

# CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

A National, Sane Labor Paper

True Confidence and Understanding Between Employer and Employee Absolutely Necessary to Industrial Peace.

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## The Fruits of Nationalization

It is a curious mental attitude amongst a section of the Canadian public and especially amongst a section of the Labor movement of Canada, to believe and assert that nationalization of various utilities is a panacea that will correct Canada's economic ills.

The advocates of this policy, time and time again, publicly declare that nationalization of utilities having national scope would mean a cheapening of costs, reduction in price, better industrial harmony and freedom from exploitation of the members of the community.

Let us analyze these claims and for a moment refer to the system of private ownership that at present obtains. With all its defects, private property and private enterprise has outstanding merits. It is the most wonderful system for the production of wealth and the cheapening of commodities that has ever been devised. Private property enables the liberation of that initiative and energy that has made possible the tremendous industrial strides of the world to-day. It is private enterprise that undertakes risks in any new line and once solidly established the advocates of nationalization unjustly seek to convert it into common property. One would imagine that those who believe in nationalization as a "cure-all" would urge the state to interest itself in unfertile fields but such is not the case; it is left to private enterprise to hew off the way and after that way has been made successful, then those who seek to establish common property, come forward to press their claims.

Private enterprise has brought what were formerly luxuries, within the reach of every person and enabled literature and the press to come into every home, thus tremendously increasing the level of education and intelligence. Even the advocates of Nationalization admit this but claim that their policy would go even further. From what we see of Nationalization in practice, this is very doubtful. The state railways of Europe in many cases provide infinitely poorer services than the private owned railroads of the U. S. A. and Canada, while the dangers of allowing state monopolies are seen by the control of tobacco by France. Nationalization in practice means that the community must pay in taxation heavily if an adequate service is to be rendered and economically the average citizen a worse off than under private enterprise which must stand on its own feet and bring all its efficiency and initiative to bear so that the best possible service can be rendered in order that the private venture be made a success. There is however more than an economic aspect to this question; there is the ethical and political aspects also which may be and usually are of immense importance to the people of an organized community. We have very few classes in Canada owing to the fairly even distribution of wealth but if we can be said to have any classes they are usually designated as capitalists, workers and farmers. Now it is a fact that public officialdom forms a class in itself, with different characteristics and reactions from any of the others. For example workers usually do not want to see their numbers increased whilst the amount of employment remains limited because of the belief, that increase will create a struggle for employment which will mean lowering of living standards for them. In most countries farmers likewise do not want to see their numbers increased because the land by which they make their living is like employment, limited. The ten-

dency of modern capitalism with the advent of the large industrial establishment having tremendous efficiency and economy in operation is whilst passive capitalists are greatly increasing in numbers, active capitalists tend to become fewer. The curious and paradoxical characteristic of public officialdom is that they are the only class who desire to see their numbers enlarged because each addition to the official bureaucracy means a strengthening and consolidation of their position. A bureaucracy is more susceptible to attack and criticism when say, it consists of one thousand persons, for in a population such as ours the influence of that number even with the indirect interest of their dependents is small, but if the personnel of public officialdom increases to let us say, two hundred thousand, then with the added influence of their dependents it forms a formidable machine closing its ranks and entrenching itself solidly so that criticism or attack cannot dislodge it very easily. We have seen examples of this in the commonwealth of Australia and this will be the road we are heading for if common sanity does not regain its position in the public opinion of our country.

Then there is the political aspect, a very vital one for it has been found in practice that public officialdom can exercise a vast and unseen influence upon the policies of a government. If anyone does not believe this is so let me quote from the report of the Commissioner of Accounts of the City of New York, published September 18th, 1924, in which is shown quite clearly that public officialdom will make its policies; supposedly for the benefit of the whole community, subservient to the political policies of the Government of the day. On page fourteen the commissioner in making his report to Mayor Hylan of New York does so in this language.

"Early in 1922, just before the

"Mire" committee of ill-famed memory, appointed "to get something" on the Hylan administration and prevent your Honor's re-election in the following November—"

This quotation shows quite clearly that a public official, paid by all the taxpayers of New York City is quite content to allow his office to be used for the purpose of furthering the political interests of the existing Mayor. The same danger would occur under Nationalization in Canada and shows quite clearly the need for sound education to controvert this dangerous policy inimical to the welfare of the citizens of this country.

Let us view the claim that greater industrial harmony will result under nationalization. Past experience shows how ill-founded this claim is. In Canada bitter disputes have taken place between a national utility and its employees and even in such an example of common property as the British Co-operative movement disputes acrimonious and bitter have been frequent between the Co-operative and the National Union of Distributive Workers. And it was under a Socialist minister, Aristide Briand, that the striking employees of the French State Railways were drafted into the army as conscripts and compelled to break the existing strike.

To sum up, in practice, Nationalization of National utilities does NOT cheapen cost, does NOT lessen price, does NOT prevent exploitation of the workers employed by it and causes serious evils to flow which may have dangerous after-effects for the community. The claim of a man to property is the voice of his independence, and independent action, independent resources, and capabilities are the proper functions of a man. Nationalization would tend to subvert these principles and breed a citizenry apathetic and indifferent to the welfare of our country.

## THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AND IMMIGRATION

According to press reports, immigration to Canada from Great Britain is likely to be disappointing to those who have the welfare of Canada at heart, and who believe that the country needs more immigrants in order to equalize the burden of taxation and spread it over a larger population base.

"The Canadian Labor Press" feels that every effort should be strained by the authorities at Ottawa and who are in a position to do so to induce large numbers of British immigrants to come out here especially to settle on the land.

"The Canadian Labor Press" believes it the duty of the Dominion Government to help those who come here as newcomers to the country to become absorbed in the agricultural and industrial life of the community and we must candidly confess that up to the present the results of the present Government's activities in this respect have been extremely disappointing. We feel that the Federal Government could take a leaf from the Australian Government's book and see that a large appropriation was set aside each year to aid in bringing larger numbers of settlers from Great Britain. If something

## Child Labor in the United States

After five hours' discussion, the Republican Party of the United States Parliament has decided to take no action on the Child Labor Amendment (enabling, not compelling the various Federal States to pass legislation restricting Child Labor that this decision the Republican Party has definitely ranged itself on the side of the organized manufacturers, although it had earlier declared in favor of ratification of the Amendment.

The storm centre of the Child Labor agitation is North Carolina, one of the most important textile manufacturing districts of the U. S. A. It was in North Carolina that the suits originated which led to legal decisions denouncing two Federal child labor laws as contrary to the American Constitution. But the textile manufacturers were not eager to bear the odium of signing in the public eyes as the champions of child labor. So the literature against the Amendment which flooded the country was sent out by the Farmers' States Rights League; and it is only

## High Shoe Tariff Urgently Needed

Union Official Says Unemployment Situation Would Benefit

Montreal, Que.—Declaration that a high tariff on all shoes imported into the United States and Canada is urgently needed in view of the great amount of unemployment in the industry was the declaration made by Collis Lovely, of Boston, president of the International Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

Post-war depression and tariff are cited by Mr. Lovely as the two chief causes of unemployment in the boot and shoe industry. While a higher tariff would not altogether eliminate unemployment, it would do much in that direction, he said. Constant change in style in women's shoes is largely responsible for the high cost of shoes today, he said. Change in patterns caused much wastage and adds greatly to the overhead costs.

## Offers Civic Insurance Scheme

Toronto, Ont.—Douglas Keir, insurance agent, submitted a scheme of insurance for civic employees to the Board of Control which would give the employees special benefits without requiring any contribution from the city. The Board referred it to the Finance Commissioner for a report.

The principles of the scheme is that the city should collect the monthly premiums from the employees' salaries and the company with whom they were insured would deduct from the charges the amount that is ordinarily charged for collection. The employees would enjoy regular insurance at reduced rates.

## THE PROBLEM OF BRITISH IMMIGRATION

Editor of "Canadian Labor Press" Delivers Lecture on British Conditions—Fears Canada Is Not Getting Sufficient Proportion of British Emigrants

Recently James T. Gunn, editor of "The Canadian Labor Press," delivered an interesting address on Social and Industrial conditions in Great Britain to the members of the Men's Brotherhood of Earls Court Methodist Church, Toronto.

During the course of his address, Mr. Gunn stated, "that Great Britain was still confronted with a severe unemployment situation, reaching a million and a quarter of registered unemployed during the first quarter of the present year." "The means taken," he said, "to alleviate the conditions caused through severe unemployment was by the National Unemployment Insurance scheme and relief from the 'poor rates.'" He doubted the wisdom of the 'dole,' finding after investigation that the payment of the dole to adolescents, created a situation whereby the younger generation of Britain seemed not to care whether they got work or not as long as they were receiving their weekly dole. In connection with the social condition of the people, Mr. Gunn said that there still existed a great deal of poverty especially in

the large cities of Britain. Glasgow still had a large single slum area and it was practically admitted by everyone who had given any attention to the housing situation that the housing conditions on the Clyde area were a disgrace to civilization.

"There is a large feeling growing up," said Mr. Gunn, "amongst the rank and file of the British working men and amongst their leaders too, that some form of protection was necessary for Great Britain in order that she retain her industrial position in the world.

Dealing with immigration, Mr. Gunn stated that there existed amongst the thoughtful portion of Britain, a fear that Canada was not getting sufficient British immigrants in proportion to the numbers coming from Eastern and Central Europe. Mr. Gunn said "that he felt there was considerable justification for this point of view by reason of the immigration figures into the various Western provinces where the proportion of non-British immigrants coming in during this last two years greatly outnumbered the British immigrants. Mr. Gunn pointed out that insofar as labor was concerned, they did not object to the non-British immigrants who were generally industrious people and made good citizens, but he felt that if the present ratio continued, there was a possibility of acute problems being raised such as language problems in the various schools of the different Western provinces. He pointed out that the Australian government is extremely anxious to secure British immigration and for that purpose they are paying the fares and giving loans to young men and women who go to Australia for the occupations of fruit farming and domestic service. In this connection Mr. Gunn pointed out that every week, a boatload of British immigrants leaves London for Australia and so far as is known become good citizens in that Dominion.

