

## Industrial Relations

With the announcement that a commission is to be named to investigate possibilities for what practically means co-operative operation of industries in this Dominion, the report of the British Industrial Council is opportune. By this means an analysis of the duties of the new commission can be gained particularly, if, as is surmised, somewhat similar lines may be followed to work out satisfactory recommendations.

Owing to the fact that the Right Hon. J. H. Whitley was the originator of this nature are generally termed the Whitley plan, being presented as a report of the Reconstruction Committee on relations between employers and employees.

The terms of reference to the Subcommittee were:

(1) To make and consider suggestions for securing a permanent improvement in the relations between employers and employees.

(2) To recommend means for securing industrial conditions affecting the relations between employers and employees which should be systematically reviewed by those concerned with a view to improving conditions in the future.

After a general consideration of our duties in relation to the matters referred to us, we decided first to address ourselves to the problem of establishing permanent improvement in the relations between employers and employees in the main industries of the country, in which there exist representative organizations on both sides. The present report accordingly deals more especially with these trades. We are proceeding with the consideration of the problems connected with the industries which are less well organized.

We appreciate that under the pressure of the war, both employers and workpeople are very much pre-occupied, but we believe it to be of the highest importance that proposals should be made and discussed without delay, so that employers and employees may meet in the near future and discuss the problems before them.

The circumstances of the present time are admitted on all sides to offer a great opportunity for effecting a permanent improvement in the relations between employers and employees, while failure to utilize the opportunity may involve the nation in grave industrial difficulties at the end of the war. It is generally allowed that the war almost enforced some reconstruction of industry, and in considering the subject before us, we have kept in view the need for securing in the development of reconstruction, the largest possible measure of co-operation between employers and employees.

In the interests of the community it is vital that after the war, the co-operation of all classes be continued, and more especially with regard to the relations between employers and employees. It is essential that any proposals put forward should effect a permanent improvement in the conditions of employment and a higher standard of comfort generally, and involve the enlistment of their own and their organizations in the promotion of industry.

To this end, the establishment for each industry of an organization, representative of the various classes of people, to have as its object the regular consideration of matters affecting the progress and well-being of the industry, and the consideration of all those engaged in it, so far as this is consistent with the general interest of the community, appears to us necessary. The various problems have arisen during the war, which have a bearing both on employers and workpeople, and may affect the relations between them. It is clear that industrial conditions will need careful handling if grave difficulties and strained relations are to be avoided at the end of the war.

The precise nature of the problems to be faced naturally varies from industry to industry, and in the various branches within the same industry. Their treatment consequently will need an intimate knowledge of the conditions and circumstances of each trade, and such knowledge is to be found only among those directly connected with the trade.

With a view to providing means for carrying out the policy outlined above, we recommend that His Majesty's Government should propose without delay to the members of the various associations of employers and employees the formation of Joint Standing Industrial Councils in the several industries, where an effective system of labor engaged. The appointment of a Chairman or Chairmen should, we think, be left to the Council which may decide that those should be:

(1) A Chairman for each side of the Council;

(2) A Chairman and Vice-Chairman selected from the members of the Council (one from each side of the Council);

(3) A Chairman chosen by the Council from independent persons outside the industry; or

(4) A Chairman nominated by some person, or authority, at the Council's request.

The matters to be considered by the Councils should be determined widely from industry to industry, as different circumstances and conditions call for different treatment, but we are of opinion that the following questions set forth below ought to be taken into account, subject to such modification in each case as may be necessary to adapt them to the needs of the various industries.

In the well-organized industries, one of the first questions to be considered should be the establishment of local and works organizations to supplement and make more effective the work of the central bodies. It is necessary to secure co-operation at the centre between the national organizations; it is equally necessary to enlist the activity and support of employees and employers in the districts and in individual establishments. The National Industrial Council should not be regarded as a central body, but as a body which is needed in a triple organization—in the workshops, the districts, and nationally. Moreover, it is essential that the three stages should proceed on a common principle, and that the greatest measure of common action between and among them should be secured. With this end in view, we are of opinion that the following proposals should be laid before the National Industrial Council:

That District Councils, representative of the Trades Unions, and of the Employers' Association in the industry, should be created, or developed out of the existing machinery for negotiation in the various trades. That Works Committees, representative of the management and of the workers, should be instituted in particular works to act in close co-operation with the district and national machinery. As it is of the highest importance that the scheme making provision for these Committees should be such as to secure the support of the Trades Unions and generally organizations concerned, its design should be a matter for agreement between these organizations. Just as regular meetings and constant co-operation are essential in the case of the National Industrial Councils, so they seem to be necessary in the case of the district and works organizations. The object is to secure co-operation by granting to workpeople a greater share in the consideration of matters affecting their industry and this can only be achieved by keeping employers and workpeople in constant touch.

The respective functions of Works Committees, District Councils, and National Councils will no doubt require to be determined separately in each industry, but the general conditions of different industries. Care will need to be taken in each case to secure that the respective functions do not overlap and resulting friction. For instance, where conditions of employment are determined by national or district Councils, the Works Committees should not be allowed to contract out of conditions so laid down, nor, where conditions are determined by national or district Councils, should the Works Committees be allowed to make special arrangements for their industry and this can only be achieved by keeping employers and workpeople in constant touch.

