

# CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

A National, Sans Labor Paper

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

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## Labor and Organization

### The Function of the Federated Labor Party

By M. S.

When a proposition to form any new organization in a community, such as a church, a Kiwanis or Rotary club, a new chapter of the I.O.D.E. or even a labor political unit or organization, I think that we are justified in questioning the need for such a centre of activity. So far as local branches of the Federated Labor Party are concerned, I am convinced that they can become a valuable factor in the social, intellectual and economic life of the people in the district in which they are formed. I therefore propose, in this article, to submit to you my reasons for this conclusion, and ask you to give them your consideration, especially if you are in doubt as to what your attitude towards this movement should be.

The Federated Labor Party is a unit of that young and virile political force known as "Labor." As such it promised and proposes in its platform, and by its ideals to govern the people by constitutional and parliamentary methods, free from graft, corruption and capitalistic dominance, because its platform is founded on Socialism, and Socialism is an idealism of industrial and political economy, cherished by an educational democracy in opposition to the present system of human exploitation as practised by a capitalistic autocracy.

It must be obvious to the most casual observer, and especially those of us who have viewed conditions existing in the crowded industrial centres of the European and eastern countries, that the capitalist system has failed to utilize natural resources and productive power, and to provide from them a standard of existence in harmony with the natural aspirations of an intelligent people.

When we remember the glories promised given by our hoary politicians and diplomats in the early days of the Great War, how, when our manhood marched to death, and our women and children remained at home to face lives of lonesome sorrow, when through the fires of Armageddon and through the torture of a million souls on the battlefields of Europe, a fairer existence would arise, we question their knowledge or sincerity. They promised that in the serenity of peace, Labor would receive its just reward, and the world would be made a place fit for heroes, for men and women to live in. When we remember these promises, and look about us to see their fulfilment, what do we find?

A world crushed by a load of debt, from which it would seem impossible to arise. Our children's children saddled with the responsibility of the interest on that debt, which goes on and on in a vicious circle from which we can never escape. Unemployment in unprecedented volume, sapping the life blood and ambition from the workers. The ravagings of war, and the invention and manufacture of fiendish engines of destruction becoming more prevalent day by day. Commissions and enquiries in every country sitting in futile efforts to place responsibility for graft and bare-faced exploitation, and above all, a system of education deliberately planned and maintained for the purpose of fostering and increasing the power of the vested interests that sit enthroned in every legislature. Examine the composition of the so-called democratic governments. Italy in the hands of the Fascisti, openly pledged to the perpetuation of capitalism, and the degradation of organized labor in every shape and form. France and Germany still controlled by the militarist castes that launched the cataclysm of 1914. America, the land of freedom, with its conglomeration of Wall Street financial junkies, swaying the lives and destinies of millions from Washington. In Britain we find the "die-hards" of an obsolete system, based on the superiority of autocracy and wealth, fighting desperately to retain their prestige against the onslaughts of a new democracy, while Russia alone among the nations, facing the opposition of a world with its capitalist-owned military forces arrayed against her, pursues her definite path, towards the goal of an idealistic objective. There is, no doubt, that the Russian Soviet Government, thought an uneducated democracy, when it was hurled into power, on the crest of one of the bloodiest revolutions that has ever shaken the foundations of humanity is, as it gains intelligence and experience by the responsibilities of its position, demonstrating to the political monopolies of capitalism, that evolution, even though evolution must finally displace and supersede that older system of oppression which our Socialism seeks to abolish by capitalistic methods.

Do not mistake by eulogy of Russian Sovietism for advocacy of its revolutionary propaganda. I am still proud to believe that we of the Anglo-Saxon race have long passed the stage where force appeals to reason. The parliamentary Labor Party, as we know it, in Great Britain and the dominions, points the way to emancipation through a cultural revolution, based on the education of the people. The citizens of to-day are the men and women of the factories, the workshops and the offices, of the forests, the fields and the mines, the workers and the thinkers. The social order of to-day must meet the challenge of this citizenry. There can be no compromise with the exploitation of men and women and children, with long hours and low wages. There can be no compromise with the denial of education. There can be no compromise with unemployment arising out of social conditions, because such conditions are a disgrace to the nations that suffer under them.

