



Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER. PERSISTENCY REWARDED.

It was at the 28th Annual Convention of the Trades Congress (eight years ago) held at the Royal city of Guelph, Ontario, when a definite resolution for mothers' pensions was unanimously adopted.

With that persistency of effort which is responsible for the high pinnacle attained by the International Trades Union movement, the importance of pensions to mothers was not sidetracked, and today busy committees are to be found in various Ontario centres lending a willing and sympathetic ear to the claimants, who are to be recognized as entitled to come under the Mothers' Allowance Act of the Ontario Government.

Labor advocates of this pension have at no time had any question of the necessity of such legislation. Notwithstanding open or subtle opposition to such from the time it was actively undertaken as a part of the workers' objective, continuous presentation of the case was made.

As in other reforms the worker's thought was considered to be ahead of the actual need, but a survey of the work being undertaken by the various committees gives positive answer to the question of necessity, brushing aside any opposition to the aid about to be given.

It is no stretch of the imagination to link up the International Trades Union movement with the Mothers' Allowance legislation. The strongest advocates have been found within the ranks of the organized worker and full recompense for the efforts expended is in the conclusive proof that the statement of necessity was correct, the need for relief a truth, with the knowledge that practical assistance is assured to appreciative mothers of the province.

"COVER THE GROUND."

EVER on the alert to cover all forms of organization, the American Federation of Labor watch the North American Continent with increasing vigilance. The ramifications of the movement are such that whenever a new field is proposed to its network of organizers in this Dominion and the United States no wonderment is expressed, however far from the orthodox or ordinary thought the breaking of new ground is proposed.

Thus prepaid the next to call for attention is the "last call workers," in some respects but in truth merely the continuity of addition to the seemingly endless chain of organization work. Without further mystery it may be announced that organization of professional embalmers has been commenced, with San Francisco, California, leading off the affiliations.

PORTSMOUTH CONVENTION.



Over 900 delegates representing some six million workers, attended the recent convention of the British Trade Union Congress.

LABOR WILL DO ITS FULL SHARE IN WORKING OUT CANADA'S PROBLEMS

Immediate Problem is to Develop a Production Organization That Will Benefit Workers and Serve Needs of Starving Nations.

In the past we have found it necessary to fight for that ideal agency that fought to establish special privilege. Those who have not been in the service of the unemployed, but to secure to wage-earners the rights and opportunities that all should possess. Our struggles may have brought disaster to others, but they represented a greater evil—deterioration of the virility of a part of the nation.

Across the Atlantic.

OUR WEEKLY BRITISH LETTER. LONDON (Saturday).—The public in Great Britain is only just awakening to the seriousness of the unemployment question.

Nothing has been heard for many months of the schemes of afforestation and public works on a large scale, which were discussed after the armistice as suitable relief measures to cope with unemployment. The Unemployment Act does not come into operation until next month, but even if its benefits were immediately available, the sum of £12, a week, which is provided for, would be too small to meet the necessities of an unemployed man with a family.

DO AUTOMATIC MACHINES RETARD THE EMPLOYEE'S ADVANCEMENT?

By John D. Babbage, New England Manager Miller Saw Trimmer Company, Boston.

This question has only one answer: No! But it is an old question, reaching back to the invention of the loom and the cotton gin, and in the printing industry, back to the typesetting machine and improved types of printing presses built with the idea of reducing the amount of labor required in their operation and with a view to increasing the amount of production per unit of labor.

The long fight waged against the introduction of typesetting machines in newspaper plants through out the present century is the memory of all the printing craft. Their coming was vigorously fought and opposed by the hand compositors, who feared that it meant a sure end to the development of the printing industry and to the general uplift of the workers in this industry. Their opposition was based on the conditions of hand-set type. The old hand compositors, who were quick to see the success of this new venture, and who in so doing prepared themselves for better working conditions, shorter hours of labor and higher wages.

MACHINISTS REFUSE THE AIR ROUTE.

The convention of the International Association of Machinists at Rochester, N.Y., recently, rejected every suggestion to withdraw from the A. F. of L.

Progress is not made fast enough, according to the aviation and advocates of so-called industrial unionism. The regulars agreed they would like to progress faster, but insisted that this is not possible by smashing the machinists' organization of dividing workers for the employers' gain.

Here's To Woman.

Once Our Superior, Now Our Equal—Calm.

BRITISH WOMEN AND LABOR LAWS.

A slight misapprehension seems to exist in the minds of those people in regard to the conventions passed at Washington last autumn by the International Labor Conference. The latter is not a body of the Government of any one country that was represented at Washington.

So far as Great Britain is concerned, the law in some cases is ready as far as the Washington conventions as for example, the non-employment of children up to 14, while there are certain respects in which many people regard the Washington conventions as taking a retrograde step. They have the effect of putting women at a grave disadvantage with men in finding employment and in securing equality of treatment.

It is difficult to understand why women alone should be singled out for special protective legislation. Night work is bad for men as well as for women, so is going into work at night. That are already over-heated and insufficiently ventilated. But under the present economic conditions a certain amount of evening and night work has to be done, and it is, therefore, in women's interests not to deprive them of this means of employment.

POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES IS OVER 105,000,000.

The 1920 population of Continental United States was announced last week by the Census Bureau as 105,683,108. This was an increase of 13,710,842, or 14.9 per cent, since 1910.

This total does not include the populations of outlying possessions which will be announced as soon as the figures for Alaska and the military and naval services abroad are tabulated. It is estimated, however, that these possessions have 12,250,000 inhabitants, so that the total population of the United States is in round numbers 118,000,000.

NO LONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE FOR NEW YORK HARBOR.

A strike of longshoremen at New York has been averted by a one-year extension of present rates. Working conditions are improved.

