

# 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 Farmer and the Tariff

PROTECTION MEANS BETTER PRICES FOR FARMER, BETTER WAGES FOR LABOR AND GREATER CIRCULATION OF WEALTH

The agitation for lower tariffs that has its origin amongst the free trade farmers of Western Canada, shows that the matter of industrial protection for the Dominion has not been closely and carefully studied by low tariff advocates. Let us look for a moment at the position of the farmer; he is engaged in raising foodstuffs, the bulk of which is consumed by the people of Canada. It is obvious then that if everyone is employed they will be able to purchase the necessary foodstuffs required for family sustenance. In other words, if home industry is busy, the farmer is prosperous and if not then agriculture suffers. The policy in effect for this last four years has not meant any advantage to the Western farmer or for that matter to any farmer in Canada. In 1919 when the wheels of industry were busily employed and the country was being governed by a party whose guiding principle was adequate tariff protection, the Western farmer was receiving \$2.24 per bushel for wheat and bread to the consumer was cheaper than it is at present when wheat is selling at \$1.50 per bushel. It is good sound economic policy that to increase agricultural prosperity. Canadian industries must revive from the position they are in at present. An adequate tariff policy means a revival of Canadian industry and a revival of Canada's position in the world.

development of agriculture and prosperous farming conditions throughout the Dominion. It may be argued that higher tariffs would tend to create higher prices to the consumer an argument which is of very doubtful validity, but even if that happened, the farmers organizations can check any such tendency by seeing that publicity is given on the matter. Frankly however, we fail to see that slightly higher prices would be any disadvantage if the farmers were receiving more for their produce and the workman receiving more for his labor. Such a situation would be for better for all concerned than exists at the present time when the farmer is receiving less, the workman is receiving less and the consumer paying more. If industrial protection is thoroughly carried by a suitable tariff policy not the least individual to benefit by it would be the Canadian farmer.

### Wage-Earning Occupations

A statistician, writing in The Monthly Labor Review, Washington, makes some surprising comparisons in the wage-earning occupations of the people of the United States. He is unable to bring his figures up to a later date than 1920, but possibly the ratio of changes has not altered greatly since then. The number of seasons per million of population in 1919 was 1,314, and the number of plasterers was 362, a decrease of about forty per cent. in thirty years. Structural steel workers number 178 per million, plumbers, 2,000; electricians, 2,014—all three showing remarkable increases in a decade. Trades that have fallen off are the woodworking crafts, wheelwrights, coopers, marble and stone cutters, and harness and saddle makers.

The automobile brought immense changes in wage-earning occupations. In 1910 the proportion of motor or truck drivers per million was 500, and the figure for 1920 is given as 2,637. In other words, more men are driving cars or trucks as a means of obtaining a living than are building houses. The motor car also is responsible for the huge increase in the metal working trades. Machinists number 7,586 per million of population. Stationary engineers and firemen are placed at 3,651. The number of clergymen, lawyers and carpenters remains about the same proportion as for years. Physicians have fallen off, and the number of dentists has increased fourfold in three decades.

### Tells of Nova Scotia Conditions

Hamilton, Ont.—William Hayes, a member of the executive of District 26, United Mine Workers, gave the members of the Hamilton District Trades and Labor Council some firsthand information regarding conditions existing in the Nova Scotia coal fields as a result of the strike which started there early in March. Having started in the mines at the age of 13 and worked his way through the various groups, he is in a position to speak with authority on the hardships and hazards faced by the miners daily. These men, he said, are asked to accept a reduction of ten per cent. in wages which are now totally inadequate to provide a decent standard of living and bare necessities for the miners and their families.

### Minimum Wage Act Rule Is Relaxed

Regina.—The apprenticeship period for girls and women employed in Saskatchewan stores and shops was raised from 18 months to two years at a meeting of the Saskatchewan Minimum Wage Board at the parliament buildings. The date on which the change is to become effective has not yet been set. The scale of minimum wages to be paid during the period of apprenticeship was also revised by the board to \$7.50 a week for first six months of the period, \$10 a week for the second six months, \$12 a week for the third six months, and \$13 a week for the final six months. After this the apprentice will be considered an experienced worker entitled to the full minimum wage of \$14 a week. The present scale for apprentices is \$7.50 a week for the first six months, \$9 a week for the next six months, and \$12 for the third and final six months.

### Farmers Disagree on Amalgamation

Negotiations for amalgamation between the Farmers' Union and the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' association reached a deadlock at a conference held recently at Saskatoon, Sask., and the whole question will probably be submitted to the locals of both organizations before another conference is held. While the Farmers' Union held out for a Federal organization with provincial branches, the S.G.G.A. representatives declared in favor of the provincial unit affiliated with other provincial units.