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## A Big Job for the Allied Barbers' Unions to Clean Up the Face of the Earth, the Removal of Militarism, Autocracy, Anarchy and Violence is Necessary.

### FROM COAST TO COAST

#### NOVA SCOTIA MINERS INTERVIEW GOVERNMENT

Headed by C. C. Dans, of New Glasgow, on behalf of the Acadia miners, Government representatives were interviewed at Ottawa. It was stated that 400 miners were unemployed and the 1,500 working were on half time. Hon. A. J. McLean and Mr. J. Bell, deputy Minister of Railways and Canals, represented the Government at the interview.

A request was made that the coal should be banked in order that work may continue. One difficulty preventing Federal action was the fact that the mines are worked under provincial charter. The miners expressed themselves as willing to operate the mines rather than have idle men.

A stumbling block in the way of the Dominion Government purchasing coal for the I. C. E. is that operators are asking a higher rate than last year per ton.

The miners claimed that the coal corporations had made immense profits during the war period and it was contrary to all principle to close the mines or limit the production at this period.

#### WINNIPEG CIVIC WORKERS REACH AGREEMENT

All points of dispute between the city and its employees were settled amicably at a meeting of the wage committee today. The new wage schedules and working conditions will go into effect May 1, when the present contracts between the city and the unions expire.

Salaries of the firemen will range from \$180 to \$125 a month; and it was agreed that captains and lieutenants may be members of the union.

The Federation of Civic employees accepted increases equivalent to \$11 a month for each man. Eight hours will constitute a day's work and during June, July, August and September, the men will cease work at noon on Saturdays.

#### MONTREAL BARBERS ARE SHORTENING HOURS

Continued efforts by the organized barbers and their colleagues has been effective in the introduction of a new city by-law approved by the administration commission, whereby barber shops are to be closed an hour earlier on every working night of the week (except Saturdays), and on Saturday nights two hours earlier. The existing by-law required the barbers to close at 8 p. m. five nights and at midnight on Saturday.

The new regulation states that the hours of closing are to be 7 p. m. on five nights and 10 p. m. on Saturday nights. On nights proceeding certain holidays the closing hour will be 10 p. m. instead of midnight.

#### MANITOBA TO LIMIT WAITERS' HOURS

It has been announced by officials of the Manitoba Wage Board that a reduction in the hours of waitress and male help employed in city restaurants has been ordered. Many of the restaurants had worked waitresses 60 to 70 hours per week, and some even eighty hours. The regulations of the board limit the number of hours per day to ten and of the week to 48, with one entire day each week free. Wages must be paid weekly.

#### MONTREAL TRADES COUNCIL ENDORSES HOUSING PLAN

Montreal Trades Council have endorsed the new housing plan being put forward by the Government through the civic administration. President Foster explained its importance to labor because if four millions were to be spent the workers of the city had a vital interest in getting good homes built that could be bought on easy terms and for reasonable money. Delegate Franco also spoke on the question and a resolution was adopted upon recommendation of the executive committee to endorse the idea of nominating a committee of five to sit on the housing commission recently chosen by the city. The following committee was chosen as labor representatives on the commission: Delegates J. T. Foster, Jos. Alney, G. Francis, A. Belland, A. Valiquette, W. J. Colley, A. LaCombe, R. Lynch.

#### REPORT STATES FOOD PRICES SHOW LOWERING TENDENCY

The Department of Labor's weekly food price budget was again lower at the middle of March, the cost of the 29 items of foods included averaging 13.95 in some 60 cities as compared with 13.41 at the middle of February, and 13.78 in January. The decrease for the month was due chiefly to lower prices in eggs, butter, flour, rolled oats, beans and to slight increases in meats, particularly mutton and pork products. In butter there was a considerable increase, in price per pound, from 11.41 to 12.41, owing to an increase in exports, the price being up 5 cents and 10 cents per pound, in many of the cities.

#### CALGARY MINE OFFICIAL WITH THE COUNTER.

As announced exclusively in the Canadian Labor Press that Mr. Robert Livett, Int. Union, Dist. 18, United Mine Workers of America, stationed at Calgary, was strongly opposed to the One Big Union movement. His arrival here has fully confirmed the statement.

The first decisive step to get out and smash the One Big Union was taken in Calgary when he stated that he was resigning his position as International Board member of the United Mine Workers of America in order that he could not be charged with his efforts in fighting the new proposed organization that he was merely doing so to keep his own job.

#### TORONTO TAILOR OUT FOR A. F. OF L.

Jas. Watt, of Toronto, is out to represent the Journeymen Barbers at the A. F. of L. convention. His nomination has been largely endorsed by the local barbers. The local barbers are at present of the road but has been requested to take up the work again by the International office, they asking him to report at Brockville.