NO STRIKES IN CHINA.

According to Rev. Benjamin L. Accell, a missionary from China, he believes that "labor problems" are the result of "over-population." The over-population, he says, are no strikes in China and that country is a poverty stricken.

Give This to a Constipated Baby

Why Dr. Caldwell's Laxative Syrup Pepsin is the Favorite Constipation Remedy with so Many Mothers

YOUNG Mothers in the midst of bringing up a family of small children should consider it a duty to investigate the action of the various remedies for constipation. This is the simplest and most common among children, and it often leads to serious diseases. It is important for mothers to know the right remedy to give, for they differ widely in action.

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# LABOR NEWS FROM COAST TO COAST

## The Associated Federal Employees of Ottawa.

Federal Union No. 66.

### A MINIMUM WAGE.

There are several viewpoints from which the question of a minimum wage may be considered. The very meaning of the expression is not settled; frequently a distinction is made between the minimum wage and the term "minimum wage." The latter term implies a certain amount of training, where labor supply is so certain as to be limited, employers, in order to reduce their labor turnover and keep up the quality and quantity of their product, are forced to accept a wage which is higher than the minimum wage. Any sensible employer knows that his horses must have a certain minimum of food and attention if their strength for work is to be kept up to standard; this is their minimum wage. As applied to human labor, this conception of the term may be defined as the least amount which will serve to keep up the productive power of the employee.

At first glance it might appear that an employer of the second class had a somewhat fair view of the relation of the wage earner to his employer, but such is not the case. The relation between the two classes of employer is a very close one, and there is a constant shifting from one to the other, should manufacturing methods be so simplified as to permit of comparatively untrained help being employed, or should available labor supply become greater, wages tend to fall below the level indicated in Class 2. Under reversed circumstances they tend to rise until an employer in Class 1 is forced to employ Class 2.

The feature common to the two is that least cost of production at the expense of the employee is the chief aim, and the human element does not enter into the problem. In Class 1 the employee is of infinitely less value than the machine, in the second, of no greater value.

The third class of employer comprises those who recognize, in varying degree, the fact that their employees are human like themselves, and equally deserving of something more than bare subsistence. They also recognize that a wage permit- ting of the obtaining of the necessities of life:

1. A fair share of his comforts;
2. Education for his children; to be useful citizens;
3. Provision for illness, accident, and old age is well placed in actual cash value by the greater willingness and loyalty, keener concentration on work, and better health of the employee. This, then, is the aim, and the only true minimum wage.

It is seldom indeed that an employer of this class slips back into either of the two previously mentioned. As a matter of fact, the tendency is in the other direction. One provision for the employee of something above the minimum return for his efforts has been found to give such good results in higher production, and vastly more important, in the feeling of fellowship and friendliness between employer and employee, that the impulse to go farther in improvement of working conditions is almost irresistible. It is not been found that the desire for trades unionism, the third class of employer would ever have existed except in isolated instances, would make a good subject for debate. It must be agreed, however, that had it not been for the trades union, with its organized and directed power and efforts, the worker would be much farther from the goal than he is today. The trades union, in some form, has been a necessity since man entered into the relation of employer and employee; it must continue to be a necessity until the basis of such relation is perfected upon a plan of justice and equity to all concerned. When such a plan is realized in fact, then, and then only, may it be said that the trades union has fulfilled its purpose.

Governments of civilized countries have recognized their responsibility in this matter by legislation controlling employment conditions, by establishing Departments of Labor, by keeping records of living costs, by establishing Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration, and by labor law being heard more and more clearly in Houses of Parliament. The Government of Canada has not been behind in this matter. Only a few days ago our Prime Minister addressed a convention of Labor delegates at Windsor; our Minister of Labor has declared that the trades unions have been the great bulwark against the spread of radicalism of the worst type, throughout the country.

One would naturally expect, therefore, that our Government, if not already a model employer, would be making every effort to become one that full advantage would have been taken of the recent reclassification to do away with the salary scales of past years, so progressive under present conditions; that the greatest care would have been taken to see that the Government, as an employer, led the way of progress in the treatment of its employees, confident that its efforts would be repaid the country a thousand-fold in the greater devotion of public servants. It is to be regretted that this great opportunity has so far been neglected.

We do not intend, in this brief article, to confuse the main issue by including in this discussion salaries in the higher grades of the service. A deputy minister receives a higher salary than a messenger because his training, duties and responsibilities are greater; he is also entitled to a proportionately higher maintenance allowance. His remuneration for services owing to his position involving greater personal and family expenditures.

The point we wish to bring out

here, however, involves no nice considerations of relative social position, but simply states the fact; it needs no proof; it is within the knowledge of thousands of the service and the fact is this:

There are those in the Civil Service of Canada, whole classes of employees, and hundreds of others cases outside those classes where the salaries paid are either below or just upon the minimum wage.

As stated, we in the service all know that the public has only to glance through the pages of reclassification to assure itself of the truth of our statement.

What follows? Simply that the Government, thankful to labor for upholding constituted authority, so busy conciliating in labor difficulties, studying living conditions and attempting to reduce the grossly negligent of the lower-paid classes of its own workers. It is, in fact, a class 1 employer in some cases, and a class 2 employer in the remainder.

What whole-hearted service can be expected, when the spectre of want is ever present, when constant watchfulness of every penny is necessary? When children must be condemned to a future of unskilled labor for lack of funds to educate them? When illness is a financial disaster and approaching old age and compulsory retirement a constant dread? When the obtaining of the daily food, shelter and clothing takes every cent of earnings?

The Government incurs a still heavier responsibility in this matter; it is due only to the high character of the woman civil servant that it is not necessary to a crime. Has the Government, in its desire to save means, or may mean, to ask a girl to live on \$600 a year, plus bonus in these times?