### Fewer Accidents

The total number of accidents involving compensation payment to injured workers for the first four months of 1924, in the classes included in the Industrial Accident Prevention Associations, of which the employers in Class 19 are members, was 4,422 and for the first four months of 1925, 3,664, a decrease of 758 accidents of a little over 17 per cent. Class 19, which comprises the printing and publishing trades and paper box manufacturers, shows a reduction of only about 5 per cent in compensated accidents when the two periods mentioned above are compared.

### Rockwood Hard Hit by Tariff Lowering

Woolen Industry, Mainstay of Little Centre, Has to Give up Fight

Rockwood, Ont.—A typical illustration of the manner in which small Canadian communities are being crushed through the lack of a tariff policy which would retain the Canadian market for Canadian industries has been furnished at this centre through the closing down of the Harris Woolen Mills which were established in 1867, and which industry is now in the process of winding up business, preliminary to putting the lock upon the doors. From the standpoint of the village of Rockwood the closing of the sole industry is a serious blow. The centre has a population around 600, made up entirely of Canadian and British-born, as the village is able to make the boast that there is not a single foreign-born citizen within its limits. It is, in other words, a symbol of all that is best in the old-time Canadian life; and yet the village must face the financial shock of losing its one industrial undertaking which has been the economic backbone of Rockwood for upwards of half a century. The extent of the financial blow may be appreciated from the statement that until recently, when the pressure of overseas competition began to be felt by the Harris Woolen Mills, the industry had an annual payroll ranging from \$50,000 to \$60,000; and that sum, when poured into the life of a village of 600 people, is no small factor in contributing towards prosperity.

#### Forced to Close Doors

The Harris Woolen Mills are now in the process of cleaning up a few orders, and when that has been accomplished within a few days the lock will be placed upon the doors, and the picturesque valley of Rockwood, which has known its industry for so long will have joined the ranks of those other all-Canadian centres which have failed to progress as a symbol of Canadian life because the powers that be failed to appreciate their peculiar problems, or, if appreciating them, failed to prove that remedy which would enable the smaller Canadian centres to remain solid as a Canadian unit and work for the upbuilding of the nation. Until recently, the Harris Woolen Mills employed from sixty to seventy workers, during the Spring when the pressure of competition became too great, the number was reduced to thirty; and now even the last of the thirty are confronted with the problem of a workless future or a migration to the United States. As some of the men expressed themselves when the question was put to them, they do not want to go to the States, as their whole interests are in Canada, and particularly in Rockwood, but, so far as can be seen at present, all that remains to many of them is to pull up stakes, as so many other Canadians have been obliged to do in late years, and seek employment elsewhere.

#### A Shattering Blow

In a village the size of Rockwood, with 600 of a population, the working force runs somewhere under 150; and of that number, seventy have depended for years upon the employment furnished by the Harris Woolen Mills. Many of them are the heads of families who have lived in Rockwood for the whole of their lives, others are British-born who have been in Canada for many years, all had pinned their hopes and their future to Rockwood; so now, with the closing of the industry, the typically Canadian community is about to be shattered, homes are to be broken, and the migration must start for other centres. The one hope which remains is that the woolen mill plant can be sold to some other industry, but at present, according to the statement of Mr. William Harris, head of the organization, there is no such sale within sight. So far the closing of the plant is concerned, it can be traced to one thing, and that is the British preferential tariff which enables British woolen manufacturers to place cloth on the Canadian market at a figure which the Rockwood firm has been unable to meet.

"I haven't a thing to say against British goods coming to our markets," Mr. Harris remarked, in discussing the reasons why he had found it necessary to close the mills, "but it does not seem right to me that they should be permitted to enter the country at a price which the Canadian industry cannot meet. The tariff protection on our particular (Continued on page 3.)

## Socialism and Imperial Preference

Rt. Hon. John Wheatley M.P. States His Case

"NOT A LEFT WING OF LIBERALISM" (Interview in "Sunday Worker")

### Eminent Financier Discusses Conditions in Britain

SIR CHARLES GORDON SAYS GROWING BELIEF IN OLD COUNTRY THAT PROTECTION WILL SOLVE INDUSTRIAL PROBLEM

Sir Charles Gordon, vice-president of the Bank of Montreal, and F. G. Daniels, general manager of the Dominion Textile Company, of which company Sir Charles is president, who has been on a business trip to England and the continent, returned to Montreal recently. In discussing trade conditions in England, Sir Charles, in an interview, stated that in what are known as the key or basic industries, business was very quiet, adding that this group includes coal mining, iron and steel, shipbuilding, cotton manufacturing and wool manufacturing. As a result of quiet times in these industries, the railroad earnings were also showing decreases. On the other hand, however, a great many other companies whose yearly statements were appearing from day to day were showing, said Sir Charles, without allowing it to many others.