Mr. Gunn felt that if the Canadian Government adopted a similar scheme with supervision over the immigrants who came to Canada under it that the difficulty of farm labor could be adequately solved. One of the problems he pointed out in connection with British immigration is that under the present system where the

## May Close Oil Wells

Operators in Mexico Contemplate Move to Checkmate Unions

Mexico City.—A general strike is threatened in the oil regions, according to reports received at labor headquarters here. In consequence of the warfare now going on between the workers unions affiliated with the Mexican regional confederation of labor and those adhering to the rival organization, the general confederation of workers. The struggle has already resulted in the killing of one workman and the wounding of several. It is reported that the large petroleum interests are contemplating a suspension of operations unless labor conditions improve.

## Canada Must Have More Immigrants

Former British Secretary for the Colonies Pleads for Speeding up Immigration

London.—The Overseas Settlement Department of the Colonial Office issued a message written by J. H. Thomas, who was Secretary for the Colonies in the Ramsay MacDonald Cabinet, and addressed: "To my fellow-citizens in the Dominions and Great Britain."

Mr. Thomas opens by stating that he is aware "there are many people who assume that the Labor leaders are against the development of the Empire. It is because I am a Labor man that I believe with all my heart in that great brotherhood of free, democratic peoples which is building up the British Empire."

Canada Must Have More People Dealing with the capabilities of the Dominions and the smallness of their populations, he expresses himself at length on the latter problem, and asks if the British people do not see that the existence of the Dominions as nations depends upon having them populated to a much greater extent.

Canada, he says, must have more people, and five or six millions of British could not hold Australia. The success of the white Australia policy depends upon having more inhabitants.

## Get Together and Spend Money

Mr. Thomas points out that "those empty lands are a danger to us all," and, in connection with their development and settlement, shows that under the Empire Settlement Act the British Treasury can put up £3,000,000 annually, but that not more than one-sixth of this amount has been spent yet in any year. He urges the people of the Dominions to get together and find some means of providing this money, and more if necessary.

## No Money to Buy Food

Montreal, Que.—Out of work for nearly a month, unable to provide food for his wife and two small children and having walked several miles to the city from his home in Cartierville, a suburb in a vain search for work, Robert Ernest Kemp aged 45, hanged himself with a clothesline from a beam in the cellar of his home. His body was discovered shortly afterwards by his wife who went to the basement.

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# Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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Following in brief is an outline of our Policy:

1. The "Canadian Labor Press" strongly condemns and continually opposes all forms of Communism and Radicalism in Canada.
2. "The Canadian Labor Press" endeavors to present all labor and industrial problems from a commonsense point of view with the idea of closer co-operation and a better understanding between employer and employe.
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 employe.
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.

### Amusement Tax

**A**MONGST the taxes existing in the Province of Ontario which enter into the yearly budget of the working man, is the Amusement tax by which every person entering into a place of amusement is compelled to pay a certain percentage in taxation graduated according to the cost of his admission.

"The Canadian Labor Press feels that the Provincial Government would do a very popular thing if it removed this tax from the lower-priced seats in places of amusement, especially in the moving picture houses. Since the development of moving pictures, the suburban picture houses have become the houses of entertainment for the working men and their families in the working class residential districts of the cities and towns throughout Ontario. Most of these houses have an admission price of less than fifty cents and we feel that if the tax were removed on the lower priced seats, it would be a boon greatly appreciated by Labor. The tax at present brings a revenue of about a million and a half dollars to the provincial treasury and there is every reason to believe that the receipts from the newly-established gasoline and beer taxes would make up for the loss so incurred. There is a difference between the working man and the individual who is able to afford a two dollar seat, the latter person being in a position to afford it, does not feel the effect of a tax as keenly as the man who is earning from twenty to thirty dollars per week and by reason of raising a family, needs to conserve every cent possible for that purpose.

The abolition of the tax on seats of less value than fifty cents would mean so much more to the income of the working man and we can heartily assure the Provincial Government that Labor will appreciate any efforts in this direction.

### Labor and Production

**I**T is a fallacy in some countries, particularly in Great Britain, that when workmen co-operate together to lower production they are spreading employment over a larger area and reducing the number of unemployed. Canadian workers, as yet, do not proceed to the same lengths as their fellow British workers do in this matter, but still there are signs that this doctrine is being adopted by numbers of Canadian workmen. No more dangerous, untrue and pernicious belief regarding industry can exist than this one. It is a principle of elementary economics that we must produce wealth by labor; management, mental and manual and from the total output of production our national wage bill is paid. It follows then that when our production is increased, better and higher wages can be paid and more workmen can be employed, because of the stimulation of demand for other commodities, due to the increased circulation and distribution of wealth. On the other hand, when our production is reduced exactly the opposite takes place and hence it is to the interest of our workmen that production should be stimulated during the hours when they are employed. Canadian industry is heavily taxed in order to bear the upkeep of municipal, provincial and federal governments. Canadian workmen are likewise taxed to bear the upkeep of the same Governments. This is a tremendous burden. One way in which it can be lessened is by increasing production thus lowering costs. Increased production and lower costs will enable Canadian manufacturers to develop new markets, obtain more orders and meet successfully the competition of other nations, and will enable the Canadian worker to have a lower cost of living with higher wages and he can meet his citizenship obligations fully.