#### TORONTO ORGANIZER TO MAKE ROUNDS

Org. J. Corcoran, of Toronto, is due to visit the various centers of Ontario and Quebec provinces on behalf of his organization. With the new field opened up by the Brewery workers by the right of jurisdiction the scope for members has been proportionately increased and Organizer Corcoran anticipates an influx into the organization that will show a strength not previously known to this organization.

#### ONTARIO CARPENTERS' ORGANIZER RECOVERING

Organizer James Marsh, of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, is now at his home in Niagara Falls, recovering from the serious attack of illness with which he was stricken when on duty at Kitchener.

## "One Big Disruption---Not Union" Says Western Official

Robert Livett, Calgary, Alb., International Board Member, District 18, United Mine Workers of America, explains his position and reasons for opposing the so-called "One Big Union," in the following circular:

Dear Sir and Brother: In taking the stand of opposing the so-called "One Big Union" movement, as launched at the Western Conference of Labor, held in Calgary, let me distinctly state, that I am not opposed to industrial unionism, or the ideals and aims of labor as set forth at the conference. I have been a member of the greatest industrial labor organization on this continent for many years, therefore could not logically oppose any real or sincere movement that had for its object the consolidation of all labor forces. I am setting forth some of my reasons for opposing this so-called "One Big Union" movement, which, while it may accomplish a certain amount of good in arousing the membership and impressing upon our international officials the necessity of broadening their views, will certainly never succeed in uniting labor in Western Canada under "One Big Union."

1. I regard it as the same of absurdity to talk of "One Big Union" with a secession of our international affiliations. 2. I cannot regard the present movement anything more than a most deliberate attempt at DISUNION, and at a time when every nerve and effort should be extended to consolidate our forces. You will notice that practically no machinery has been created to carry out the so-called "One Big Union" beyond the "Central Committee" of five, the collection of a 2 per cent. per capita from the various unions, and the taking of what is termed a "referendum ballot." 3. The method of taking this ballot and the absolute powers given the "Central Committee" in counting and tabulating same are something that finds no parallel in the annals of history or industrial unionism. 4. So far as I am able to gather this "Central Committee" can manipulate the vote so as to create a majority or minority, whichever it regards as expedient. 5. That we have not exhausted our possibilities of international industrial unionism, and that all future organizations, whether conceived in Canada or the States, must be international in character and scope—not national.

6. That absolutely no solid or logical argument has even been adduced to prove the ineffectiveness of the international union. All arguments have been directed at the officialdom of same. And it is neither strange nor wonderful that the officials (or "Central Committee") of the so-called "One Big Union" are already receiving their share of criticism. That Industrial Trades Unionism must first start with the organization of the various crafts and trades in each industry. 7. The "One Big Union" movement is not new; it has been tried on this continent before, and failed. It is at present in force in Australia, and I have yet to discover (and the Australian worker, too) that it has secured for him "the full product of his toil," or even a greater share than his Canadian brother enjoys. Further, it would be well to remember that Australia has no United States adjoinment. 8. That the autocratic dictatorship relegated to that body known as the "Central Committee" is such that they may never be called to account for their actions—funds spent or ballots submitted.

I do not wish to make any personal attack upon the individuals comprising the "Central Committee" or those who displayed so much zeal in promoting this movement, but most of these men (until quite recently) regarded the trade union movement and industrial union movement, as something so antiquated and obsolete that they reserved their most scathing sarcasm to condemn it. They never neglected an opportunity to abuse and discredit the officials of any trade organization, while honesty of purpose and sincerity they regarded as so much sentiment and nonsense—except, of course, when they found themselves involved. After years of these tactics we find them out to save the worker through the medium of "One Big Union," ready to take the funds of these unions to propagate their ideas.

I am of the opinion that the last thing they wish to do is to form any union, but that they do most sincerely hope to disrupt our present organization in the foolish belief that "they must disrupt and destroy before they can build." The old moss-grown philosophy of the dismaler, "That conditions must be made worse before they can be made better," personally I have sufficient confidence in the common sense of the worker, who will not be stampeded into pulling down the shack—leaving himself at the mercy of the capitalist elements—until he has built his house. I am a worker—a coal miner; I have worked beside many of the men in this District, and can do so again. I am not a silver-tongued orator or Marxian philosopher, but claim that I am as sincere in my efforts for labor as the promoters of the so-called "One Big Union." I have placed my resignation in the hands of the Executive Board, and I am out to combat this "One Big Union" movement and defeat the efforts of certain individuals who seem determined to destroy our organization regardless of any suffering or hardship that may result to you and yours.

#### ONTARIO COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENTS

Additions to the scope and regulations of the Workmen's Compensation Act of Ontario are provided in a bill introduced. The principal change is a 50 per cent. increase in the amount of the allowance for a widow with an additional \$7.50 for each child. The allowance was formerly \$20 for the widow and \$5 for each child.

No pensions will be paid to persons living in enemy countries, even though they are dependent on their earnings in Canada. The limitation of 30 days on medical and hospital services supplied to injured workmen is lifted, so that in future such workmen will receive free service for the entire period of their illness.