He stated that business on the continent, especially in France, is improving and added that there seems to be little or no unemployment in France. In spite of this fact financial troubles continue, largely due to the fact that no government has yet been strong enough to insist on collection of taxes sufficient to balance the budget. It looks now, however, according to Sir Charles, as if a determined effort would be made to keep the franc at about the five-cent mark, but that no great effort will be made to improve the rate of exchange, adding that many would be opposed to such a move. When questioned about the proposed venture of Dominion Textile into the rayon or artificial silk field, Sir Charles stated that there was nothing to say at the present time, but he did say that during the trip arrangements had been made for some additions to the plant of Dominion Textile, which he added should extend the company's operations.

Regarding the cotton business, in which Sir Charles and Mr. Daniels were interested particularly, he pointed out that things are markedly quiet in a large section of the trade, such as the coarser and heavier makes, which formerly went to India, China, and the east. Many reasons, according to Sir Charles, such as high-priced raw materials and increasing overhead expenses, have been given for the falling off in this industry, but the real reason is that India, China and Japan and other countries have built their own mills and with low-priced labor, make it impossible for Lancashire to compete or to hope ever to regain the trade.

### Manitoba Minimum Wage Changes

The Minimum Wage Board of Manitoba has issued new regulations governing the employment of girls in laundries and in dyeing and cleaning establishments. The new rules provide that experienced employees of eighteen years of age or over shall be paid a weekly wage of not less than \$12, which is \$1 increase over the present rate. Inexperienced employees are to be paid not less than \$9 for the first six months, and not less than \$10.50 for the second six months, after which they are to be classed as experienced. Two changes occur in this provision—an increase of 50 cents per week for the second half-year and the elimination of the class "minor inexperienced employees." The latter under present regulations receives a minimum of \$8 per week, which by the abolition of this classification becomes \$9. Two conditions governing the hours of labor for these workers are added. One provides that there shall be a period of not less than eleven hours between the close of one day's work and the beginning of the next. Another rule provides for a minimum of one hour for lunch. The new regulations became effective on June 1st.

According to Sir Charles the depression in the so-called key industries has led to an increase in the number of unemployed and this in turn has caused the government to take up the question of the safeguarding the British industries, which means in effect that the government is studying the question of protection. In connection with this, the labor party is co-operating with the government and there seems no reason to doubt that within a short time some measure of protection will be granted certain industries. Whether it will be possible to deal with protection in a satisfactory manner is doubtful, said Sir Charles, as one business impinges upon another so closely that it is difficult to grant protection to certain industries

### Slump in Membership

Almost alone among the trades unions of Europe in these past years of business slump and falling union membership, Sweden's trade unions report an increase for last year of over 15 per cent additional members. Metal workers and forestry workers show the greatest increase; general workers and paper workers next. Thirty-one thousand of Sweden's 360,000 unionists are women.

London, Eng.—"The essential thing in Labor politics is to keep a grip of the realities of the modern world. It may be very nice to list a series of idealistic abstractions, but these cut no ice as far as the immediate needs of the workers of this country, or the Movement, are concerned.

"We may deplore the fact that the British Empire is not what we would like it to be. But there it is, and there it remains, whatever you think of it. Our duty as members of the Labor Movement is to see how we can utilize it to serve our purpose, and to help, at the same time, the world position of the workers.

"As Socialists we are out to secure an international unity of peoples. Within the British Empire we have a nucleus of unity. It is for this reason that I am opposed to any policy of wrecking it.

"Supposing we set on foot an agitation to smash the empire and 'liberate' each unit, what would happen? We would only succeed in letting loose a series of units that would add to the present welter of international antagonisms. Such a policy is sheer liberalism and has not the remotest relation to international and uniting Socialism. Liberalism stands for industrial competition not only among persons but among nations. It views the individual, like the nation, as free units, whose best interests are served by competition. This leads, and can only lead to anti-social ends—to man against man, nation against nation.

Transforming the Empire "Economic development has replied to liberalism, and has killed it—first industrially, and later politically. The era of free competition is past. We are now in a period of mighty combinations of trustified capital and groups of people are massed under the control of mighty imperial States. Our job as Socialists is to transform the trusts into organs of the community under a Socialist State. We must apply the same method to the empire, and transpose it into a nucleus which will form the basis of an international pact against international capitalism.