These problems and their solutions is the platform of the Labor Party. The solutions demand a complete change in our social and economic life. How, when and where this change can be made, is part of the educative programme which political Labor submits to its followers.

The Federated Labor Party seeks to place this educational propaganda in the lives and the homes of those who live in the districts in which this movement functions. If we are in full sympathy with the movement let us prove it by our diligence in study. Let us prove it by our energy and enthusiasm displayed in the interests of humankind. No other movement affords us so great an opportunity for real service to our fellowmen.

### Labor Men to Ask Uniform Closing

#### Trades Council Petition for Setting of Saturday Hour to Shut Shops

Saskatoon, Sask.—Believing that a uniform Saturday night closing for all classes of business in Saskatoon, preferably 9 o'clock, would be of benefit to the workers of the city, the Saskatoon Trades and Labor Council petitioned the city council and retail

dealers to have the early closing by-law amended to this effect.

The council also favored the idea of one half day holiday every week the whole year round, and also handed this suggestion to the secretary of the Minimum Wage Board.

The idea of the uniform closing hour was sponsored by Rev. J. A. Donnell, pastor of St. Thomas' Presbyterian Church, delegate to the Trades and Labor Council from the Saskatoon Ministerial Association.

### Cancel Meeting on Compensation

#### Royal Commission Will Not Hold Further Sessions on Subject in Montreal

Montreal, Que.—Arrangements which had been made to hold a session of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the Provincial Workmen's Compensation Act here were cancelled and no further meetings of that body will be held in this city.

The Commission has held a number of meetings and has gathered a great deal of information as to the working of the present Act, and, in addition, has received many useful suggestions from employer and labor representatives regarding proposed amendments. There is a general feeling that the amount of compensation should be increased, and also that the rate of wages on which compensation is based should be advanced. The real point at issue is whether compensation should be carried on as at present or be changed into a Provincial Department, such as, for instance, that in Ontario. Labor generally favors the State system, and the manufacturers and employers largely oppose it, claiming that it is less satisfactory and more costly to operate than when private casualty companies are allowed to transact business.

At the final meeting in Quebec representatives of the employers and of the labor organizations will present arguments and sum up their sides of the case. The Commissioners will then have an opportunity to digest all the matter of evidence and argument, and have time to prepare a report for presentation to the Legislature at its next session.

## Postal Strikers Back at Work

### On Assurance of Minister of Labor the Dominion Parliament Will Name Committee on Which Postal Federation to Have Representation—Men to Receive Same Salary and Bonus as Before the Strike

Toronto, Ont.—After a struggle lasting eleven days, the Postal employees' strike has ended, an acceptable compromise having been reached on June 25th. The men returned to work as a body, but were required to sign on as postal helpers. They were given the assurance that each man and woman would automatically step into his or her old position and would receive the same salary and bonus as was in effect prior to April 1st last. They were also assured they would be paid full wages for time lost through the strike. A committee to be appointed by Parliament on which the Postal Federation is to have representation is to be formed forthwith to revise the salary schedules. This committee must complete its task within two months.

The settlement was the outcome of negotiations between the Federation officers, Hon. James Murdock, Minister of Labor, and Dr. J. H. Cascaden, president of the Toronto Liberal Association, which had been going on for several days and which culminated about two o'clock Sunday afternoon. The final conference was held in the office of Postmaster Lemon, at Postal Station "A," Union Station, when the Labor Minister gave the positive assurance that the Government would agree to the settlement, on the understanding that the employees consented to go back as helpers. The officials at first demurred, but when it was pointed out to them that in all other respects they were obtaining all they had asked for, they agreed to abide by the understanding reached. Further, they promised to submit the terms to the strikers at a meeting in the Labor Temple and to recommend their acceptance.