### 6 Communists Are Given the Air

Seattle, Wash.—By an overwhelming vote some weeks ago, the Seattle Central Labor Council decided to expel all delegates with Communist affiliations. The vote was 101 to expel and 33 against.

Charges were immediately preferred against six delegates by six members of the council. The charges were referred to the strike and grievance committee and the accused delegates ordered to appear for trial.

The trial committee considered the evidence submitted by the delegates signing the charges and heard the defendants and brought in a verdict finding all six of the accused guilty and recommending to the council that they be unseated. The council, by a vote of 78 to 71, voted to concur in the recommendations of the committee.

The accused delegates did not deny their Communist affiliations in defending themselves—instead devoted their time to praising the Communist doctrine, the majority attacking officers of the trade union movement and the trade-line policy of organization of the American Federation of Labor. A number openly admitted that they were Communists.

"The labor movement, in taking any action against the Communists must do that for self-protection and that only. We are not concerned with

the political or religious belief of any member of organized labor; we are not concerned with the virtues or faults of the Soviet government of Russia, but we are vitally concerned when any group of men or women outside of the organized labor movement associate themselves to put over a program which concerns the inner workings of that movement and in order to do that are pledged to practice trickery, to use illegal methods, to lie, disregard anything, just so that their program is put over."

The unseated delegates had wasted the time of the council for months in trying to convert the delegates of the council to the Communist doctrine. Trade union business was disregarded and representatives of the affiliated unions found it impossible to present the business of their organization because of the program engineered by the Communists. The actions of the delegates represented a different trade.

The trial committee handled its problem in a laudably clean-cut fashion. It heeded straight to the line of trade union principles and avoiding dealing in personalities as was the wont of the accused. Vice-President Dave Levine of the council and chairman of the committee stripped the Communists of their hypocritical garb and revealed the nakedness of their real disrupting practices and purposes, with evidence that was unsalable.

### Courts Uphold American Plan

**A** Far-Reaching Decision

Washington, D. C.—A decision which gives employers a new weapon in fighting organized labor was handed down by the supreme court Monday when it approved the American plan—a device resorted to by San Francisco building contractors for fighting the closed shop.

This device was declared to be a violation of the anti-trust laws by the district court. The government brought the case. But the supreme court reversed that view and held that the American plan is lawful. It is a marked victory for open shop advocates because it gives them a legalized weapon.

The American plan is a simple device which grew out of the intense battle between the San Francisco building trades unions and contractors. In order to prevent indefinite suspension of building because of strikes, the San Francisco chamber of commerce devised the American plan to break the strength of the labor unions.

A contractors' association introduced the use of permits for certain indispensable building supplies, such as cement, lime, plaster and sand. No builder could obtain these supplies except by permit. The condition on which permits were granted to contractors was that the latter employ the open shop arrangement.

The promoters of the American plan sought to avoid the anti-trust laws by having the permits on supplies obtained within the state of California, thus obviating any control of interstate commerce. But plaster was one of the commodities included and plaster was brought in from outside the state. And it was because of the attempt to control the sale of plaster brought in from outside that the district court declared the American plan operated in restraint of interstate commerce and was therefore illegal.

The supreme court, however, held that the plaster came from outside of the state, but that it rested in the stock rooms of jobbers within the state and thereby lost its interstate status.

Under this decision the American plan may be applied by other groups of employers.

### Scottish Trades Union Congress

At the Scottish Trades Union Congress, which was held recently it was stated that, out of a total of 1,656,262 employed persons in Scotland, 56,432 are organized in 227 unions, of which 137 are British and 90 Scottish. 36 of the larger unions contain about four-fifths of the total membership, 81 unions having a membership of less than 100. A resolution was passed instructing the General Council to plan the development and co-ordination of trade unions with a view to increasing their strength. One of the dangers of trade unionism in Scotland was said to be the growth of the co-partnership system. Another resolution, which was however, rejected by a large majority, proposed that the trade union movement "should assume full control of the political machine independent of all other sections."

### No Communist Delegates to Be Admitted

London, Eng.—The Morning Post reports that the British Government is refusing to admit the delegates from Russia and other European countries who proposed to attend the annual conference of the British Communist Party, opening at Glasgow, on May 30.