"But," I interposed, "is the empire a Unity? Is it not an elementary fact of geography, as any map can testify, that the British Empire is a series of remnants scattered all over the world?"

"They may be scattered," said Wheatley, "in the geographical sense, but economically the units are bound into a cohesive whole. Economic forces such as transport, telegraphy, etc., have triumphed over the seemingly geographical disability."

"Surely," I interjected, "if any country is able to combine the modern economic and geographical situation it is America and not Britain. The British Isles lie on the fringe of Europe, but America, situated with the Atlantic on one side (Continued on page 3.)

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Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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Free trade and Cheaper Living Costs

It is cheaper under a system of low tariffs than under a system of high protection. Apart from the example shown by Germany...

The Coal Crisis

ACCORDING to reports in the daily press, it is probable that a nation wide strike in the American coal fields will take place at an early date.

Calgary Raises Funds for Miners

Approximately \$1,400 was realized from the tag day in aid of the Nova Scotia miners held in Calgary...

Must Pay Union Wages

The London, Ontario City Council decided that the contractor making concrete pipes for the city on the Wellington street sewer should not only pay the prevailing rates of wages for all work done...

Ford Influence Is Extended

Henry Ford extends his influence in this country by entering the field of finance capital. His son, Edsel Ford, is a director of the Guardian Trust Co. of Detroit...

To Prevent Local Strikes

To prevent local strikes from being proclaimed, the Mexican Federation of Trades Unions has ordered that locals shall no longer call strikes on their own initiative...

For Unity

The Amalgamated Engineers and the Union Transport Workers' Federation, having a combined strength of 600,000 have made a formal agreement to assist each other in labor disputes.

Protest Wage Rate

Toronto, Ont.—A deputation from the Building Trades Council waited on Hon. G. S. Henry, Acting Premier of Ontario, protesting that the rate of wages being paid common laborers and carpenters engaged in the construction of the new Administration Building in Queen's Park was too low.

Miners Form New Union

Lethbridge miners voted three to one on June 2nd to go back to work. The vote of the local camp was 264 to 99 to accept the wage cut...

Steel Plant on Short Time

Sydney, N. S.—Eight hundred men are being added to Cape Breton's unemployed by the closing down of the blooming and billet mills of the Sydney steel plant of the British Empire Steel Corporation...

Attempt to Reach an Agreement

The executive of both wings of the French Railwaymen's Unions of Orleans District have for some time past been endeavoring to achieve unity.

Reds Help Chinese

Moscow, Russia.—The central council of trade unions of Soviet Russia has telegraphed 50,000 rubles to Peking to assist the striking Chinese and the families of those killed in the rioting.

PLASTERERS TO ARBITRATE

New York.—By agreement signed recently by Edward J. McGivern, president of the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Finishers' Union, and individual contractors, plasterers who have been on strike involving \$25,000,000 construction work in New York, Chicago, Washington and Detroit are to return to work immediately.

WOODSWORTH IS NOMINATED FOR NORTH WINNIPEG

J. S. Woodsworth, M.P. was unanimously selected at a convention of the Centre Winnipeg, Brooklands and St. James members of the Independent Labor Party to contest the North Centre seat in the next federal election.

Take Over Silk Plant

The silk knitting plant of Hall Acme, Canada, Limited, in London, which has been closed since November last, has been taken over by an American concern, Hudson Knitting Mills, Inc. of West Hoboken, N.J.

Favor Canadian Miners' Union

Lethbridge.—Voting on June 10th on the question of an organization of a Canadian Federation of Mine Workers, Coleman and Hillcrest miners cast a strong favorable ballot.

Labor Union Exchange Students

New York.—The first Labor Union Rhodes scholarships ever exchanged officially between the United States and Europe will begin October 1. Spencer Miller, Jr., executive secretary of the Workers' Education Bureau, official organization of the American Federation of Labor...

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ONTARIO'S MINERALS

The outstanding metallic products of Ontario are silver, nickel and gold. The gross value of these to the end of 1924 follows:—silver, \$24,332,000; nickel, \$197,600,000; and gold \$154,419,000.

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# OUR HOME PAGE

## PRESENT DAY PROTECTION

People are beginning to realize more and more the importance of protecting their families in the event of premature death. The newspapers and magazines devote considerable space to insurance articles, and the public are becoming educated to the values of this form of protection. Every day we are brought face to face with widows and orphans left in straightened circumstances through the lack of foresight or selfishness of the father.