True to their promise, the officials proceeded to the Labor Temple and one after another explained the terms of settlement, urging the rank and file to accept. The officials also offered to stand aside and allow all the other workers to return to their jobs, as a guarantee that there would be no unfair discrimination shown. Dr. Cascaden also urged the men to return and declared that while the settlement agreement was not in writing, the Government would stand behind it, and all the terms and conditions would be faithfully observed.

## Co-Operation Through Plant Publications

By W. E. E. Winslow

The printing presses throughout the country are turning out an ever-increasing number of employee, or "house organs." Some of these are modest and inexpensive, consisting of two to four sheets, while others are the "last word" in the printing art. The fact that these publications are constantly increasing in numbers is significant. Experience has shown that they have become popular with the employees and have served a useful purpose in organizations where elaborate schemes to better employee relations have failed. For this reason it is well worth the while of any business executive to investigate the advisability of promoting such a publication, or, if one already exists, to give it the attention which it should receive as an important agency to better employee relations.

It is impossible to lay down a fixed set of rules or standards to cover employee publications. The specific conditions in each individual instance are different and these are the elements to be taken into consideration in formulating the plans and rules for the particular publication. There are, however, basic and elementary principles to be considered which are general factors and apply in most cases. The real purpose of any employee publication is to make industry or business more human. The tendency

in industry is to give more thought to the "man factor" in production. It is only natural, therefore, that some publications should be devoted to the human side of industry and it is only fair that this subject be given some consideration, especially when subjects covering materials and money have countless volumes and publications bearing thereon.

The real purpose, then, of the employee organ is to make industry more human; indeed this must be the purpose if the publication is to succeed.

Powerful as these organs may be, they cannot make an inhuman employer appeal human to the employees and they cannot take the place of sound principles of management in dealing with the men in the organizations. The mission of the employee paper is to promote the mutual interests of employer and employee; it is the official organ of co-operation. It must be sincere in motive, for what Lincoln said about fooling the people applies with great force to the 'employee publication; it is impossible to fool the men and an editorial policy which proposes publication of anything but the honest facts is sure to lead to a dismal failure.

The employees must be "sold" the paper, just as truly as they must be sold subscriptions to any other publication. Accordingly, the salesman's methods must be followed and the first step is to secure interest. A method which proved successful in securing interest was the running of a name contest through which the publication was named. Obviously, this must be conducted early in the life of the paper. A great many employees will enter suggestions in a name contest, not only through a desire to win a prize, but because of the human desire to participate in a contest. Interest will be secured through such a contest for the employees will feel they have had some part in starting the publication. It will become their publication to some extent.

Holding the employees' interest in the big problem and requires care in all departments of the paper. It must be accomplished through a careful selection of the material published.

The "personals" can be secured through a staff of departmental reporters. The men in the foundry enjoy reading news items concerning the activities of men in the assembly department, and so on throughout the whole plant. The new employee appreciates mention in the personals when he begins his new work.

Of all things important, there is one "don't" in writing personals and that is: "Don't indulge in recording jokes on individuals." It is impossible to determine how sensitive a man may be, and it is dangerous to hold any one up to ridicule; in so doing the good accomplished in many issues may be counteracted.

Recognizing old employees not only pleases the individuals concerned, but shows the newer employees that the concern knows who are the old men that have been on the payroll over a period of years. It indicates interest in the individuals and has a strong appeal to the employees in general.

Regarding the writing up of promotions there is a division of opinion among editors as to the value of such personals. Some editors hold that considerable publicity should be given to all promotions; others call attention to the fact that whenever a promotion is made there are always those who, doing the same work, feel that they were better entitled to the advance than the one favored. The editors in the last mentioned group feel that but little publicity should, therefore, be given to promotions. There is a middle ground opinion which favors giving mention of the promotions, but to avoid stressing or spreading in the story. In this manner the man promoted feels he is being recognized, as he should be, and the others will have no cause to resent undue publicity or praise.

Employee affairs make interesting subject matter for articles. The activities of employee clubs, the athletic association, glee club, and employee affairs as socials, dances and entertainments furnish news stories or articles that will interest every employee.

Articles concerning the company's products, the uses and services rendered by the products, tend to increase the employees' pride in the output of the concern and unconsciously they endeavor to better the quality of their work.