In the near future, the Government of Canada will be given an opportunity to take the first step in righting these wrongs. Their final adjustment will take time, and in its later stages, mature consideration. But what the service asks at present takes neither time nor consideration. We ask simply for a percentage of salary increase as will enable the members of the service, especially those in the lower grades, to live decently without constant fear of financial disaster. Adequate remuneration for services rendered may be studied in full later, but it is axiomatic that the least any faithful servant, no matter how humble, deserves is a minimum wage allowing decent, comfortable living.

### MANY APPLICATIONS FOR MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

The number of applicants in Ottawa under the Mothers' Allowance Act, popularly known as mothers' pensions, provided for by the local board, who have to resort to late sittings in order to cope with them. According to A. Cameron, honorary secretary of the local Mothers' Allowance Board, already there are about 210 bona fide applications to go forward to the board.

Quite a number of applications are being made, however, at the City Hall from mothers outside the city limits, and a much larger number is caused thereby. According to bulletin No. 1, issued by the Toronto Commission, every city, separate town and corporation which has a local board, but the fact is many places have not yet elected their local board and applications for mothers' pensions are being made in Ottawa, which the Ottawa board cannot handle under the act.

### OTTAWA NEWS BRIEFS.

The regular monthly meeting of the Ottawa Branch of the I. L. P. will be held in the Carpenters' Hall, 115 Sparks street, on Friday evening, October 23. A full report of the members is requested. The municipal elections are soon to take place and if the Labor Party is to play an important part therein, it is essential that as many of the members as possible attend the meetings of the organization.

On Wednesday evening, October 27, the Millers' Union will hold a dance in the Venetian Studios. Under the auspices of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, a euchre will be held in St. Anne's Hall on Wednesday evening, October 27, commencing at 8 o'clock. The evening will be devoted to a percentage of salary increase as will enable the members of the service, especially those in the lower grades, to live decently without constant fear of financial disaster. Adequate remuneration for services rendered may be studied in full later, but it is axiomatic that the least any faithful servant, no matter how humble, deserves is a minimum wage allowing decent, comfortable living.

### OUR ELECTIONS.

Every member of the union is being circulated by the nominating committee, and the members are asked to attend the general election, and to elect representatives to the general council. Nomination for officers, councilors and departmental representatives will be held up to and including October 22. Each nomination for officer must have at least ten seconds. Each nomination for councilor or for departmental representative must have at least five seconds. Nominations for departmental representatives must be confined within departmental limits—that is, nominee nominator and seconds must all belong to the same department. The nomination must be for that department, and the electors will be the union members of that department only. The nominations, however, are to be forwarded to headquarters, as indicated, to be for the other offices, and the election will all be carried on at the one time under directions from headquarters.

Address all nominations to Chairman Elections Committee, P. E. O. Rooms 49 - 50, Carleton Chambers, Sparks street, Ottawa.

### OTTAWA.

**GREAT AMELIORATIONS TO STE. ANNE'S HALL.**

The board of directors of "Le Cercle Social Ste. Anne," administrators of the hall, having just completed a big task in renovating the same and by installing a powerful and up-to-date heating system, involving several thousand dollars, is glad to announce to its members, the general public and the numerous organizations patronizing the hall, that hereafter they will enjoy more comfort than ever.

The new heating system, under the able supervision of Messrs. J. A. Seguin and Trade Architects, is completed and all visitors will be gladly given full information concerning the new system.

We herewith enumerate in detail what this popular hall on St. Patrick street comprises:

Basement—Restaurant with luncheon counter, storage room, pool room with tables, two bowling alleys, shoe shine, shower bath room, shop for carrying and electrician, quarters of the Laurier Athletic Club, caretaker's room and the new heating plant.

First floor—Rooms occupied by Le Cercle Social, a reception bureau for the mutual societies such as Les Artisans, L'Union St. Joseph and the Catholic Pressers, check room and ticket office, theatre with balcony and dressing rooms, also used for conventions, with all necessary committee rooms, social and political meetings, etc.; and also used for banquets, with a capacity of 500.

Second floor—Rooms for the Ste. Anne's parish choir, office of Le Cercle Social, and the parish mutual societies, and also labor union meetings, two class rooms for boys and girls, with recreation room, draughts and card playing room.

Third floor—Rooms for the education of the young men of Le Cercle Social, and the Young Men's Association, with a capacity of 20, 40, 200, 400 and 1,500 each, and the following labor unions are already holding their regular meetings in those rooms, namely: Dominion Public Workers Association, the Graphic Cutters International Association of America, International Union of Steam Engineers, Local No. 471, United Labor Workers International, Local No. 109, the International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers and Pipe Fitters, Local No. 258, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, Local No. 92 and 496, Whisk and Broom Makers, Lathers, etc., and all the different organizations of the parish already mentioned.

A fact worthy of mention is that, although accommodating all the above organizations, Le Cercle So-

### OTTAWA.

cial does not in any way interfere with its parochial work, as every mutual, charitable or social organization of the parish is being taken care of gratuitously. The bowling alleys and pool tables are also passing through the repairing process and the members of Le Cercle Social and their visiting friends will certainly have reason to praise the able management committee of the hall, as everything seems to be kept in an up-to-date and satisfactory manner and is, surely a success as a parochial undertaking.