It is no longer necessary for a man "to die to win" on the contrary, a man may make ample provision for his old age by means of Life Insurance in addition to protecting the family in the event of his death. Every man, irrespective of his walk in life, should put all he possibly can into Life Insurance. If a man buys a home his wife is obliged to sign the deeds and forms in connection with the purchase as well as he. She must economize wherever possible to help pay the mortgage, she must bring children into the world and care for them, and at the same time care for her husband, and no matter how trying the day may be she meets him with a smile and we must not forget the well prepared meal. In the event the bread winner is taken, the wife has a hard struggle ahead; she must do single-handed that which her husband helped her do while around. When one reflects that the husband has the better bargain and is more responsible than the wife for the support of his home and family, does it not seem fitting that every man should make provision for that unforeseen but certain event—Death?

Statistics show that 47 out of every 100 widows are obliged to work for a living, and that 50 or more of every 100 men who reach the age 60 are dependent on charity or their own meagre earnings. Go to the Poor Houses, they are full and undoubtedly of men who once claimed they had no need for Insurance, who claimed that it was "a die to win" proposition; they are first hand examples of living deaths. Go to the Hospitals, all hustle and bustle, every ward and every bed occupied, yet 24 hours previous a number of those people would have claimed they had no need for Insurance, that their health was fine and that their great grand parents had also been in fine health, yet right now not one of them could get Insurance at any price.

It is a recognized fact that human nature procrastinates, we put things off until the last minute. We go to the Doctor when we are actually in need of him, when a little precaution may have saved considerable trouble. We go to the lawyer if we have made a slip, that could have been avoided had we consulted him earlier. Likewise Insurance, we leave it too long, we find imaginary excuses until we either pass on to the great beyond or become incapacitated. Every day we may read in our daily newspapers of automobile accidents, fires, drowning fatalities, etc., etc. We can never tell but what we may be the next. It is all so unceremonial and yet so certain, the end must come some day, truly we know not when, but it must come. Wives often object to Life Insurance, but widows never do.

**Write F. J. Dunlop, 21 King St. E., Toronto, for any kind of Insurance Information. Just state your age and ask any questions you wish, they will be gladly answered and you will not be obligated in any way whatever.**

**—INSURANCE SERVICE.**

## SOCIALISM

(Continued from page 1)  
trade is capitalism in its most vicious form. Whatever else the debate upon imperial preference did last Friday, it finally killed any sort of liaison between liberalism and Labor. We have demonstrated that we are poles asunder.

"We must make it clear to the workers that the Labor Party is neither a free trade nor a tariff reform party. It is a Labor Party, and must view every problem nationally and internationally, from a purely working class and anti-capitalist standpoint."

## Rockwood Hard Hit by Tariff Lowering

(Continued from page 1.)  
line of manufacture was thirty per cent before it was changed. The King Government made a reduction of two and a half per cent in the way of a British preference; then that was followed by a further reduction of ten per cent on the duty when it entered Canada through a Canadian port. That brought our protection down to twenty-four and three-quarters per cent. We cannot do business under such conditions, and that is the reason we are closing down. I think you will find that other woollen plants are being forced to accept the same viewpoint; and if you were to ask them you would find that the consensus of opinion is that our protection should be from forty to fifty per cent. We could do business under those conditions, and the small Canadian centres could be held together.

**Must Admit Defeat**

Mr. Harris added that, having been raised at Rockwood, he had a strong sentiment for the district, and had done everything in his power to keep the industry together, in order that the community spirit of the village might prevail. His son, who had been in business with him, spent three years studying the textile business in the States, and then, with their combined experience, had been forced to admit that they could not continue in the face

of the importation of British goods. For some years the firm had been operating at a loss, in the hope that conditions would improve, and that their particular needs would be met; but, despairing of any relief, the time has arrived when they feel they cannot go on losing any longer.

A typical illustration of the reason the firm cannot continue is furnished by definite price quotations. For instance, on one particular class of cloth, used for women's coats, the Harris Woollen Mills found that they had to quote from \$1.95 to \$2.00 per yard or face a loss. At that quotation they could not get the Canadian market, for the reason that the British importations were being quoted at \$1.45 a yard. In discussing the reason why the Canadian plant could not operate as cheaply as the British, Mr. Harris explained that the answer was found in the cost of labor and the cost of overhead.

"The British woollen worker is paid a much smaller sum than the Canadian," he said, "it works out to something like 48 per cent of the wages we pay. That in itself is a serious handicap when it comes to competing with the British importations. Secondly, the matter of distributing the overhead is a much greater problem here than in the Old Country. Our firm, for instance, had only the Canadian markets to appeal to, and not all of that, in view of the competition.

"The British plants, on the other hand, being much larger, have the whole world. The Canadian sales represent only a small percentage of the British manufacture. It is a sort of side market to them; and so their overhead is spread over a much larger output."