Many of the misunderstandings between employer and employees result from a lack of knowledge of each other's problems. The employee publication can do much to bridge the gap through articles and stories stressing the mutual problems and aims, the relation of dividends to wages, the relation of one man's pay to the other man's cost of living, and the changeless and unbending economic laws that govern all men's lives. If the management will be frank with the employees and let the

men "on the inside" of some of the problems of the business, the relations may be considerably improved. Absolute honesty must be the rule and no attempt must be made to mislead or to exploit the workers through the columns of the publication. Co-operation and mutual trust is the goal of relations, and the stabilization of industry and the elimination of strife depend on the attainment of this goal. The employee publication is one of the biggest agencies for accomplishment of this aim.

(To be concluded in next issue)

### Would Like to Buy B.C. Merchandise

#### But They Should Be Unanimous, Declares Trades Council

Vancouver, B.C.—Complaining that loyalty to goods made in this province was forcing workmen to purchase non-union overalls, delegates to the Trades and Labor Council threatened to seek the union-made goods manufactured in the United States if something was not done to remedy the situation.

During the discussion on non-union goods it was announced that a very large Australian order for doors was turned down by mills here because the buyers stipulated that the goods must be made by organized labor.

It was announced that the new official journal for organized labor, which has been in process of organization for some time, commenced publishing on April 25th.

Considerable discussion took place on the matter of the recent investigation of the medical health office department of the city, and it was decided to ask the city to supply the council with a transcript of the evidence taken before the enquiry. It was believed that this transcript would provide sufficient evidence to warrant more complete investigation of certain of the charges made before the board of enquiry.

#### Fair Wage Conditions

A report that the Dominion fair wage officer had returned and negotiations had been started in connection with fair wage conditions and clauses on the waterfront jobs in progress resulted in the secretary being empowered to ask the government to appoint a fair wage officer for each of the western provinces. It was stated that delay in meeting the Dominion officer was due to his duties having called him to the mine troubles in Alberta and Eastern British Columbia, and that his territory covered Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. This, the delegates felt, was too much for one man to administer properly.

The engineers' delegate reported that his union was considering a revision in the present scale.

## YOU ARE NEXT!

50,000 New Subscribers wanted by January 1st, 1925, to read Canada's National Labor Paper. Every man, woman, and child in Canada should read the "Canadian Labor Press" which stands for Canadian progress.

The "Canadian Labor Press" has seven years' experience as Canada's first and only national Labor paper, and we are now able to produce a Labor paper of high educational value.

Our representatives cover Canada from coast to coast and will be in your town very shortly. Watch for him and have your friends join the "Brigade of Boosters" of the "Canadian Labor Press."

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# OUR HOME PAGE

## HOUSEHOLD NOTES

### FRENCH TOAST

Beat one egg until light, stir in one half a teaspoonful of salt and one cup of milk. Have ready about six slices of stale white bread cut one half inch thick. Dip them in the egg batter, turning until well moistened with the milk. Let them drain, and dip again if any batter is left.

Put into a shallow frying pan three tablespoonfuls of butter, lay the bread slices in and cook carefully till well browned; turn them over, and when the other side is browned remove to a hot dish and serve at once, plain, or with jelly or marmalade.

### TO CLEAN WHITE SHOES

First, bleach out any stains with salts of lemon. Wet the spot, then rub in a little of the salts and expose to the sun. If stain still remains cover it with a thick cream made of cornstarch and lemon juice, and allow it to dry on. Brush off.

Next scrub shoes with a good soap or mite of pumice soap (the hand kind); then, when dry, go over them with a regular shoe dressing. Put on shoe trees to clean.

### HAIR BRUSHES

Rubber brushes should never be washed with soda, however little you may use, for it destroys the rubber and damages the bristles. Ivory brushes should never be placed upon their back to dry, for the water will sink into the bristles and cause a green stain to appear upon the ivory back. The back and handles must be kept out of the water, otherwise they will be spoiled—this is specially applicable to cheap silver-backed brushes, which are apt to "spring."