### HAMILTON.

**PAINTERS TO NAME DELEGATES.**

At the next meeting of local No. 205, Painters, Decorators, and Paperhangers' Union, the members will vote on the naming of delegates who will attend the Ontario Journeymen Painters' conference. The consensus of opinion among the members is that delegates should be lost in organizing a provincial board if the painters' movement in Ontario is to advance in accord with other international trades unions in Ontario. At the next meeting of local No. 205, besides four initiatives, one representative look place, and at the next meeting in the Labor Party candidates will be initiated, so far the membership is "quite" satisfied with the work of recently appointed Business Agent Matt Price, who has already been responsible for a number of new propositions. Furthermore, he is having a steady influence among the rank and file.

### TORONTO.

**TORONTO NEWS BRIEFS.**

One of the largest gatherings of bricklayers in some years attended the meeting of the International Union of Bricklayers in the Labor Temple on Thursday night when the large auditorium was filled to capacity. It was an striking tribute to the boys who went overseas and did what they could for their country and world freedom," said Business Agent John F. Viock.

Disagreement between tar and gravel roofers and their employees has been adjusted.

Harry Higgins, who organized the meeting of the International Association of Machinists at Rochester.

The painters' representatives of Toronto have undertaken an co-operative project.

Striking roofers returned to work last Wednesday on condition that their union would be recognized and negotiations for a fifteen cents an hour increase started.

Eight new members have been added to the Iron Workers and Structural Steel Workers' Union. The Carpenters' Brotherhood last week laid over a proposal to increase the entry fee of the organization.

### EASTERN CANADA.

**BRANTFORD'S MOTHERS' PENSION BOARD.**

The Brantford Mothers' Pension Board held its inaugural meeting last week, when Judge Hardy was elected chairman, Mrs. W. J. G. vice-chairman, and Coree Sim-

### LABOR AND EMPLOYER

(By Samper Gompers)

When one seeks authoritative information on a subject it is the part of wisdom to go to the fountain head for it; therefore, those in search of Labor's official views will turn at once to Mr. Gompers' latest book, "Labor and the Employer." Aimed at a half century of labor leadership has placed Mr. Gompers in a position to express Labor's official views on all important labor issues. His latest book, like his "Labor and the Employer," issued a short time ago, is made up almost wholly of extracts from his speeches, addresses, and testimony. These are classified under general headings, and it is interesting to note the statements by Mr. Gompers embraced in "Labor and the Employer" extend over a long period, about thirty years, there is an almost total absence of contradiction between his early and late day statements, indicating that the veteran president of the American Federation of Labor has been consistent in the advocacy of his labor policies. This latest compilation of his statements, and the chronological arrangement of the minor topics falling within the general classifications, also shows that Mr. Gompers has not swerved from his position regarding the organization of labor. When he first appeared at trade union meetings, some fifty years ago, he had clear-cut ideas as to how the labor movement should be conducted. The record of his life's career shows that one of his precepts was conservatism and that he has always counselled his fellow workers against loose experimentation with doubtful radical doctrines.

### PEL TEACHERS' STRIKE OVER MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

The teachers' strike, which has held up the studies of two hundred and forty students at Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown, P. E. I., has been settled, and the faculty, headed by Dr. Robertson, returned to work on Tuesday. The teachers struck for a minimum wage of \$30 per week.

### POLITICS AND LABOR WONT TO GET ALONG.

It was announced last week by Fred Young, who was refused as a delegate from the Musicians' Labor Council, that the union will secede from the council. Mr. Young added that he is taking the matter up directly with Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. He declared that the local trades council is in a state of confusion, and that the I.L.P. and for that reason is refused to sit in the London Trades Council.

### MONTREAL TRADES COUNCIL.

The recent dismissal of school teachers at their annual meeting of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council, and the Barbers' Union suggested that a school committee be formed to propose a proposal met with opposition, it being pointed out by President J. F. Foster that, while the motion would be a good one, it would be easy to have a school commission, but they would have to pay their ordinary school taxes, and it would not function. The proper remedy was through the ballot box, and it was an important part of the law that the law was considered to be unjust, and under which teachers had been refused to be elected to the school board.

The Teachers' Welfare Association read affidavits alleging that the four district school boards in question had been willing to take back teachers who signed an agreement not to join an international union; twenty had done so, and forty-nine were left.

A resolution of moral support of the plumbers' strike was passed, and J. R. Blais, their business agent, reported that some three hundred men were back at work, their employers, amongst whom were some of the largest in the city, having signed the new contract.

Delegate A. Mathieu asked for financial support in a contestation case against Hon. M. Scully on the election of general organizer, in his attempt to purify election conditions. It was for labor to aid him in this.

Part of the special committee on coal was received, and it was decided to form a co-operative coal company, direct from the mine to shareholders.

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### WESTERN CANADA.

### CALGARY TYPOS SEEK BENEFIT FUND.

Calgary Typographical Union now boasts of what is probably the highest sick benefit rate in Canada. Early this year a special assessment of one per cent was levied for six months, to provide the nucleus of a fund. At the August meeting it was decided to pay sick benefits on the following basis:

First 26 weeks' sickness, \$7.50 per week.

Next 26 weeks' sickness, \$10 per week.

Total amount that can be collected for any one sickness, \$642.50.

While to some it may appear that these figures are rather high, they are the result of a very exhaustive investigation of the sick benefit history of No. 449 during the past four years. Unless a severe epidemic strikes the union, the present amount payable into the fund monthly (half of one per cent) will provide ample moneys for meeting all the expenses of the fund.

The members generally are extremely pleased with the new arrangements and realize that the small amount paid in as a special assessment for six months will in the long run prove very beneficial.

### MANITOBA PROFESSOR BELIEVES COAL PROBLEM SOLVED.

Prof. J. W. Dorsey, of the University of Manitoba, has announced that his union decided to utilize the water power resources of Winnipeg River, that he has discovered a new method of transmitting electric power, which would reduce the cost one-half. He has been called to lay his discovery before the United States Bureau of Standards at Washington.