### Arguments of a British General

(I. F. T. U.)—These are the words of General Lord Thomson, who has joined the British Labor Party:

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### Shoe Workers Reject Radical Motions

Montreal, Que.—The resolutions on war, one of which advocated the cessation of work by the 50,000 members of the union in the event of another world conflict, were recently described as radical and were rejected by the members of the Boot and Shoe Workers' of America in convention. Other resolutions, one in approval of the child labor amendment, and one proposing financial assistance to the striking miners of Nova Scotia, were passed.

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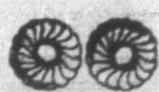
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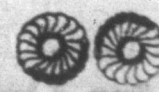
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# OUR HOME PAGE



## HOUSEHOLD NOTES

### EXERCISE IN THE TREATMENT OF HABITUAL CONSTIPATION

Exercise plays a very important part in the successful treatment of habitual constipation. The object is to secure a stimulation of peristalsis and an eventful permanent increase in the tone of the intestinal musculature and strengthening of the abdominal muscles.

Various forms of exercise are suggested, such as walking, rowing, golfing and particularly horseback riding but they are not always applicable in every case. Some sort of exercise in the very bedroom is desired and we are grateful to Dr. L. P. Hamburger for his valued suggestions in this respect. He says that after taking cold and sweetened water, the following exercises should be taken early in the morning:

1. Standing erect, bend the trunk forward without flexing the knees until the tips of the fingers touch the floor. Resume the erect position in a similar manner.
2. With hands clasped behind the head in an erect position, rotate the body on the hip.
3. In the same attitude the thighs and legs are flexed and extended as if a squatting position were to be formed, but return promptly to the erect position.
4. Lying on the bed with hands folded across the chest and the tips of the toes under the head of the bed to keep them down, the trunk is raised to a sitting posture and then slowly lowered.
5. Exercise 4 is reversed by raising the stiffened limbs until at right angles to the body, then lower.
6. Stand up and lean forward, then draw in the abdominal wall by deep inspiration, following it by a deep expiration.

### SOUND TEETH

The Forsyth Dental Infirmary, of Boston, has been doing some very interesting work in the prevention of diseased teeth. Dr. Percy Howe has a laboratory there which every physician should visit if in that locality. Howe has demonstrated that monkeys can acquire cavities in the teeth when on a diet deficient in calcium. Conditions similar to pyorrhea alveolaris are also produced in guinea pigs on the same diet.

The poor children of Boston have free dental treatment, and the object in view now is to prevent cavities from appearing in the teeth. A great deal depends upon the prenatal care; mothers should have a diet rich in calcium as found in the leafy vegetables. The first teeth depend upon the diet of the mother before the child is born; the permanent teeth are influenced by the diet during the first few years of life.

Dr. Harold Cross, director of the Forsyth Dental Infirmary for Children, has shown in the Nation's Health (September 15, 1923) that clean teeth are not always sound teeth. He stated that according to his investigations 96 per cent of the children arriving in America from the northern part of Europe have sound teeth, while 9 per cent of American children possess defective teeth.

The mother should have a diet of leafy vegetables and milk, as well as other sources of calcium, phosphorus and other minerals. In fact, the American diet in general is apt to be lacking in calcium; one must watch this very carefully. The greatest problem of civilization is to return to the health conditions of the savage.

## New Bridge at Atherley

The construction of a new bridge across the Trent Valley Canal at Atherley, Ontario, was brought a step nearer realization when Hon. Geo. S. Henry, minister of public works, informed a delegation from Simcoe that the province would bear a share of the expense and that he would have the engineering department consider the project at an early date. The deputation informed Hon. Mr. Henry that the dominion government had agreed to bear half the expense of construction.

## Indian Trade Union Congress

The All-India Trade Union Congress recently held its fifth Congress at Bombay. P. J. Ginwala, the Secretary submitted a report on activities. Since the last meeting a strong Working Committee has done energetic propaganda work for the national trade union centre, with the result that some 39 unions have affiliated with the Centre, the chief trades represented being the chemical industry, engineering, the printing and paper trades, the textile industry and transport. Among the activities of the Congress Executive during the year have been the starting of "The All-India Trade Union Congress Bulletin," the monthly organ of the Centre. The rules of the organization have also been redrafted, and were submitted to the Congress, which also passed resolutions in favor of the eight hour day, and in depreciation of "untouchability," recommending that "the workers of India should not treat any section of the population as untouchable in as much as untouchability impedes solidarity of the working classes in the country." The Congress also authorized the Secretary to forward to the Government the Congress views on the Trade Unions Bill, urging i.e., that there must be no restriction on the power of the Trade Unions to dispose of their funds as they please. (The present bill limits such expenditure.)

## C.P.R. Official Declares for Open Door

Ottawa.—An open-door immigration policy could not harm, and would benefit to some extent the development of Canada, was the opinion expressed by Walter Maughan, of the Canadian Pacific Railway passenger department before the Ocean Rates Committee of the house of commons recently.

The United States before the war, he said, had admitted about 1,500,000 aliens every year. He believed if Canada was less rigid in its regulations, Canadian industry would greatly benefit. Asked if a transient population was desirable, Mr. Maughan stuck to his guns. Such a population could not deprive Canada of anything many of them would stay, and all of them leave some money in the country.