### TRY THIS

Ham baked in grape juice is most inviting, and this mode of cooking may be adapted to a single thick slice or to a whole ham or smoked shoulder. For a whole ham or shoulder select one that is rather lean and soak and scrub it well after the usual fashion, then place it over the fire in cold water to simmer until partially tender. Do not cook as long as for boiled ham, as the finishing in the oven must be given some time. For added flavor drop two or three pieces of stick cinnamon, half a dozen cloves, the same number of peppercorns, and a piece of bay leaf into the kettle while the ham is simmering. Let the ham cool slightly in the water, then drain and trim it neatly, removing the skin. Now place it in a baking pan and insert cloves in neat rows over the fat side, sprinkling brown sugar thickly over it also. For a ten-pound ham pour a pint bottle of grape juice diluted with half its quantity of water into the roasting pan. Bake in a slow oven for two hours, basting frequently. The ham should absorb nearly all the grape juice with the exception of a small quantity which, with the fat that gathers in the pan, may be used in making the gravy. For added piquancy add a tablespoonful of sharp vinegar to the gravy as it cooks.

### BEEF TONGUE WITH RAISINS

This will make an excellent Sunday dinner dish. Select a smoked or pickled tongue and soak it overnight in cold water. Place it in fresh cold water, add half a lemon, thinly sliced, a bay leaf, three or four cloves, half an onion, six peppercorns, and if you have it, a small chili pepper. Simmer until tender, remove from the liquor, skin and trim neatly and set aside while the sauce is made. For this boil the liquor down rapidly to reduce its quantity. Melt two tablespoonfuls of butter, add two tablespoonfuls of flour, and cook to a smooth paste, then add three cupfuls of the liquor which has been strained, season well, and stir in the juice of half a lemon and half a cupful of large unseeded raisins. Simmer till smooth and slightly thickened, then add the tongue and continue simmering slowly for ten minutes. Remove the tongue to a platter and serve the sauce separately.

## Council Scores Hon. Murdock

It was decided at the June 20th meeting of the Toronto Trades and Labor Council to make the dirty conduct of the King Government in the postal strike, the chief issue of the North-west Toronto bye-election campaign.

The postal workers were endorsed one hundred per cent. for their stand in defying the Government and were promised the fullest moral and financial support.

Murdock and King were both condemned as betrayers of Labor and servants of the capitalists. Should the Government crush the postal workers, an offensive would be launched against the entire civil service. It was urged that all Labor unite against the attempt to lower living standards.

The women delegates condemned the L.O.D.E. who volunteered to take the place of the men, as scabs.

An appeal was made to the railroad men to prevent strike-breakers from placing mail matter on the trains.

### LAMB CHOPS WITH PINEAPPLE

A very attractive dish may be served for a company luncheon very appropriately. Select rib chops and have them boned and rolled, then broil and season them with salt, pepper and paprika.

Drain canned pineapple slices from their juice and wipe them dry, brush each with butter, and broil or sauté to a tempting shade of brown; place the pineapple slices on a hot platter arranged a chop on each and garnish the dish with parsley. Top each chop with a fragment of pimento cut in some fancy form and serve all very hot.

### ROAST BEEF WITH BROWNED PEARS

Select your favorite cut for roasting, prepare and roast as usual in a hot oven. When nearly finished place large halves of canned pears, drained and dipped lightly in flour, about it, baste well and cook until brown. If preferred, the pears may be combined with parboiled white or sweet potatoes, browning both vegetables nicely, and serving them as a border around the roast.

### MEAT LOAF WITH BANANAS

This recipe calls for one and a half pounds of ground beef and four large, not too ripe, bananas. Mix the chopped meat with one well-beaten egg, half an onion grated, a teaspoonful of pepper, one cupful of soft bread crumbs and half a cupful of fat salt pork finely chopped. Form the meat into a loaf, and press it into a bread pan, or place it in a roasting pan, then cook as usual in a hot oven, 425 degrees F. When nearly finished peel the bananas and cut them in halves lengthwise, then crosswise, place about the meat, and continue baking until they are delicately browned. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and place as a garnish about the meat loaf when serving.