"Long before the coal fields of the world are exhausted, electricity will have supplanted coal as the universal fuel in the homes and the motive power in industry," said Prof. Dorsey. "By the development of water power, it is possible to do away with the necessity for coal. If the potential water power of Winnipeg River were developed, it would be sufficient to turn every factory wheel in Canada and heat every home and office in Winnipeg even if the temperature remained 40 degrees below zero all year round. It would be vastly cheaper for Winnipeg to obtain its electric heat and power from Winnipeg River eight miles away than to haul coal 1,400 miles from Pennsylvania."

It is from Winnipeg River that the municipally owned hydro-electric system derives its power which is sold to industrial plants at a lower rate than in any other city in the world. In addition to the city's power plant, another which has a capacity of 600,000 is being erected on a Westport River at Du Bonnet Falls.

### TORONTO.

**McBRIDE MAY GRACE THE CROSS BENCHES.**

Mayor McBride, of Brantford, says he will go to the west to see the Ontario Legislature next session. In the course of a statement issued last week he says:

"I have a few months ago wrote a letter in which I took exception to my expressed opinion on the question of Hydro-railways and as a Member of the Crown, underlook to tell me that, as a supporter of the Government, it was not to have the freedom of speech. I have consequently asked the speaker to place me in position on the floor of the House where I may be permitted to express my opinion on public questions freely, without having the inference drawn that I am, in any way, betraying Government confidence."

### Keep the Machinery Going

The factory would stand still if the belts that turn the wheels were to fall. Belts that make the longest run with the least repair and adjustment are the workman's best friend. No lost time. Machinery in every factory should be driven with

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LABOR AND GOVERNMENT.

In any study of the relations that have arisen between Labor and the State, it is desirable that a definite conception of what constitutes Government, and what are the functions of Government, should be presented.

That the a.ument in favor of it is strong. The early philosophers and writers on social science held the doctrine of the social contract, that is, by the individual consent of each member of the community, each gave up his right to govern himself to an assembly of men on the condition that they in turn would relinquish that right.

SERVED KING, HOME AND COUNTRY 1914 1918 MEMBERS OF BRICKLAYERS UNION NO. 2 ONT WHO DIED WHILE ON ACTIVE SERVICE DURING THE WAR

On Thursday last, in the Toronto Labor Temple, the Toronto Bricklayers unveiled a memorial tablet to its members, who fell in the great war.

political mind of the people is upset, and that confidence in Parliament is forfeited—when in fact, Governments have created revolutionary conditions.

The doctrine of direct action finds many advocates in the Old Land, and already there is a movement for the Left Wing of the Independent Labor Party, who are pledged to an active propaganda in favor of this method.

LABOR CHAPTER OF TREATY OF PEACE The Treaty of Versailles of June 28, 1919, of St. Germain of Sept. 10, 1919, of Neuilly of Nov. 27, 1919, and of the Grand Triancon of June 4, 1920, with Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Hungary, contain one section devoted to Labor which is identical in all four.

The Labor Organization: Whereas the League of Nations has for its object the establishment of universal peace, and such a peace can be established only if it is based upon social justice; and whereas conditions of labor exist in various countries which are in many respects unjust, involving such injustice, hardship and privation to large numbers of people as to produce unrest so great that the peace and harmony of the world are imperilled; and an improvement of those conditions is urgently required; as, for example, by the regulation of the hours of work, including the establishment of a maximum working day and week, the regulation of the labor supply, the prevention of unemployment, the provision of an adequate living wage, the protection of the worker against sickness, disease and injury arising out of his employment, the protection of children, young persons, and women, provisions for old age and injury, protection of the interests of workers when employed in countries other than their own, recognition of the principle of freedom of association, the organization of vocational and technical education and other measures.

Whereas also the failure of any nation to adopt humane conditions of labor is an obstacle in the way of other nations which desire to improve the conditions in their own countries; The high contracting parties, moved by sentiments of justice and humanity, as well as by the desire to secure the permanent peace of the world, agree to the following:

Officers of the Association of Workmen's Compensation Boards, in session at Toronto, last week, agreed that accident prevention work should be placed under the jurisdiction of provincial compensation boards.

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All Wise Men Will Encourage Voluntary Co-Operation Which Will Make For the Strength of the British Empire.

No one wishes to impose further bonds on any part of the King's Dominion; but all wise men will encourage that tendency towards voluntary co-operation which will make for the strength of the British Empire, which means in the highest sense the welfare of the world.

THE PRESENT NEED FOR PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

(By Ronald Hooper). It is clear that proportional representation would help to increase confidence in representative institutions; and as confidence is being shaken by election results on existing lines, it is in the national interest that proportional representation should meet with greater support.

The increasing adoption of the proportional representation method of election in democratic countries is a distinct sign of the times. The single member constituency, the block vote, and other "majority" methods of election serve the purpose sufficiently well in the past when parliaments were engaged in dealing only with the general rights of the people, as for example, in religious beliefs, the right to trial by jury, and other questions which affected all classes equally.

But now that our legislators are increasingly giving consideration to economic questions, to the adjustment of differences between capital and labor, between rich and poor, it is conceivable that governments which operated equitably enough when universal rights only were concerned, might not operate fairly where there is a conflict between particular interests.

In view of the labor classes of the Free World, it would appear as though industrial and political issues were destined to be more closely interwoven in the future. The quickening of our legislatures are composed at present, fitted to deal with these questions in a properly sympathetic and understanding manner.

At the last general election in the United Kingdom the Labor party polled in contested constituencies 2,292,162 votes. This entitled them to 129 seats in respect to the contested constituencies, but the total number of seats obtained, both contested and uncontested, was 59. The unrepresentative character of the present system is brought out by a realization of something akin to political impotency on the part of Labor, which was accentuated by the refusal of the Government to accede to the demands of the Sankey Coal Commission.