The amendments abolish the exclusion of persons employed in clerical work, who in the past have not been eligible for insurance under the Act unless exposed to the hazards of the business. Provision is also made for appeals in certain cases.

#### TORONTO METAL TRADES COMBINATION

The employers in the iron industry in the City of Toronto have received from the Metal Trades Council a schedule of wages and conditions, with the request that they be put in operation by the first of May. This is the first time that the unions have combined upon a general schedule of conditions. The unions included are pattern-makers, moulders and core-makers, electrical workers, boiler-makers, machinists, blacksmiths and kindred trades. Over 4,000 men are involved. The combination of trades request an 8-hour day or a 44-hour week; overtime in excess of this at the rate of double time; triple time to be paid on all Sundays and legal holidays; night work to be paid at 125 cents per hour over day work; no discrimination against shop committees, and it is requested that all employees shall be members of recognized trade unions.

#### NORTH CAPE BRETON, N. S., FORM TRADES COUNCIL.

Representatives of the various laboring unions, met for the purpose of forming a branch of the Canadian Labor Council for North Cape Breton. This body is affiliated with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, and admits all crafts to its membership. The immediate object of the organization is to effect a combination of all the individual labor unions for legislative purposes. The ultimate purpose is to secure for the workers all the means of life to the exclusion of any other class. The officers will be appointed at a meeting to be held shortly, when the bylaws and constitution will be submitted for adoption. The A. F. of L. No. 1545, the Clerical Union No. 1649, the A. M. W. Local, and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen sent delegates to the convention and it is generally believed the Trades and Labor Council will be a power for good in this community and elsewhere in North Cape Breton; which is badly in need of an organization of this kind.

#### LONDON VETERAN RETIRES FROM ACTIVITY

It will be a matter of extreme regret to know that Mr. Joe Dean, known by all as "Old Joe," of London, a former president of the Trades Council, has withdrawn membership from the Journeymen Tailors organizations. This will possibly necessitate his active organization work ceasing, with which Joe has been connected in London for many years. Old Joe is in the movement such as J. Kennedy, of the Sheet Metal Workers, E. O'Dell, of the Boot and Shoe Workers, Manager Sinclair, street railway men, J. Corcoran and E. O'Leary are among the many who testify to Joe's worth as an organizer in London's field of labor.

#### ALBERTA'S LABOR M. L. A. ON THE "ONE BIG UNION."

Mr. Alex Ross, M. L. A., of Calgary, labor's representative in the Alberta Legislature, in a special article to the press states his strong opposition to the One Big Union idea. He states that the referendum vote which will be submitted on the One Big Union is an echo from Russia and incidentally with a Bolshevik motive. If we are to improve our organizations, we can only improve them by maintaining the democratic principles which have made the craft unions what they are. He hopes that the discussion and reflection the vote on the O. B. U. or I. W. W. will be "respected."

Other statements were also made by this big labor Calgaryan showing his distrust in the policy advanced by the western confederation.

#### ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES TO USE BUILDING PLAN

According to returns thirteen municipalities have passed bylaws to take advantage of the provisions of the Ontario Housing Act, which came into force on January 1, 1918, and those already in the trade shall receive the minimum rate for machines after four years' service as operators.

Fifteen others are expected to come in monthly and by July, it is expected sixty will have taken advantage of the act.

# Editorial Page of the Canadian Labor Press

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OFFICIAL ORGAN ALLIED TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF OTTAWA. ENDORSED BY: Hamilton District Trades and Labor Council, Hamilton Building Trades Council, Kitchener Twin City Trades and Labor Council, Independent Labor Party of Ottawa.

## The Canadian Labor Press

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### A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

### CURING RUSSIA BY "MAXIMS."

SOMETIMES "maxim" means a rapid-fire, light gun—and sometimes "maxim" means a wise saying. British Labor wants the British troops and their "maxims" withdrawn from Russia. If the maxims of force are withdrawn, can we regenerate Russia with the maxims of wisdom?

A maxim that we would like to recommend to Russia is "Co-operation means Success." It is the maxim so successfully practised by Labor in Canada.

The Democratic form of Government in vogue in our country and other English-speaking countries is the kind of Government to which the struggling nations look for guidance, example and encouragement. The nations who have just gained freedom, or who are still struggling for it, look to us to see how a Democratic Government should be run. There is much to be desired yet—very much—but with the help of Labor, politically, socially and industrially, we expect the near future to bring forth a pretty fair sample of Government for the people and by the people.

Co-operation and education will place us farther each year on the pathway to real Democracy, where all are for the country as a whole and none for a clique class or party.

If the struggling nations look at us and find that after all we are just a bunch of "scrappers"—one class trying to take advantage of another class—our example won't do them any good. Therefore, load up that old maxim, "Co-operation means Success"—and let's give our benighted brothers several rounds of good example.