## Labor Men Repudiate Red Doctrines

Delegates to Labor Council Against Severance of British Ties

The District Labor Council passed a resolution by almost unanimous vote repudiating the motion adopted at the recent convention of the Ontario Branch of the Canadian Labor Party, favoring complete independence of all parts of the British Empire. It was declared the motion did not represent the sentiments of the workers of Canada or of organized labor, all of whom were proud of British connection. The Comraunists were responsible for the vote at the Labor convention and they had no other thought than of revolution, forgetful of the fact that progress came through evolution and education alone, said delegates. Independence had never been attained by revolution nor without spilling blood. Delegates Merson, Russell, Cox, Watt and James Simpson said they were quite satisfied to remain British subjects, as organized labor enjoyed greater freedom under the Union

Jack than under any other flag on earth.

Others declared the Communist party, composed largely of those of foreign birth, had but one desire, namely, to smash the British Empire and place the world under the heel of Soviet Russia. There was no reason for freedom in the latter country, as the Soviet leaders were despots.

The Council also reaffirmed its faith in public ownership of public utilities, but it was not prepared to support any movement for the socialization of industry. From this point of discussion changed to tariff issues and the need for supporting home industries. The delegates favored protection in Canada, but wanted it on equal terms for manufacturers and labor.

The Provincial Government and the management of the Toronto Penny Bank came in for criticism for having certain printed matter from the United States. It was stated the Penny Bank pass books, and certain labels used by the Forestry Department of the Government, were obtained from United States firms and were marked "Made in U.S.A." A resolution of protest was passed, and copies are to be sent to Premier Ferguson and to the Bank directors. The Bankers' Association, it was alleged, was furnishing its new offices in the city with furniture made in the United States, when Canadian products of equal value and workmanship were available.

## Probe Pulp Default

According to Premier Ferguson the government is about to enquire into the defaulting in the obligations of the Great Lakes Pulp and Paper Company to construct a paper mill at Port William. The company will be compelled to build the plant as quickly as possible unless it has a good reason for the unexpected delay.

Berlin, Germany.—As a measure of economy, the German railway administration announces 30,000 employees will soon be dismissed. The railways now employ 765,000 persons.

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## The Labor Movement in Japan

Very little is known in Europe about the conditions of the Labor Movement in Japan. The peculiarity of the Japanese conditions will be evident from the geographical situation of the country—an island with the circumference of Great Britain with a population of 57 millions, which is about 10 millions more than the population of Great Britain. Of this surface, however, partly covered by high volcanoes, only about one-tenth is fit for cultivation. It is clear that these circumstances are bound to promote industrialization at a high speed, and in spite of that the problem of over-population is a permanent one for the Japanese. The standard of culture is high and illiteracy is practically unknown.

Conditions have improved in the Japanese Labor Movement as a result of the legislation which followed the Washington Labor Conference of 1919. It has resulted in the introduction by law of the 9½ hour day, which meant a considerable reduction of the old working day, cutting down working hours by about 20 hours per week. Wages vary considerably in the different trades. The Trade Unions are organized within the Japanese Federation of Labor, to which about 300,000 industrial workers (including workers in the big State factories) are affiliated. Also affiliated to the Federation is the Peasants' Union, comprising about 60,000 families, 49 per cent of the entire population being agricultural workers. In 15,000 villages this Union runs no less than 4,000 candidates.

Before the war there was a short period of quick development in the Labor Movement, but the political movement was soon diverted in the direction of mere radical republicanism. After the war the Japanese Labor Movement was subject to very strong Communist influence and now all shades of bolshevism, anarchism and syndicalist tendencies are mixed up with a mere anti-monarchist movement. Communist propaganda is forbidden by a special law. Communist papers appear irregularly, whilst the Federation of Labor publishes a regular fortnightly paper, with a circulation of 20,000 copies.

Not until lately have there been signs of real reorganization within the movement. There is a certain tendency to get away from the leadership of the intellectuals in favor of another type of organization. The great task now confronting the Japanese Labor Movement is that of founding a real Labor Party, which will unite the various branches of the movement and efforts are actually now being made to create a party of this description. The big question now is on what basis the Party is to be constructed, whether after the pattern of the British Labor Party, or in the more rigid style of the older European Socialist Parties.

The real consolidation of the Japanese Labor Movement will only be achieved when the working class will have learnt how to use the legal and

democratic weapons which up till now have been withheld from it. Now that Japan has got universal suffrage this will be, as in every country, the first step in the irresistible march of a powerful Labor Movement. So far Japanese Labor has had no representative in Parliament. The next elections (and the first under universal suffrage) will not be held for three years, but there is every reason to expect that they will constitute a veritable advance in the Labor cause of the Far East.

## Holder of Trade Secret Admitted to U.S.

Quebec.—Because he holds a secret for the manufacturing of artificial pearls from fish scales, and because, according to United States immigration law, unless a citizen is found to do this work the alien must be admitted to the country, Charles Hartenberger, a native of France, who has been detained here for some weeks by the United States authorities, together with his wife, are going forward to Eastport, Maine. Their release has been ordered by the Department of Immigration at Washington.