Thus a great impetus was given to the policy of the constitutionalists, the policy of the British Trades Union Congress held at Glasgow, in September, 1919, the chairman, Mr. Hugh Bunting, in his opening speech declared himself against direct action on such issues as the nationalization of mines, in the words: "I do not believe in industrial strikes on political issues—in other words, I do not despair of constitutional methods. There is no political reform, however great, to be reached, which the working people of this country could not obtain by the ballot box."

That the great majority of the congress shared this view and, further, that they recognized the changes necessary to be made in order that they might hope to attain their ends through constitutional means, is shown by the following resolution which was adopted almost unanimously: "That a committee be appointed to study the present system of representation and to report thereon to the following election."

Of those who did not support the above resolution, many frankly adopted a policy of opportunism. They contended that the injustices of the present electoral system, which has so long operated against them, were now likely to swing in their favor and, to put it plainly, as a consequence they in their turn were likely in the future to receive more parliamentary representation than they were justly entitled to. But such an argument is doubly ridiculous in the immediate system of election under which a few thousand extra votes could suddenly swing them into power, could just as readily swing them out again.

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From Many Sources.

In the 'eighties, "Today" wrote thus: "A number of ignorant people have caught up the term bourgeois or middle class, which they have heard is used in the works of German and French Socialists. Not having read the works they do not know that the word is used to designate a certain school of economists and not to mark a distinction between manual and brain workers."

The entire Soviet propaganda exhibits complete indifference to truth. For example, the Bolshevik Press has published literally thousands of reports of foreign revolutions which had no foundation. —W. E. Walling.

The Prince of Wales "always feels happy among Americans." And it pleases them. A young boy had 100 situations in a year. Another seeker after records, we suppose.

A lady stood before a wonderful nude figure in the National Gallery in London. "Mr. Whistler, don't you think that picture is indecent?" she asked. "No, madam," replied the master, "but I think your remark is."

"The new world will only be the old world modified, matured, and, we hope, amended; but still a world of conflict, of strenuous effort, of justly often of a constant struggle against evil and dangerous forces, against materialism, selfishness and greed." —Sidney Low.

"It is not a sad commentary upon our social system that when all the world requires goods, food, clothes and houses the people who are willing and anxious to provide these things are prevented from doing so." —J. H. Thomas.

The National Hotel at Geneva has been purchased as a home for the League of Nations. The great test of any community today is whether its people are citizens or subjects.

"It is the urban civilization of Europe which is threatened. The peasantry will survive and multiply." —H. N. Brailsford.

"The country realizes its independence and is economically in a position to dictate to the town." —H. N. Brailsford.

"Goland has damned a flood which might have submerged civilization. Let us be grateful to her." —Lord Abernethy.

"Ughart never faltered in his belief that, above all things, knowledge is the key to the reign of justice and peace in the world." —J. H. Harley.

"Power, pursued for its own sake eludes the seeker and destroys his faith." —The Round Table.

"Industrial neurosthenia played an important part in every illness which befel a worker, whether due to accident or disease. Such a worker required confidence in the future to enable him to resist the onset of the illness or to enable him to recover." —Professor Collis.

Excuse is not art and freedom is not lawlessness. In all future vessels for the Canadian government merchant marine, Canadian Douglas fir will replace the southern pine from the United States heretofore used in the laying of decks.

"HOW CHILDREN MAY HELP TO AVOID MOTOR ACCIDENTS." You may avoid an accident. If you let me put you wise. So, when you go to cross the street, just open both your eyes. Look up and down, and all around. And listen for a sound. You may not hear a car approach. It may come on the bound. Now when you want to cross the street, And you are in a hurry, Don't make a dash before you look And get all in a flurry. Yes you may get across today And then again tomorrow. But when you try to cross again, It may be to your sorrow. —J. E. Belanger, 538 Lisgar street, Ottawa, Ont. Pupil Wellington Street School.

Notice to Contractors. Sealed tenders, addressed to the Board of Control, and endorsed "Tenders for Nurses' Home" will be received by the Board's Secretary up to 1 p.m. of Tuesday, the 19th of October, 1920, at the office of the works in connection with Nurses' Home, Isolation Hospital, Bulk tenders only will be considered. Plans and specifications of the work may be seen in the office of W. E. Nofke, Registered Architect, 42 Central Chambers. An accepted bank cheque for 5 per cent. of the amount of tender to accompany same. The lowest and any tender not necessarily accepted. NORMAN H. H. LETT, City Clerk.

ITALIAN DELEGATION ALSO BRINGS UNFAVORABLE REPORT FROM RUSSIA

Communists Numbering One-tenth of Population Control Political and Economic Machine—A Warning to Italy.

The report of the mission recently sent to Russia by the Italian General Confederation of Labor has just been made public. It is an impressive document, more significant as coming from men who originally sympathized with the revolution.

The report constitutes an inexorable criticism of the Bolshevik regime. It shows that if the peasants have derived more advantage than damages from the change, this is only because, in the countryside, the Bolsheviks have failed to make their self supreme. In the towns, workers are worse off than before the revolution. Cities have fallen into moral and material misery and the government is incapable of supplying the minimum of indispensable necessities. Speculation is rampant, and all industrial and commercial organization has been destroyed. Bureaucracy has enormously increased.

It is the report says, useless to cherish illusions as to exports from Russia, as all transport is disorganized. The Communists number only 600,000 out of a population of 60,000,000; but they are masters of the political and economic machine. In conclusion, the report says that practical results have not answered to the ideal premises of the revolution. The capitalist regime has been destroyed, but nothing has been substituted. "One cannot," it says, "prevent the Russian people from making an experiment if it wishes to do so, but one must help this people in the name of civilization and humanity to emerge from such a miserable situation and recognize the fallacy of their conception of life."