### KEEP YOUR MADE-IN-CANADA DOLLAR IN CANADA.

AN excellent suggestion for all Canadians is to demand Made-in-Canada goods when you hand your Made-in-Canada dollar over the counter. Labor and all other sections of our population will understand the advantage of maintaining as many lines of industry as possible in our own country. It takes a large and busy population of people who work in our industries to buy the products of our people who work on the farms. Unemployment among either of these sections of workers injures the welfare of everybody. All Canadian consumers should give preference to Canadian made goods. By this means unemployment can be overcome, good wages maintained and decent hours secured for all who labor.

### MAKING THE SWEATERS SWEAT

THE Honorable Mr. Macdormid in the Ontario Legislature has chalked out the pattern and lining of a bill to make sweat shop employers sweat. For a long time Labor has been trying to remedy the unsanitary conditions and unremunerative tasks of tailors and tailoresses who toil in sweat shop tailoring establishments.

The new Anti-Sweat Shop Bill will affect cities with a population of 50,000 or over, providing that no person shall receive for manufacture, alteration or improvement, any garment, article of clothing, wearing apparel or material from which clothing can be made up, until a permit has been obtained from the inspector.

The good right arm of Alan Studholme is also behind the bill, and it looks as if Labor would win another victory for sanitary conditions for those who toil.

### A COURAGEOUS COLONEL.

COLONEL A. C. PRATT has not only shown his courage by active service in France, but also by his courageous stand in the Ontario Legislature. Colonel Pratt stood up in the local Legislature as the champion of the Canadian private soldier and braved the javelins of those in high places to say a word for the man in the ranks. Labor is in deep sympathy with our soldiers and therefore most acknowledge with appreciation the courageous stand of Colonel Pratt.

### TOM AND JOHN.

WE are glad to see Tom Moore and John Bruce on the National Industrial Commission appointed to inquire into industrial unrest. Tom and John are good men with a good understanding of the big job they are about to tackle.

### MOONSHINE.

The Toronto "Globe" says that talk of a working-man's strike because of prohibition is all "Moonshine." "Moonshine" is pretty strong stuff; real beer would be better.

### A FUEL PROBLEM.

The Kaiser has been putting in his spare time sawing wood over in Holland. The poet who writes our "stove lengths" poems suggests that Bill won't need any fuel in the country where most people would like to send him.

### SPRING.

In Spring the young man's fancy lightly turns to love—and a new \$27.00 suit.

### SENATOR ROBERTSON ON UNITY OF ENDEAVOR

The "get together" spirit among employers and employees is the keynote of the industrial unrest of Canada, according to Senator Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor, who addressed a gathering of business men at the Hotel McArthur on Monday night.

"Why should the present acute situation between capital and labor be allowed to become more acute?" asked the Minister of Labor. "Why not get together and solve the problem of the great nations of the world, and now try to adopt a spirit of co-operation and arbitration to settle our differences, rather than dispute our claims by strikes?"

Senator Robertson said that the rights of labor must be fully recognized. "The working classes," he said, "constantly get on the wrong side of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. The wage-earners of Canada have suffered the most by the war, and consequently they are entitled to have a better standard of living than which they have fought and suffered."

"Relations between employers and employees have changed during the past 25 years," he said. "The growth of industrial plants has led to the number of workmen being so great that the employer often has an individual contact with some of his employees, and knows them, and often the employees do not know who their employer is."

"Today the working man is feeling that he ought to receive more recognition, and that he ought to be reasonably and adequately paid, so that he can live with at least the same degree of comfort as in pre-war days."

"But it behooves all business men and employers of labor to take up the matter, and to realize that this spirit is growing and will continue to grow among workmen unless they are convinced that they are fairly treated."

CO-OPERATION PROFITABLE. He gave many examples where the spirit of co-operation between labor and capital had achieved beneficial results, and among these cases he mentioned the International Harvester Co., the Imperial Oil Company, the International Shoe Manufacturing Association. The shipbuilding industry was considering the matter, and he thought that no branch of industry was calculated to benefit more from this new program of co-operation than the building trades.

### FROM THE CONGRESS LETTER BOX.

A letter addressed to President Moore, from Toronto, runs as follows: Sir: Knowing your genuine interest in the cause of the working man, I take the liberty to write you about the case of farm help (cannot start something, I'll see you through. Isolated as we are, how can we get together? You have the press behind you, I am sure it would be a success. Why is it that men will walk the streets hungry, when \$60 could be placed on farms? While farm products prices have gone beyond the farmers' wildest dreams in the last six years, wages have not gone up 50 per cent. Wool, alone, has gone up 111 per cent; hogs 200 per cent; cattle, 400 to 500 per cent, and overall, which I used to buy for \$1.50, are now \$2.80. Did you ever look into what the reasons are for this? The Universities and High Schools in any city come from it, you do, you will be surprised at the percentage of the farmers who are going to stay at home and drudge from dawn till night. You will (say) why do you stay on the farm? Honest, Sir, I like it, I like it in moderation. And if I come to the city, you will have another man out of work. So I hope you will see your way to start something, and you will forever win the esteem and gratitude of the farm workers of Canada. Yours admirably, QUO VADIS.

### HALIFAX PAINTERS SEEK HEALTH LEGISLATION

To the Halifax Board of Health the Halifax local union of painters have asked for a change in the law forbidding passing of house walls over old paper. The board decided to write the health authorities of Hamilton, London and Windsor, Ont., and Montreal and other cities, and ask for copies of any ordinances.

### INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY

In a very interesting and thoughtful address on "The American Revolution and Constitution" delivered last Sunday, April 6, before the members of the Party, Mr. E. P. Hurley traced the Genesis of the Independent Labor Party, and the cause for the secession of the original thirteen states of colonies from the British Crown. The main cause for the secession, he stated, was not so much a desire for any appearance of England's sovereignty, as in a just indignation and protest against the taxation and "taxation without representation" indeed, many of the early leaders were very careful to state that the British Constitution was the basis of the new government, and if administered properly and purged from the obnoxious influence of unscrupulous men, it would have been the ideal form of government, which they would desire to live.

But it was not to be. A statute passed in the year 1719 forbade the importation of iron manufactures into the American colonies, and that this was only the embodiment of the general sentiment is shown by a resolution in the British House of Commons to the effect that "the creating of manufactures in the colonies tends to lessen their dependence on Great Britain."

The quarrel between England and her American colonies which finally resulted in the American Revolution, the latter was the most important factor in the evolution of colonial government. It showed that no civilized country of any size and an increasing population could be kept in a state of permanent tutelage, and it had the effect that England was ultimately led to adopt the policy of colonial autonomy.

An interesting side light on early Canadian history was here introduced by the speaker in his reference to the terms of which all the rich lands of the Ohio valley were reserved to the control of the Province of Washington by a similar organization in the city, and the esprit de corps that prevails at the meetings is one of the many reasons why they have been so attractive to the speaker for whom we are hoping to have an even better programme for next winter, than the one just closing. During the summer months an active outside propaganda should be carried on.

The winter session will close on the last Sunday in April, and the Party has every reason to be gratified with the attendances at all lectures. The type of addresses has been of the highest quality, and the organization in the city, and the esprit de corps that prevails at the meetings is one of the many reasons why they have been so attractive to the speaker for whom we are hoping to have an even better programme for next winter, than the one just closing. During the summer months an active outside propaganda should be carried on.

### ONE BIG UNION IDEA

In view of the recent event at Calgary of Western laborites on the "One Big Union" move, the following article is of timely interest: "To build up such a powerful industrial organization that we shall be able to make repeated assaults upon the citadel of capitalism, choosing our own time and our own battlefields, culminating in one gigantic struggle between the workers to force of capital and labor; when, if successful, we will be able to take control of industry and establish a socialist commonwealth."

The aim of the One Big Union, which is quite frankly set forth, namely, repeated assaults on capitalism, culminating in the taking over of industry and the establishment of a socialist commonwealth, represents the same tyranny of pseudo-democracy which today is finding advocates in a greater or less degree in every country in the world. The importance of its Australian manifestation appears to be that, in the great southern commonwealth, it is working much more than in any other country, and is already advanced well beyond the realm of mere theory. Thus the well-defined aim of this particular form of revolutionary industrial organization, has been dropping assaults; of that continuous dropping which shall wear away a state of complete unproductive idleness, and the ultimate aim of the policy of "Go slow" with which Mr. Hughes measured swords, some eighteen months ago, and this is the policy which One Big Union practice through its famous "slow strike." The method should be noted. It is simplicity itself. The dispute arises. The "control" committee immediately takes the matter in hand. Some show is made of attempting to reach a settlement. It fails. The committee decides "how much work shall be done in the morning, and stop an hour earlier in the evening; in the meantime working at only half the normal rate. Whatever action the One Big Unionists reveal a cynical contempt for all the democratic principles for which labor is supposed to stand. Consider the paper, read the membership decide on your policy and tactics! That takes too much time. It is cumbersome and inefficient. The rank and file must be discussed throughout the world," he very justly added, "have held the same language throughout the course of history." But history will ultimately have the same summing for all autocratic interests, whether they appear as Prussianism, Bolshevism, or One Big Unionism. The Christian Science Monitor, March 5th.

A PROMISING SINGER. Wife: That girl in the opposite seat is quite a promising singer. Husband: Well, get her to promise that she won't sing any more.

### MR. PHILIP GIBBS ON THE BALCHAY MENACE.

"Today the world is faced with a worse menace than in the days when the Germans in all their might, stood in the lines before the Allied armies in France. That menace is Bolshevism, which is now being foisted by the enemy, and which is sweeping over the world, so that neither this country nor any other is immune from it." This was one of Mr. Gibbs' statements at Montreal recently.

Hardly had the scheme of Prussian domination gone down to its wholly grave still uglier form, and with the battle cry of "BOLSHEVISM UBER ALLES" it is making war upon civilization. Russia suffered cruelly in the war against Germany, but the frightful horrors and sufferings caused by the war were nothing compared with the horrors and sufferings which have been inflicted upon that unhappy country by Bolshevism. Do you know what Bolshevism means? It means that throughout the whole of the vast area where Bolshevism holds sway, women have ceased to belong to themselves or their families, and have become the property of organized ruffianism calling itself "the State." Bolshevism takes the virtuous daughters of the people and parcels them out like cattle, to be used for purposes of "free love."

