such matter as may be submitted for publication. All contributions should be addressed to THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS, Journal Building, Ottawa, Ontario.

WILLIAMS NEW SCALE



THE enduring tone quality for which the Williams New Scale Piano is noted, is due to its flawless design and construction. We are proud of the fact also that the Williams is a true Canadian-made instrument which holds its own in comparison with any piano produced in the world.

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Study this Map

It tells—but only partly tells—the Story of Misery in Central Europe.

Within the great territory between the black lines millions of destitute children are doomed to grow up weak and deformed through want of fats, milk and sugar, unless immediate help comes from without.

HERBERT HOOVER, invited to speak at a Canadian Red Cross meeting, said:

"Our problem over the forthcoming winter appears to be about 3,500,000 to 4,000,000 children.

"These children are the obligation of every man, woman and child in the Western Hemisphere, for we have suffered less; but, beyond this, they are a charge on the heart of the whole world."

The Canadian Red Cross

appeals on behalf of The British Empire War Relief Fund (To Combat Distress and Disease in Europe) \$10.00 will save a child; \$1.00 will give it "saving" food for a month. Help in this humane work by sending or bringing your subscription to the nearest local Red Cross Branch or to The Canadian Red Cross Society, 410 Sherbourne Street, Toronto.