PREMIER DRURY SAYS RENT QUESTION WILL BE DISCUSSED. A check on rent gougers and landlords who refuse to rent apartments to families with children is proposed in the following letter received by Mayor Winter from Premier Drury, which reads as follows: "What you say is true, and I may say I am quite in sympathy with your views. Another thing I am considering and contemplating taking action on is with regard to owners of apartment houses objecting to people with children. This is a matter, I think, which should be put to a stop, and I will keep your letter before me when we are in session, and will see that it receives serious consideration." (Signed) E. C. DRURY.

NOVA SCOTIA MINERS' AND OPERATORS' CONFERENCE POSTPONED. Although it was anticipated that the mine operators and the executive of the United Mine Workers, District 26, would meet last Tuesday, the conference did not come about. Doubtless, according to information secured by the Sydney News, the meeting will be arranged in the course of the present week or in the early stages of next week. Both operators and the officials of the U. M. W. are confident of an amicable settlement respecting the disputed clauses of the report of the Royal Commission. There were some slight difficulties in the way of a session Tuesday. Mr. McEann was unable to be present at any such meeting, but is now doing his best to have the operators present in the near future. Mr. Baxter, president of the U. M. W., was called to Sydney Mines, where he was in interview with the Scotia operators, as well as the mine workers. Mr. Barrett, International board member for the district, is in Pittsburg, and although he will return with the next two or three days, the discussion between the two bodies will be postponed until all the operators and members of the U. M. W.'s executive board can be present.

WESTERN PRINTERS ELATED OVER CONGRESS DECISION. Next year's convention of the Trades and Labor Congress will be held in Winnipeg, that city being the victor of the city being victorious over Montreal's campaign. And, maybe Delegate Harry Powers wasn't a happy man at Windsor. The Conference gets a bit of the credit for the victory, as we corresponded with Congress officials fervently, besides urging the various bodies of the west to make a dead set on the convention, and the arguments put forth by this Congress were much to the fore at the Windsor convention. Tom Moore and Paddy Draper were re-elected to office without a contest. So the \$50,000 boomers are a dead issue.—Western Union.

BRITISH TRADE UNION CONGRESS OFFICIALS. At the Port-mouth convention of the British Trade Union Congress, the following officers were elected: Parliamentary Committee, J. H. Thomas, J. W. Giddens, J. Hill, Harry Gosling, Miss M. Bondfield, Robert Smillie, R. E. Walker, A. B. Swales, A. A. Purcell, Will Thorne, J. Sexton, A. Smith, A. Pugh, H. Boothman, E. L. Poulton, and J. Beard. Other elections were: J. H. Thomas and J. Walker (American delegation), Nell Maclean (Canadian delegation), J. Benson (Co-operative Congress), W. Sherwood, A. Lorimer, J. Wignall, W. G. C. McVey (General Purpose Committee), and W. R. Smith and W. Straker (auditors). The next Congress will be held at Cardiff.

RIVERDALE VETERANS MAY HAVE CO-OPERATIVE STORE. Comrade Sergt-Major J. McNamee presided at the regular meeting of Riverdale Branch G.W.V.A. last week. The chief business of the evening was the discussion of the proposal that the branch establish a co-operative store in the East end of Toronto. After an address by Mr. Palmer, minister of the U.F.O., on the subject of co-operation a committee composed of Comrades W. H. Goff, J. Joyce, E. Robbins, R. O. Jones, McKinnon and F. A. Ridge, was appointed to go fully into the matter and report to a future meeting of the branch.

SHERWOOD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY General Contractors LIMITED Harbor Commissioners' Building TORONTO

THE CLERK MAKES NO MISTAKES IN ADDING THE ITEMS OF A SALE He records the price of each article on the new kind of National Cash Register. The register does the adding. The total always is correct. No mental addition, and no mistakes. The register prints the price of each article and the total on a receipt for each customer. It retains printed and added records of each sale. Every merchant should know about this new cash register. Offices in principal cities.

NATIONAL CASH REGISTER CO., OF CANADA, LIMITED. TORONTO, ONT.

CONTEST FOR ALL OFFICES IN DISTRICT 26.

The U.M.W. district officers election which takes place on December 2 promises to be very keenly contested. Already nine nominations for Vice-President have been received with the mainland locals to be heard from. Those running for Vice-President are David Ryah, W. P. Delaney, Glace Bay; Patrick Power, New Waterford; Arthur Burke, New Waterford; William Hayes, Springfield; Norman Roberts, Glace Bay; Fred Ward, Reserve; and William Fellows, Sydney Mines.

Four nominations for president have been received. Three Glace Bay men are mentioned, George Bagnell, Andrew Irwin and Robert Baxter. The present president, Daniel Livingstone, of Westville, has been nominated for the office of president and international board member. "Mr. Livingstone" has not decided which nomination he will accept. D. W. Morrison, M.P.P., has been nominated for board member.

Although no nominations have been received for the position of district secretary, The Gazette learns from a reliable source that Kent Foster, of Springfield, and at present a member of the U.M.W. wage scale committee, will oppose J. B. McLachlan, Glace Bay Gazette.

THE PLACE FOR IT. "Willie!" "Yes Pop." "Can you carry a tune?" "Certainly I can carry a tune, Pop." Well, carry that one you are whistling out into the back yard and bury it!" —Exchange.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC This is to advise residents that it is against the law to burn leaves on city streets, and residents are requested by request to refrain from this practice. A. F. MACCALLUM, Commissioner of Works, Ottawa, Sept. 26, 1920.