Bolshevism means that personal property is no longer recognized. A mob with rifles and bayonets can go to any home and take what it wants—household belongings, clothes, food, anything. It can shoot the breadwinner and carry off even the babe in arms.

Bolshevism means that the man who is respectable, hard-working and ambitious is looked upon as a traitor to "the cause." Bolshevism means that the savings of the people, whether in banks, building societies or other institutions, can be taken at the point of the bayonet and squandered at will.

Bolshevism means that criminals have full sway and that men who oppose them, or are suspected of ambition to restore order and decency, are executed without trial. Bolshevism means that the Government is transferred to organized robber bands called "committees" or Soviets, who are not elected by the people and in whose doing the people have no voice.

Bolshevism means that no man can own a farm. He can sow, but without any security that he will be allowed to reap—and if he reaps his produce is subject to seizure without compensation.

Bolshevism means the death of religion and the worship of Brute Force. It means that the Government is making Russia a desert; it is paralyzing its industries; it is killing millions by famine.

Canada guarantees every man and woman a free and open opportunity to share in prosperity and happiness. It upholds the sanctity of the home, and it refuses to violate the home and property of its people. Its people govern themselves through their own elected representatives.

Bolshevism is working in Canada today with the idea of capturing the Labor Unions and using them as instruments of destruction in the industrial organizations, through which the intelligence, the thrift, and the patriotism of Canadian workmen can build up a higher standard of living for a united and happy people.

Let us show the world that the ugly head of Bolshevism, raised amongst the anarchism and assassination of continental Europe, has no place in free and enlightened Canada.

### DOMINION POSTAL CLERKS' DEMANDS.

The delegates of the Dominion Postal Clerks' Association, at present visiting Ottawa, interviewed the Deputy Postmaster-General, Dr. R. M. Coulter, Mr. Wm. J. Cantwell, Dominion president, and Mr. J. W. Green, Dominion secretary, accompanied by the delegation.

The association asks that proper attention be given to questions affecting sanitation, ventilation, lighting, heating, etc., of all post offices located in a Government owned or rented building, and again suggests the installation of a vacuum cleaning system in all large post offices.

Very few employees have been benefited by bus bonuses, and a considerable number have been entirely ignored. It is therefore recommended that the Government take immediate steps to extend the provisional allowance to all postal employees regardless of salary.

### WINNIPEG TAILORS' STRIKE ENDS.

Journeyman tailors went on strike at Winnipeg, but returned to work again. The men wanted an increase in wages which, in round figures, would be about 40 per cent. The employers offered an increase of 10 per cent, with a 47-hour week. At a conference held the men accepted the offer, and the agreement was signed. There were approximately 300 men affected.

### AS LABOR VIEWS PARLIAMENT.

From the standpoint of labor, the past week in Parliament has been an interesting one. Overshadowing everything else was the announcement of Senator Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor, to the effect that a commission would be appointed to investigate labor conditions in Canada, with a view to formulating a plan for industrial co-operation between capital and labor. Senator Robertson evidently agrees on securing legislation this session, as the commission is to report by June 1.

There has been considerable misunderstanding as to the scope of the commission and its work, so that it might be well to quote the exact words of Senator Robertson. He said: "It is proposed that a small commission of five or seven members, composed of men who absolutely command the confidence of the people of Canada, and who are personally and deeply interested in this serious problem, should immediately proceed to perform a study of the conditions of labor in Canada and hold consultations with the employers and the workmen, just as I have been doing here in a number of instances, and by surveying the situation, and getting the joint opinion of the various classes interested in the problem, let us make up a report by the end of the month of May 15; and, upon the report of that commission, based upon the evidence and judgment of the people throughout Canada who are interested—employers and workmen alike—that we should attempt to make a decision as to what should be the Government policy respecting any legislation that may be necessary in order to create machinery for the carrying out of the plan, or for providing for the Government may be able to assist the spirit of co-operation and harmony and closer relationships between employer and employee."

The speech of Senator Robertson was a comprehensive review of the labor situation in Canada, and the development of recent years which has compelled the Government to consider the matter. It was a fair and just appraisal of the employer and employee closer together. He pointed out that twelve years ago, the Industrial Disputes Act was passed, and a certain amount of usefulness, but he claimed that at the present time, it did not meet the need. Senator Robertson said to the effect that it was better to prevent a dispute, than to adjust it after it had occurred. He himself had been following this policy, and was convinced of its usefulness. Senator Robertson opposed the principle of compulsory arbitration, but he thought it would be of material assistance in solving the problem. His remarks are interesting.