**Flooded With Woolens**

The competition in woolens is particularly keen as Mr. Harris pointed out that, through Canada's population is less than ten millions, there were sufficient woolens being offered in the country to supply a population of one hundred million.

Another factor which counted against the existence of the Canadian plants was the swift changes in styles and patterns of cloth. The changes came to a considerable extent from the Old Country; and the Canadian plants, being smaller, could not meet the changes with sufficient readiness to be in a position to compete with the newer weaves and grades of cloth offered in Canada by the British producers. In view of that, Mr. Harris pointed to the British preference as the feature which was tearing down Canadian industry, and while not objecting to the sale of British goods on the Canadian market, he felt that the local market should be protected to a much greater extent for the upbuilding of the country—Mall and Empire.

## Some American Incomes

Washington.—Four American millionaires had incomes of more than \$5,000,000 in 1923, and paid income tax totaling \$10,908,000, the bureau of internal revenue has announced.

In a revised statement of tax statistics for 1923, it was disclosed that the total income for that year was \$24,840,000,000 instead of \$26,336,000,000 as originally estimated.

Incomes from \$40,000 to \$50,000 proved the most lucrative source of taxation, with a total of \$35,118,000 paid, 8,472 individuals having filed returns in that class.

Of the total of 7,698,000 returns filed, 2,515,324 represented incomes of from \$1,000 to \$2,000, 2,470,000 were in the \$2,000 to \$3,000 class and 1,225,000 the \$3,000 to \$4,000 class.

Millionaires in the \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 income tax class numbered 33. Twelve individuals filed returns showing incomes of \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000 and twelve others incomes of from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000.

It is the income tax on these high incomes which President Coolidge is seeking to abolish in the next Congress.

## Vancouver T. and L. Council Meeting

Vancouver.—Eighty boilermakers are in strike at the Wallace Shipyards for wage increases of 10 to 15 cents an hour, and a written agreement. It was announced by Organizer McCutcheon, at the last meeting of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council.

A delegation, consisting of delegates Scribbins, Neelands, Bengough and Deptford was appointed to take up with the City Council the question of having the work on the Seymour main done by day labor. The Carpenters' Union reported having admitted 53 new members at last meeting, and expected fifty more new members would be initiated at next meeting.

The organizing committee of the Council, and the Shingle Weavers

both reported that they were making good progress in securing new members.

A motion that protest be sent to Ottawa against the government sending troops to Nova Scotia was carried.

It was reported that the Fraser Valley Ice Cream Co., was the only place in the city where union made and delivered ice cream could be purchased.

A letter was received from Attorney-General Manson stating that he had reconsidered his decision not to appoint Secretary Bengough a notary public and that the appointment would be made.

## Cap and Millinery Workers on Strike

Toronto, Ont.—Officials of Local Union No. 41, International Cloth Hat Cap and Millinery Workers called a strike of members recently. The object of the strike was the unionizing of all shops in Toronto, with the right of collective bargaining regarding wages and general working conditions. It is reported by officials of the union that 300 members responded to the strike call, and that 50 per cent of these have already returned to work under union regulations. Negotiations are proceeding with regard to other establishments.

## Radicals Suspended

New York.—Executive officers joint board delegates and managers of locals 2, 9 and 22, known as the left wing locals, were suspended by the joint board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union on charges preferred by Feinberg for

general executive board. The principal charge is that the three locals held May Day meetings with Communist speakers.

## FOUR O'CLOCK CLOSING FOR CIVIL SERVANTS

Ottawa, Ont. Commencing Wednesday, July 1, civil servants throughout Canada will leave their offices at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The 4 o'clock closing hour will continue until the end of August. The rule applies in all departments except when, on account of particular circumstances, the Deputy Minister may require the staff to stay over time.