### BREADED PORK TENDERLOINS WITH APRICOTS

Have the tenderloins cut in inch-thick crosswise sections, then flattened well with the cleaver; roll them in fine bread crumbs, then dip in beaten egg to which two tablespoonfuls of water have been added, then again in the bread crumbs, and saute in drippings or other good fat to a nice brown; remove to a hot dish. Drain a small can of apricots well, and dip each piece of fruit in flour, then saute in the pan, turning carefully. Arrange the apricot halves about the pork filets and garnish with sprays of green. Make gravy from the fat in the pan, adding a few spoonfuls of the apricot juice.

### POT ROAST OF BEEF WITH CRANBERRIES

This makes a deliciously tasty dinner. For the meat one may select a piece from the top or bottom of the round, or a three-pound piece of brisket, taking care that it is not too fat. Wipe the meat carefully and flour it lightly all over, sprinkling it also with salt and pepper, then brown it nicely in a little fat, turning it all sides may become crisp and well seared. Cook a pint of cranberries in a pint of water until very soft, then rub them through a sieve, and sweeten them slightly. If very thick, add enough water to them to make a thin puree, cook for a few minutes, then add the meat and simmer gently until tender and well done. If no more water is added during the cooking, the cranberries will simmer down to a thick sauce which will be served with the meat in lieu of gravy. No vegetables are added to a pot roast prepared in this way, but mashed or French fried potatoes make an ideal accompaniment to it.

### SAUSAGE CAKES ON APPLE ROUNDS

Make sausage meat into small cakes and cook them well; slice large tart, red-skinned apples in crosswise slices without paring them and place in the hot fat from the sausages; sprinkle just very lightly with sugar and cook to a nut brown. Serve on a hot platter, a sausage cake on each apple slice, and garnish with toast points.

## Ask More Pay to Dodge Bullets

Atlantic City.—The latest fashion in strikes is believed to have been discovered in Atlantic City. Non-union workers in one of the basic industries of the country refuse to work unless paid more. The element of industrial accidents and increasing risks to the workers' health is involved.

It's the run-runners. They used to charge \$1.00 a case for going out to sea and bringing back liquor. Now they demand \$2.00 a case, because the coast guard patrols are more active in shooting at them. If caught by the officers they dump the cargo overboard—and get nothing but curses from their boss on shore. They say the bosses higher up make all the money, while they do all the work and face all the dangers of the trade. "Pay more and drink less, is the strike ultimatum.

## Peasant Women Oppose Black Priests

Mexico City.—The first congress of women peasants in Michoacan, Mexico, is asking President Obregon to expel many priests from the state. They say these priests took part in the recent rebellion and are opposed to the progress of the peasants.

During the revolutionary period, when night came these priests donned the costume of the peasant and went from ranch to ranch inducing the peasants to join forces with de la Huerta. They were threatened with eternal damnation if they refused. They were told also that Catholicism in Mexico would be saved only if de la Huerta triumphed. The women ask that after these priests have been expelled that no new ones be sent in.

The International Federation of Trade Unions has taken steps to make use of wireless for anti-war propaganda on September 21st.

## Miners Use Part Time Strike

Meuselwitz, Germany.—At a meeting of the miners' delegates from central Germany it was decided to go on sympathetic strike with the miners in the Ruhr valley, Upper Silesia, and the Saxon district of Legnan-Oelsnitz. (The Ruhr miners are at work again.)

The strike takes the form, not of stopping all work, but of leaving the pits after 8 hours. At present central German miners are working 9 and 10 hours.

## Labor Organizer Talks About Lists

Charles Carnegie Had a Few Words at Bridgeland Community Club

Calgary, Alta.—Charles Carnegie, organizer for the Dominion Labor Party, addressed the members of the Bridgeland Community Club for about twenty minutes recently for the desirability of every person who is eligible to vote at the municipal elections this Fall having his or her name placed on the voters' list and of registering a vote on election day. Mr. Carnegie also sought the co-operation with the arranging of meetings in the autumn at which candidates for election may set forth their platforms and tell of the work which they have done as representatives in the past.