It was the spirit of compulsion on the part of the employers that first caused the workmen to realize the need of organization. It was the spirit of compulsion which caused the organization, and as the organization grows in strength it begins to feel enough of the principle of compulsion to compel the other fellow. It is these two diametrically opposite views, with the desire to compel the other fellow, that have brought about disputes. Therefore legislation designed to compel employers or workmen to do any particular thing against their will, in my humble

opinion, only aggravates the situation instead of remedying it. If there is any one act of the session in which labor is interested, it is the Immigration Bill, which was introduced this week, by Hon. J. A. Calder. Labor must be all interested in the class of settlers who are coming to this country, for new immigrants too often creep into the cities to compete with existing labor. Mr. Calder's new bill, which is a lengthy one, amends the present laws governing immigration, and the proposed amendments all tend to tighten up the existing regulations. For instance, under the law as it now stands, an undesirable can be deported after three years. The new law extends this time to five years. The most important feature of the law is the extension of the public language, "unusable drunkards." All persons who are unable mentally or physically to earn a living are to be included in the prohibited class, and would tend to shut out most of the present immigrants from the Balkans, and far Eastern Europe. There is a crack at the Bolshevist, as there is also a crack which shuts out all persons who believe in or advocate "the overthrow of constituted Government, by force or violence, or who advocate the unlawful destruction of property; also persons guilty of conspiracy against His Majesty, enemy aliens, and persons who have been deported from Canada, or from British countries for any cause."

One of the great failures of immigration laws in the past, has been the fact that inspection has taken place on the ship. Mr. Calder's new law provides for inspection in the country of origin, and if this is not feasible, then a ship. Mr. Calder's new law, in the House, on this point: "The Bill also provides that we should take authority of the fact that the duties of the immigrants in the country of their origin or on board ship. There are several sections of the Bill which are of importance. We are also responsible of transportation companies. In the law, as it now stands, there is a provision of this kind, but it is a provision which is not being enforced, so as to throw greater responsibility upon transportation companies that bring immigrants to Canada. We are also imposing upon them more severe penalties for failure to carry out the law. The Bill also contains provisions for the examination of government workmen land in Canada for any cause. Then, there is one other section, probably the most important, which is the provision in the law now as Section 38 (e), and under that section the Government has power by order-in-council to prohibit persons from entering Canada for either a stated period or permanently, for any reason which may be deemed advisable. It is proposed to extend the provision of that section, so as to give the Government greater powers, insofar as that feature of our work is concerned."

### CONGRESS VICE-PRESIDENT R. BAXTER OFFICER OF NEW ASSOCIATION.

An insurance organization has been launched at Glace Bay, when the Dominion Coal Workers' Relief Association elected officers and started business. In the old days the coal miners had a relief society that took care of the boys who were injured or killed, or who became incapacitated through sickness. It looked after the widow and orphans, and was more or less of a success. The new association is to be a relief society, and the Government went out of business, and the Government took charge. The men felt that there was a great need for such a compensation board, and the Government was to complement the compensation act and reach a class that the act did not affect. After considerable joint conference between the Dominion Coal Workers' Relief Association and the Dominion Coal Workers' Relief Association was born. The officers were: A. J. Tonge, general manager of the Dominion Coal Co., honorary president; William Deane, of the Miners' Union, president; Robert Baxter, vice-president of the Dominion Coal Workers' Relief Association; Michael McIntosh, Government inspector, third vice-president; Fred J. Symonson, local representative of the compensation board, secretary-treasurer.

The administration will be by a board of directors, on which the men will have two representatives for every one of the company, and the local manager or reporting committees at each colliery where the claims will be first passed upon, will be composed in the same manner.

Every worker in the employ is eligible for membership. This includes the youngest boy in the employ, also all the girls in offices or stores. The scale of payments is: Six dollars per week for sickness for the first 26 weeks, exclusive of the first week. When the association becomes a financial success it is expected that sick men will get relief for the first week, but until the association is successful, they stand they will not be able to pay for the first week. After the first 26 weeks the relief is reduced to three dollars a week for another 26 weeks, and then to two dollars a week for the remainder of the year. The death benefits will be one hundred dollars from the company and a promised fifty dollars from the Nova Scotia Government. The widow will receive eight dollars a month for five years, and each child three dollars a month until it reaches the age of 14. The money to finance the association is obtained by every worker paying one dollar per month. This is augmented by the company paying 25 cents per worker employed in the month, or in excess of that, a grant or allowance on the coal mined, so much per ton, which should add another 10 cents per ton. The cost of the association is \$18.20 per worker per year. Seventy-five per cent of the entire staff is now paying towards the association. There are 7,100 people employed.

### GOOD KNIGHT.

He was a very Aristocratic type, and as he stopped an Irishman and asked for a light, he volunteered to "pay for it." "Excuse me, my man, for stopping you, as an Irishman, but at home I'm a man of some importance. I'm Sir James Knight of the Garter, Knight of the Double Eagle, Knight of the Pearl Cross, Knight of the Golden Fleece, and your name is—what, my man?" "My name," was the reply, "is Michael Murphy, knight before last, and every night, Michael Murphy."

### AND LABOR COMES.

The New Day breaks in a stormy morn'g. The morning light shines dim. But the storm was only for an hour, and soon its wrath is past. While the better day, like a golden sun, blooms o'er the world once more, then labor comes with the touch of hands to the wounds of war. And rebuild the ruins of all the lands. To beauty and peace once more. Have done with the Exchange.

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