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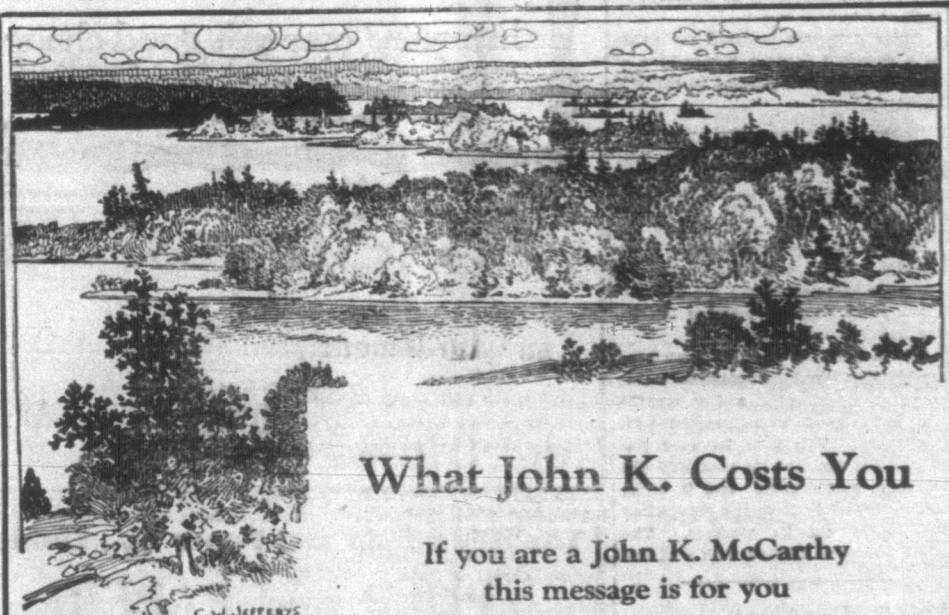
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An advertisement issued by the Ontario Department of Highways to secure the co-operation of motorists and truck drivers, Automobile Clubs, Good Roads Associations and all other public spirited bodies, in abating the abuse of the roads of the Province.

The Hon. Geo. S. Henry, Minister

S. L. Squire, Deputy Minister

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# Labor News From Coast to Coast

## Our Overseas Column

### Labor Party Candidate Defeated

London.—W. W. Wiggins, the Liberal candidate, defeated W. J. Tout, ex-M.P., Labor candidate in the Oldham by-election, polling 26,325 votes. Tout polled 21,702 votes.

### Britain Gets Russian Trade

London.—Christian Rakovsky, Soviet Envoy, who has returned to Lodon from Moscow, is said by the English papers to have brought Russian orders for British firms amounting to £15,000,000 or about \$72,500,000. About two-thirds are for agricultural and manufacturing machinery and machine tools, and the remainder for raw materials, including petroleum.

### Anglo-Japanese Relations Friendly

London, Eng.—Anglo-Japanese relations are the best, according to Prince Chichibu, second son of the Japanese emperor, who arrived in England recently to attend Oxford University. The young prince referred to the co-operation of British and Japanese during the Chinese strike troubles and said his presence in England was itself an indication of the closeness of the bond between the two countries.

### Relief Fund for Needy Scots

Glasgow, Scotland.—A relief fund for the homeless of a hundred tenements destroyed in Glasgow's \$5,000,000 fire was started recently, while firemen still were combating the flames.

The fire was under control after destroying Kelvin Hall, the exhibition buildings, the Free Presbyterian college and church. The latter edifice was a copy of the famous Rheims cathedral and damage to it alone was \$1,990,000.

### "Sunday Worker" Is Attacked

Glasgow.—The British Fascists have begun to make their long-threatened attacks on the Sunday Worker. The distributing office of the paper in Hope street, Glasgow, was broken into and all books and files relating to the Sunday Worker were stolen. Papers were destroyed by pouring red ink over them. A banner was soaked in black ink—the favorite color of all good Fascists, who dream some day of becoming infant Mussolini's wearing a black shirt and a terrible frown.

### Stress Importance of N.S. Strike

Vancouver, B.C.—The Vancouver local of the Street Railwaymen's Union, decided that instead of sending delegates to their international convention in Montreal, and to the Trades Congress of Canada, assistance should be given the Nova Scotia miners. Whilst realizing the importance of these annual gatherings of workers, yet, they deemed the miners' strike of greater importance. This local has already sent \$600 to the striking miners.

At the semi-annual election of officers for this local, which was held on June 5th, the chief office, that of Financial Secretary and Business Agent, resulted in a tie. Angus MacInnis, present holder of the office, and W. H. Cottrell receiving 257 votes each.

### Wants a Uniform Tariff

Montreal, Que.—A uniform ad valorem rate of duty of 35 per cent, on everything coming into Canada was advocated by Frank P. Jones, president of the Canada Cement Company, as a substitution for the present tariff scheme of "anywhere from nothing to 70 per cent."

Mr. Jones declared such a system would reduce the cost of living in Canada more than 10 per cent, would increase the revenue from customs by \$120,000,000 per year, would do away with the sales tax costing the people \$250,000,000 annually and would employ more labor and develop the country.

### Many Strikes in Ireland

Late advices state that there are half a dozen minor strikes at Dublin—electricians, motor drivers, carters, grocers' assistants are very militant, and the pickets are in constant conflict with the police. The assistants are fighting to raise the wages of women workers, who are badly paid.