## Propose Canadian Old Age Pension

Ottawa.—An old age pensions scheme is to be introduced in the Canadian House of Commons. It provides for a pension of \$240 a year, payable monthly, to begging at 65 or 70. The proposal will include co-operation by the provinces, which are to pay half the cost. If the earlier age is chosen, it is estimated the yearly cost will be about \$42,000,000; while at the later age it is put at \$24,000,000.

## IF WE DO NOT PROTECT OUR OWN COUNTRY, NOBODY ELSE WILL!

We ask the citizens of Canada who love their country to fight for

## ADEQUATE PROTECTIVE TARIFF!

## Toronto Jewish Meat Strike Won

A novel struggle of the working masses as consumers against high prices of commodities ended in the defeat of the Jewish meat trust and the Jewish clergy—its partner.

Owing to old religious traditions, the Jewish population is obliged to buy meat only from butcher shops that have the "Kosher" permit of some Jewish rabbi, and, as usual, whenever "religion" combines with "business" it results in a heavier yoke upon the toiling masses. So, the Jewish clergy converted this "Kosher" business into a gold-mine for themselves, drawing big salaries from the butchers for their "religious inspection."

The butchers, with the assistance of these "Reverend Gentlemen," created a "trust" and started to dictate prices to the "Kosher" meat users. At this time, when work is so scarce and the pay envelope so small, a sudden raise of six cents on a pound of meat was a shock even to those who eat "Kosher" meat under "religious inspection" and a meat strike was declared. A consumers' league was established and it took over the leadership of the strike. Leaflets were distributed calling the wives of the toilers not to buy any meat until the strike was won.

Mass meetings were called where the "inside" of that "religious inspection" was disclosed and condemned. The fighting spirit of the working women rose even to the point of refusing to representatives of Synagogues the admission into the league. There were pickets, scabs, policemen and even broken bones of striking women, just as in every ordinary struggle of the working class.

But the butcher shops were empty—and they had to give in. So the butchers' association signed an agreement with the consumers' league for the old prevailing prices, giving the league the full right to control the quality of the meat sold, and to set the prices in the future.

The Consumers' League will now be on guard against the raising of prices on other commodities and it will strike to reduce the prices wherever they are too high at present.

## Dinner at Golf Club Discussed in House

Entertainment of Labor Convention Delegates Cost \$347

Ottawa, Ont.—Dominion jurisdiction on the eight-hour day, and a Labor convention which ended in a little dinner for sixty that cost \$347.50, featured discussion of Labor estimates in the House recently. There was considerable questioning as to the position in regard to the eight-hour-day convention, to which the Government assented at the first International Labor Conference held under the League of Nations. J. S. Woodsworth (Labor, Centre Winnipeg) complained that there had been too much playing with responsibility. If Canada could not enforce the eight-hour day it should withdraw from the convention.

Mr. Woodsworth asked if anything was being done to carry out the recommendations of the Commission which investigated the Cape Breton dispute. Mr. Murdock replied that so far as the eight-hour day was concerned the Provincial Government had full jurisdiction.

Mr. Hanson asked if Mr. Murdock had tried to persuade the Provincial Government to adopt the eight-hour day. Mr. Murdock said that the Federal Government could not undertake to instruct another Government as to how it should carry out its duties.

Mr. Woodsworth asked why Canada's representatives at the peace conference had endorsed the eight-hour day if the Canadian Parliament had no power to enforce it.

Mr. Murdock said that all concerned in the international conferences understood Canada's position. When all the provinces ratified the eight-hour day the Federal Parliament would be able to take the necessary steps to make it a Federal measure.

Mr. Woodsworth then complained that certain employees of Federal Government blast furnaces were working 12 hours a day and seven days a week.

Mr. Murdock said that the Civil Service Commission controlled such matters. The Commission had been asked to investigate this matter and was now working on it, he understood.

J. T. Shaw (Independent, Calgary West) said that he had been surprised to find out that the Dominion Police who patrolled the Parliament Buildings worked seven days a week. Surely the the Dominion Government had power to make regulations to cover its own employees.