## Machinery Smashed at Mines in Sydney

Sydney, N. S.—Two cases of damage done to mining property of the British Empire Steel Corporation were reported recently. Machinery supplying water for numbers one, five and ten collieries was put out of commission, and the hoisting apparatus of a small mine was wrecked.

Miners of the British Empire Steel mines have been on strike since May 1, as the result of a wage dispute.

The pumping machines wrecked are located half way between the towns of Reserve and Dominion, in an isolated spot, and had been used only one or two days a week since the tie-up of the mines took place, operating steadily during normal times. On reporting for work at the pump house this morning the maintenance men found the door broken in and part of the machinery broken. Gauge glasses were broken, valve connections smashed and pipe lines battered and bent. Two sledge hammers were found among the wreckage.

Company officials said that the mines affected by the incident would be in no immediate danger.

## RUN TRACTOR FREIGHT TRAINS

St. Thomas, Ont.—Railroad competition from an entirely new quarter is soon to make its appearance here, a charter being granted at Ottawa recently for the incorporation of the Mumme Railway Transportation and Storage Company of St. Thomas with capitalization of \$200,000. The company will operate a fleet of ten motor tractor freight trains on the highway between Windsor and Toronto.

## Milk-fed Children Are Healthiest And Sturdiest

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# Labor News From Coast to Coast

## Our Overseas Column

### Emigration Drops Off

But Many Artisans Are Desirous of Coming to Canada

London, Eng.—Emigration from Scotland to Canada since the beginning of 1925 shows a substantial decrease compared with the same period in 1924, it being 4,599 and 9,969 respectively.

For twelve months Scotland sent 19,136 while those of Scottish blood from all over the United Kingdom totaled 29,669. The total movement to Canada last year was 88,290.

The indication is that a considerable number of artisans will go to Canada soon, if conditions warrant it.

### Australia to Attract British Women

Melbourne, Australia.—With a view to encouraging the migration of British women to Australia, the Commonwealth Government proposes to create women's committees which will send requisitions to similar committees in Great Britain for a definite number of girls to whom employment will be assured.

### Socialists Are Badly Beaten

Belfast, Ireland.—Viscount Charlemont and Sir George S. Clark have been elected to the Northern Senate, each receiving twenty-nine votes. The Socialists, Margaret MacOubrey, well known to many Toronto people as former suffragette leader, and Robert Dorman, received four votes.

### To Strengthen Arbitration Court

Sydney, Australia.—A bill to amend the Federal Arbitration Act is now being drafted. It is directed mainly towards strengthening the powers of the arbitration court. The chief provisions invest the arbitration court with definite powers to enforce awards and compel the unions to respect the awards; to deal with individuals as well as groups of employers and employees; to subject unions funds to supervision, somewhat on the lines of friendly societies and to Government inspection; to penalize employers who seek to discriminate between unionists and non-unionists; to invest trade unions registered under the Act with the rights and status of corporations and to subject them to the same responsibility and liability and to deal severely and thoroughly with agitators and strife-mongers and to make unionism compulsory as far as circumstances permit.

### Adverse Publicity Harms Immigration

Quebec, Que.—The emigration of colonists to Canada from Britain and Scandinavian countries this year will be less than last year, said Col. J. S. Dennis, head of the Department of Colonization, Canadian Pacific Railway, who arrived on the Montroyal after a six weeks' tour of Great Britain and the continent.

Col. Dennis expressed himself as disappointed at present conditions as regards the prospects of future settlers for the Dominion. He ascribed this lack of enthusiasm on the part of prospective emigrants to a seemingly organized campaign of publicity against emigration to Canada, which campaign, he said, was resulting in a pronounced increase in the exodus to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and South America.

The Governments of these other Dominions were encouraging settlers by offering very low rates of transportation, he explained, and in some cases the poorer people were given free passage. Col. Dennis spoke enthusiastically concerning the movement of boys from Great Britain to Canada declaring that it was the only phase of the situation showing a promising outlook.

He believes that it is essential to combat the adverse campaign of publicity against Canada and to render some assistance to families and single people desiring to emigrate but prevented by lack of means.

### Employment Shows Slight Betterment

Conditions Improve in Canada During Month of March

Ottawa, Ont.—Employment conditions throughout Canada improved during March, as compared with February. The general level of employment, however, was less favorable than during March, 1924.

There was an increase in the volume of business transacted, according to reports received by the Employment Service of Canada. The

### Take Empty Houses

Labor Member Has Bill to Prevent Overcrowding

London.—First reading was given in the House of Commons recently to the bill introduced by E. Thurtle, Labor member for Shore-ditch, providing for municipal authorities acquiring unoccupied houses for the purpose of relieving overcrowding.

Mr. Thurtle said large numbers of people were living in houses unfit for human habitation, and on the other hand there were numbers of houses empty. It was time this dog-in-the-manger policy was ended, he declared.

