

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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PRICE OF GASOLINE HIGHER IN GREAT BRITAIN

Special dispatch to "The Canadian Labor Press"
By James T. Gunn, Staff Correspondent in Great Britain

It will be interesting in view of the recent controversy concerning Gasoline prices in Toronto to note the price of Gasoline in Great Britain.

In the City of Glasgow, Petrol as it is called, is sold at 48 cents to 56 cents per gallon, or more than double the price of Gasoline in Toronto at the beginning of the year. The car owners and drivers whom I have interviewed complain that the petrol sold is not as good a quality as that which is sold on the Continent, and I feel that Toronto car users, instead of having complaints to make about the high price of Gasoline, are to be congratulated when the price of the same commodity is considered with Great Britain.

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Following in brief is an outline of our Policy:

1. The Canadian Labor Press supports the International Trade Union Movement, of which there are approximately three hundred thousand members in Canada.
2. The Canadian Labor Press supports the policy of the present Dominion Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.
3. In the interests of the Canadian Worker, The Canadian Labor Press believes that Canadian industry needs adequate tariff protection.
4. The Canadian Labor Press advocates fair play to employer and employee.
5. The Canadian Labor Press stands for the betterment of Trade Union conditions in Canada and the welfare of our country at large.
6. The Canadian Labor Press is independent in politics and free from any political influences.

The 4.4 Beer

LABOR men in Ontario have received with great rejoicing, the announcement of the Government of Ontario, that a law will be passed making the sale of 4.4 beer legal.

Much controversy has waged back and forth as to the desirability of the sale of a palatable beer and while workers in the Industrial centres last October registered through their vote that they were desirous of having their beer once again, owing to the mistake of combining the rural vote with the urban vote, the motion was defeated and the "drys" have energetically used this as a weapon in their campaign to attempt to keep the beer away from labor. But something had to be done; the Government, which represents all of the people, decided that they needed the revenue that a good beer would provide and that the public wanted the beer and the insistent demand of both has brought about the proposal for new legislation.

Congratulations are in order to the Provincial Premier and his Cabinet for the able manner in which they have mastered the situation arising from the plebiscite vote taken in October last.

LET US HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE NO TIME LOST IN GIVING US GOOD BEER IN A LAWFUL MANNER!

Professional Jealousy of Labor Groups and Others Who Would Hold Back Natural Progress of the Dominion

(Continued from Page 1)

day, but will hold good for that future day when big demands are made upon our resources. All of which brings us to our point that those who are openly opposed to immigration to Canada and who are doing everything in their power to prevent the growth of the country are not only helping to prevent desirable immigration at the present time but are sowing seeds of disaster for the future, for it will become instilled in the minds of those people whose ultimate goal is Canada, that they had better seek a home-land elsewhere under more inviting conditions and where pessimism is not so rampant.

World wide conditions are such that Canada is in no immediate danger of being flooded with immigrants from other countries and if we cry "wolf, wolf" when there is no necessity for it, our cry will not be heard when that day comes when Canada will be crying in earnest for people and more people to help take care of our production.

It is inexcusably wrong on the part of those who, for one reason or another are narrow-minded and jealous of newcomers, to allow themselves to continually agitate that starvation and want faces the prospective immigrant. Many hundreds of thousands of people have emigrated to Canada since

it was discovered and have found the country good to them. There will always be individual cases where a chain of unfortunate circumstances has made conditions disappointing, but it is the exception that proves the rule. We think that those who are opposed to immigration will at least agree with us that it is much easier to settle in Canada today than in the pioneer days of a hundred years ago.

In anticipation of Canada becoming a prosperous country supporting many millions of people which she is well able to do, a foundation has been laid which will stand the test of time, but unfortunately the war caused a serious interruption in our National progress so today we have the debt charges to meet, but not enough people to share in the benefits and to help meet the expenses. We have concentrated too much on building a fine home and forgot to extend the welcome hand to the folks in other lands to come and live in the fine home created and to incidentally help take care of the expenses. We want citizens, who are willing to dig in and work and these are the people who will eventually create for themselves "those flowery beds" of ease and comfort which is the secret desire in the hearts of most human beings and who do not expect to have it handed to them on a silver spoon.