### Siberian Timber for Japan

The Moscow papers note the great interest shown in the contract between the Suzuki firm and the "Dallies" (Far Eastern timber syndicate) by the Japanese papers, of which several predict that Siberian timber will soon out the American product from the Japanese market.

### British Unions Add to Their Numbers

British trade unions have increased their membership since 1923, by 1,900,000, according to figures made public in Washington by the North American agency of the international labor office of Geneva, Switzerland. There are some 1135 trade union organizations in Great Britain, with a total membership of 5,461,000.

### Land Reverts To Soviet

Tokio, Japan.—The transfer of Northern Saghalien from Japan to the Soviet government of Russia was completed with the signing of protocols and the opening of a Russian consulate at Alexandrovsk.

### Italian Defence Act

Rome, Italy.—A new national defence act is being prepared by the Italian Government, local newspapers assert. Its reported provisions include the death penalty for those who destroy military materials, railroads or postal installations and those who enroll in armed bands that operate against the security of the State.

### Industry Paralyzed

Danish industries have now been completely paralyzed with the calling of a general strike of the transport workers. Nearly two months ago 50,000 workers were locked out when they refused to accept a 10 per cent cut in the face of their demand for higher wages to meet the cost of living. The total workers now idle number over 300,000. The Norwegian Transport Workers have called a sympathetic strike to prevent Danish shipping from being transferred to Norwegian ports.

### Typo Union Hold Conference

Windsor, Ont.—James M. Lynch, president of the International Typographical Union, was presented with a large Union Jack from the Ontario and Quebec conference of typographical unions.

By adopting a report submitted by the executive of the conference asked that the Federal Government place a customs duty of ten cents a pound on magazines and periodicals coming into Canada from the United States.

J. A. Hayden, of Ottawa, was re-elected president of the conference, and H. S. Bentley, of Hamilton, who has acted as secretary-treasurer for the past year was moved up to the position of vice-president. A. H. Wheatley of London, was named secretary-treasurer.

St. Catharines was chosen as a meeting place for 1926.

William Jeffries of Windsor, was elected president of the Provincial Council of Carpenters of Ontario, succeeding A. Exton, of Kitchener. John Fisher, Kingston; was elected first vice-president; Fred Hawes, Hamilton, second vice-president; Geo. Reubury, Niagara Falls, third vice-president; Tennyson Jackson, Toronto, secretary-treasurer.

Bellefleur was chosen as the meeting place for 1926.

### Many Accidents

Toronto, Ont.—In the last four years there have been approximately 250,000 accidents in the province of Ontario alone. Throughout the entire Dominion the total accidents in four years are almost as serious as the world war casualties.

### DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

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### Winnipeg T. and L. Council Meet

Winnipeg, Man.—Decision to appeal to all International Union locals in the city and province for a weekly contribution toward the relief of the striking miners of Nova Scotia was made at a recent meeting of the Trades and Labor Council here.

The feeling that the situation was serious; that the strike would be long drawn out, and that new sources of finance should be explored, was voiced by a number of delegates.

Delegate Neil Crowe, who congratulated the relief committee of the council on the results of its house to house canvass of the city, suggested that the council should organize a carnival, the proceeds of which should go to the miners' relief fund. "A carnival is a more successful method of extracting money from people than knocking at a door," he said.

Other delegates stressed the value of a personal canvass if members of the unions could be found to carry it through.

### Toronto Cloak Workers on Strike

Toronto, Ont.—The Royal and Continental Cloak Company, recently broke its agreement with the Toronto Cloak Joint Board and locked out its one hundred workers.

The Royal firm was a member of the Toronto Cloak Manufacturers' Association which only a few months ago had signed an agreement with the Union. This firm, however, has continually violated its pact with the workers' organization and it broke away completely from the association and locked out its workers. The union forthwith replied with a strike.

### Leaf Factory for Chatham

Chatham, Ont.—Final arrangements were completed for the establishment of a tobacco leaf factory in this city, the negotiations for the purchase of the building, later used by the Gray Dort Motors, being announced as finished. The purchase of the property means a new industry for Chatham.

### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

The benefits awarded under the Workmen's Compensation Act during the half year ending June 30 amounted to \$2,731,191.96, as compared with \$3,092,998.62 during the corresponding half of the year 1924. The compensation for the half year amounted to \$2,315,211.60, and the medical aid to \$415,980.36.

### Iron Workers End Strike

Cónshocken, Pa.—At a final meeting of the men of the east mill of the

Schuykill Iron Works, the majority of those present decided to return to work. The men have been out on strike for three months, claiming that they could not work for the wages paid after the mill had been modernized by new machinery.

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