A. Hopkinson, Independent, opposed the bill, and said it seemed to be an example of cold and callous cruelty on the part of the Labor party in dealing with the housing question. The bill, he added, would be another device for warding people off from taking any part in building houses.

### Benes Is President of Labor Conference

Geneva, Switzerland.—The biggest International Labor Conference in the history of the International Labor Bureau opened recently in the Electoral Palace, Edouard Benes, Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, was elected President.

Besides the questions of workmen's compensation, social insurance, and final action on three draft treaties for the six-day week in glass works, the elimination of night baking and the equality of treatment for alien workers in foreign countries, the Labor Conference will discuss immigration and child labor in China.

### Moscow Back of Anzac Campaign

London, Eng.—Serious evidence of the hold of Communism on the Australian Labor Party is to be found in the election campaign now in progress in New South Wales. The Labor Party in New South Wales, the most important part of the Australian electoral, is completely controlled by the Trades Hall Council, which here and in other states is outrightly Communist and in regular touch with Moscow. With mounting interest in the present election, Land, the leader of the Labor Party, is being challenged to declare his attitude towards the Red objective, which he steadily refuses to do. The premier, Sir G. W. Fuller, declares Moscow is conducting a campaign in Australia equally dangerous as that of last in England.

average number of vacancies recorded daily in March last, was 10 per cent higher than in February and the placements effected seven per cent higher.

At the beginning of April, the percentage of unemployment among members of trade unions was 8.5 as compared with 9.5 per cent at the beginning of March, and with 6.7 per cent at the beginning of April, 1924. These calculations were based on reports received from 1,550 local trade unions with 154,558 members.

Reports from 5,830 firms showed that they were employing 718,524 persons on April 1, as compared with 718,162 persons on March 1.

The time loss caused by industrial disputes was somewhat greater in April than either in the previous month or in April, 1924. Twelve disputes were in progress at some time during last month, involving 11,951 employees, and resulting in a time loss of 290,633 working days. These figures include the continued dispute in the coal mines of Nova Scotia.

### Paper Makers Strike

Port William, Ont.—Paper makers employed at the Fort William Pulp and Paper mills have walked out on strike following differences with plant officials. The strike affects 225 men and operations at the mill have been suspended.

### New Coal Find

Vancouver, B. C.—Reporting a discovery of 535 feet of coal of continuous formation and practically unbroken by shale seams at Hat Creek, on the Pacific Great Eastern Railway 170 miles north of Vancouver, A. C. McDougall returned in the city recently. The area where the drilling is being conducted is 3 1/2 miles long and 2 1/2 miles wide. It is located 15 miles from Pavillion Station.

### Employ Local Men

Toronto, Ont.—In letting the contracts for laying York County water mains there was a clause in each contract calling for the employment of at least 50 per cent of local labor and at a minimum wage of 50 cents per hour.

### New Bridge Assured Over Niagara River

Bridgeburg, Ont.—Frank H. Baird, of Buffalo, announced that the work of building a vehicle bridge across the Niagara River between Fort Porter, Buffalo, and Walnut street, Fort Erie, will begin by August 1st, Mr. Baird is president of the company, W. M. German, M.P., is vice-president.

Every preliminary obstacle has been overcome. Formal approval of the plans by the United States War Department was announced last week. The Canadian Department of Public Works and the New York State Government also have approved.

The bridge will be nearly one mile long from street level to street level. An unusual feature is that it will be higher on the Buffalo side, over the Black Rock ship canal, than over the middle of the Niagara River. This increased height over the navigable channel was insisted upon by the United States engineers to eliminate the necessity for draw spans. The span over the canal will be a truss and the others will be steel arches resting on concrete piers. There will be a sharp turn south on the American approach, the terminus being in the centre of what is now Fort Porter. The city of Buffalo has acquired the army post for \$400,000 and has agreed to resell a portion of the land to the bridge company for \$300,000.

John S. Stevens, the chief engineer of the American construction in Panama said recently that there were no serious engineering problems to be solved in building the bridge. He has been engaged by the underwriters to report on the project.

The structure will be known as the Peace Bridge, the directors announced and would be dedicated as a monument to the century-and-more of peace prevailing between the United States and Canada. The original peace bridge project was promoted by Fort Erie residents in 1918, but was abandoned on account of the war.

The Fort Erie ferry carried 500,000 automobiles last year as compared with 50,000 in 1915.

### New Paper Co. for Beauve, Que.

Quebec, Que.—Letters patent have been issued by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to the concern which will be known as the Ste. Anne Paper Company, Limited, with a capital of \$3,000,000. The new company has been authorized to construct mills and shops at Beauve, a few miles from Ste. Anne de Beauve, and carry on the industry of manufacturing pulpwood, etc. The company is headed by Toronto interests, where there is a branch.

The promoters of the new company have also applied to the Government for rights to construct a wharf at Beauve, and engineers of the Department of Public Works have been sent to the scene of future operations to look over the ground and report back to the authorities.

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