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Canadian Shoes for Canadian People

A thousand rumors do not make one single fact

ALL of us want to believe the rumors regarding further reduction in footwear prices. If they were founded on fact—or even probability—we would have been ahead of Rumor in announcing the good news.

BUT rumor, as usual, ignores the fact that controls the situation—that prices to the retailer are governed by the cost of raw materials and labor. High prices are not of our making or seeking. They have been imposed upon us and you by the tremendously increased cost of every single thing that enters into the making of shoes. And these high material costs, together with to-day's wage scale, which govern and dictate our shoe prices, show no immediate tendency to permanently seek lower levels.

Irresponsible Rumor ignores these facts—delights in "sensational news"—and, as is so often the case, hurts everybody indiscriminately until its fallacious and viciousness become apparent. We appreciate our responsibility to you; we want to help towards cheaper living and we are earnestly striving to improve matters. We ask your confidence and belief to encourage us towards that end.

OUR advice to you—and we give it to all sincerely—is to BUY NOW any shoes you need for yourself or your family for Fall and Winter. Don't buy extravagantly or recklessly, but do so carefully and judiciously.

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## MEXICO IS QUICKLY RETURNING TO NORMAL

Trade Union Movement Progresses and Country Re-organized.

(By Chester M. Wright.)  
When the Pan-American Federation of Labor met in Mexico City in January it will meet in a country where there is a Labor movement constantly gaining in strength and constantly growing in resemblance to the American Federation of Labor.

With James Lord, president of the mining department of the American Federation of Labor and Treasurer of the Pan-American Federation of Labor, I have just returned from a tour of the republic to the south. Our trip took us from Laredo, on the Texas border, to San Luis Potosi, thence to Tampico and from there to Mexico City. Ed. Smith was passed through the important cities of Monterrey and Saltillo. We traversed in perfect safety a country that three months ago could be crossed only at great risk and without any night traveling.

These are facts about Mexico as we found it:  
1. Mexico is pacified.  
2. Mexico is an enterprising nation, going about the business of education and reconstruction in a thoughtful and orderly manner.  
3. The Mexican army, up to a strength of 300,000 but a few weeks ago, is being demobilized and may be cut to as low as 60,000. Generals are being demobilized and sent back to the ways of peace.  
4. Communal lands, lands which were granted to communities for community use under the ancient Spanish grants and which in many cases were communal lands before the advent of the Spanish, are being restored to the people. Restoration is proceeding at the rate of from twenty to thirty communities per month.

5. Trade union organization is proceeding rapidly and the practice of negotiation and trade agreement is being introduced gradually.  
6. Improvement in working conditions and increase in wages are being brought about as rapidly as possible, perhaps as rapidly as the safety of the national economic structure will permit.

7. There is a close sympathy between Government and the Labor movement.  
8. There is in Mexico today absolute freedom of speech and of the press.  
9. There is a wholesome movement toward the elimination of graft and corruption.

Plans are being made for educational work—education is the first principle and simple fundamentals needed by a people said to be eight-five per cent. illiterate. These are facts—facts that show the drift and tendency of the Mexico of today. If my observation is correct, Mexico today has the best Government in her modern history. We had ample opportunity for extended conversations with practically all important members of the Government and with a large number of trade unionists. There is a universal desire for peace and a general understanding of the paramount necessity of peace.

Intervention by force in the affairs of Mexico, in the light of the facts we found, would be beyond excuse, a betrayal of all international morality, and on its face an excursion of conquest.  
The oil question, long the bone of contention, can, I am satisfied, be settled. I believe it is not too much to say that Mexico would be willing to submit the oil situation to inquiry

by a joint Mexican-American commission for the ascertainment of the facts. Mexico would not submit herself to the recommendations of such a commission, but she would have every reason to believe, welcome a statement of facts found by such a commission.  
Efforts to disrupt Mexican affairs with communist propaganda have been made, as they have been made almost everywhere, but thus far without success. There are communists in Mexico—some of them are American draft evaders, some are native Mexicans, but the propaganda has had little effect.  
The constructive movement of trade unionism is dominant and the thirst for information concerning the progress and experience of the American Federation of Labor is keen.

Mexico today is coming to her feet. Freedom and hope is abundant in the light of the actual facts the demand for a "firm hand" the "civilizing influences of the American flag" and "American spirit" as it has been amended by the senator to read, or for intervention under any guise is a demand as unjustified as it is in-accumable.

**THE SONG OF THE HAMMERS.**  
The song of the hammers, sing!  
Joyous their clamor rings.  
"Ring, Ring, Ring!"  
Metal on metal,  
They bang and rattle,  
Till life's old battle  
Grows easier far.  
In the endless war  
Against want  
So giant,  
With his hunger and tears,  
Oh, blessed years  
That give us the ring  
Of the song we sing:  
Bang, crash!  
Roar and clash!  
Hammer on hammer,  
No hesitant stammer,  
But round with a swing,  
They thunder and ring:  
Ring, Ring, Ring!  
Oh, the joy that the hammers bring  
—J. W. Gally.

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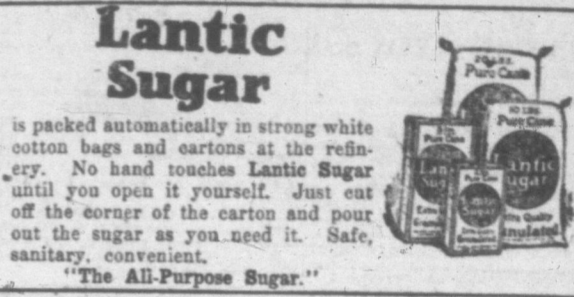
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