Many British Settlers Come Here

Almost 1,000,000 settlers came to Canada from the United Kingdom during the fourteen years 1900-14, thus contributing greatly to the development of the country during that period. The movement has been greatly restricted even since the war, because of lack of favorable opportunities for making money either in agriculture or industry in Canada. As times become better, however, we can again look to Great Britain for the type of immigrant who is most likely to achieve success and become a satisfied citizen of Canada. It is to be regretted that some criticisms on emigration to Canada, to which the Overseas press has given publicity at various times during the last year or so, have been based on partial information, and have shown in general an incomplete appreciation of the present situation in the Dominion or its future possibilities. With many agricultural products—especially wheat—selling at excessively low prices until recently, Canada did not offer the best of opportunities to settlers of the farming type, while industrial depression restricted our power to absorb other classes of workers. The industrial situation is not yet such as to warrant an increase in general immigration, and this situation is not likely to change materially during the first nine months of 1935. The prospects for farmers have, however, improved greatly, and those who now come to this country after proper investigation of the situation, and after proper consideration of their qualifications for success in the new environment, are not likely to regret the move. The facilities for making such investigation are provided in Great Britain by the Canadian Government and the Canadian Railway.

Ontario Laborites Wax Exclusive

Toronto, Ont.—The three labor members of the Legislature have asked for a smoking and reading room of their own, as they desire to be separate from the Progressives.

The request will probably be granted. The labor members are: Peter Heenan, Kenora; J. F. Calan, Rainy River, and K. Homuth, South Waterloo.

Shanghai, China.—The Japanese cotton mill strike has spread to thirteen mills, involving 30,000 operatives. The strikers attack their cotton mills, damaging the machinery and injured six people. The trouble is said to be partly due to Chinese Bolshevik activities.



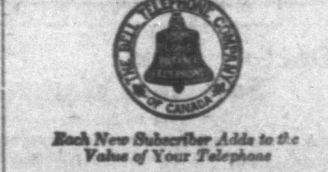
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Has Great Faith in Labor Unions

"Makes for Peace" Says Miss M. Cecile Matheson, English Specialist on Industrial Conditions, Who is in Toronto

Miss M. Cecile Matheson of London, convener of the Standing Committee on "Employment for Women," in the National Council of Great Britain, is on this side of the water to make a survey of prevailing conditions in industries.

"Our chief concern is not for the women as women but to get the employees acting together rather than going to war for wage readjustments and so forth," is Miss Matheson's expressed objective. "Our trade boards, made up of 50 per cent, employees and 50 per cent employers, all duly appointed by the Government, each board acting for some phase of industry, decide on the wages to be paid for specified kind of work, and whatever they agree on becomes the law of the country, in which way we have a minimum wage law, below which they can't go."

Unions Aid Peace

"We have no set eight-hour law for women. As far as our statistics are concerned we can still work on a 54-hour basis in England, but the agreements reached by our various industrial boards have set a 45-hour or 50-hour week.

"Our leaders believe that industrial war can only be averted through the organizing of labor on a sane basis. Unions on the whole are safest you know, for there is not the opportunity of a mass panic in an orderly, well run and profitable organization. The well organized union makes for peace."

Miss Matheson has been long identified with social betterments in England and is now a lecturer on social and industrial reconstruction on the university extension staffs at Oxford, Cambridge and London. She began her career as a teacher.

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TORONTO HYDRO COULD SET AN EXAMPLE FOR GREAT BRITAIN

Special dispatch to "The Canadian Labor Press"
By James T. Gunn, Staff Correspondent in Great Britain

It seems queer to a Toronto resident travelling in Great Britain to note the small amount of electric light used in the homes of the people. Electricity in homes is the exception rather than the rule and whilst in most cases is under public ownership systems, yet the price to be paid makes a very formidable stumbling block to the greater use of electricity as an illuminant. Most of the towns are grouped into industrial and lighting purposes, but as compared with Ontario—particularly Toronto—the price is so high that gas still forms the chief illuminant in the majority of British towns.

In the Ayrshire district, covering the towns of Ayr, Kilmarnock and several other smaller places, the price per unit K.W. hour is 10½ cents as compared to a little over 1 cent in Toronto. Of course it is only fair to point out that the prime source of energy for generation is coal as compared with our white coal in Ontario. The streets, comparing Glasgow with Toronto, are not as well lighted, except possibly on the main thoroughfares, and even that is doubtful, but the side streets in which the residences are, are poorly lit compared with the lighting system of Toronto, and gas forms the chief medium for lighting the streets.

After viewing these streets one comes to the conclusion that the citizens of Toronto are to be congratulated by reason of the excellence of the street and house lighting furnished by the Toronto Hydro Electric Commission.