Mr. Murdock agreed with Mr. Shaw, and he had done all he could to get these matters righted. However, others had jurisdiction. If Mr. Shaw would go before the Civil Service Commission and state that this practice was "obsolete and absurd" it would assist the Minister of Labor.

## The Big Dinner

Harry Leader (Progressive, Portage la Prairie) called attention to an expense account for a dinner given at the Royal Ottawa Golf Club to a provincial conference on Labor laws in September, 1923. The bill for 60 dinners was \$437.29, while the orchestra cost \$16, and a special car \$25. "I object to the high cost of dinners," said Mr. Leader.

Mr. Murdock said that he was not altogether enthusiastic himself about the necessity of such dinners. However, responsible and careful officials of the Department had indicated that when Provincial representatives were in the city it was necessary to entertain them. Now that the Minister of Labor was to be criticized for the expenditure, although he had no desire to dodge his responsibility, he thought it well that the names of the Provincial representatives who were at the dinner should be mentioned. Among them were Hon. George Murray and Hon. R. E. Flinn, of Nova Scotia; Hon. C. W. Robinson, of New Brunswick; Hon. E. C. Drury and Hon. Walter Rollo, of Ontario; Hon. Alex Ross, Alberta. Mr. Murdock closed by reiterating that he did not wish to dodge responsibility.

"If it is not right," he said, "you tell me, and it will not occur again in my department while I am Minister." There was some discussion of an amendment, introduced by Mr. Leader "to test the feeling of the House on the question" that the item be reduced by the amount spent on the dinner. Mr. Murdock protested that the dinner was not paid out of the item. Why not move the deduction when the vote for contingencies came up? Finally, on the Minister promising that no further sums were allowed for possible dinners in the coming year, Mr. Leader withdrew his motion and the item, of \$35,000 for the Lemieux Act, passed.

## T.U. Mvmt. in Dutch East Indies

There are no less than four trade union centres in the Dutch East Indies. Their names and membership are as follows:

1. Federation of Civil Servants' Unions—21 unions, with a total membership of 10,525.
  2. Federation of European workers of the Dutch East Indies—8 unions with a total membership of 4,100.
  3. Federation of Higher Grade Civil Servants' Unions—11 unions, with a total membership of 730.
  4. Federation of Indian Trade Unions—19 unions, with a total membership of 33,320.
- Apart from these, there are 53 trade unions which are not affiliated with any of the above federations. Of these, 21 with a total membership of 1,094, cater for European workers, and 32, with a total membership of 6,500, cater for native and Chinese workers.

Neither the Civil Servants' Federation nor the Federation of European workers adopts any definite platform. They differ from each other only as regards the fact that the one caters for civil servants and the other for ordinary workers. They co-operate whenever co-operation is necessary for the purpose of joint action.

The largest single unions belonging to the various centres are the following:



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1. The Railway and Tram-workers' Union (Federation of Indian Trade Unions) with a membership of 12,000.
2. The Union of Workers in the Sugar Industry (Federation of European Workers) with a membership of 2,500.
3. The European Railway Union (Federation of Civil Servants' Unions) with a membership of 1,900.
4. The Teachers' Union (Federation of Higher Civil Servants' Unions) with a membership of 180.

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Prices Lowest Quality Best

# Labor News From Coast to Coast

## "OUR OVERSEAS COLUMN"

### Amalgamation in the British Trade Unions

There is hope of amalgamation in the near future between the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants Warehousemen and Clerks and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers. Both unions will discuss this question at their next conference.

Recently the Amalgamated Engineering Union invited five other unions to a joint meeting to discuss improvements in organization. The suggestions agreed to are that there should be consultations between the executives on questions of common interest and that such consultation should precede negotiations with employers. The annual reports of many trade unions are now showing a rapid return to financial stability.

### OVERSEAS COLUMN re-OK RASH IN CANADA

**Immigration**—According to a Finnish consular agent in Canada, approximately 19,000 Finlanders will emigrate to Canada during the summer of 1924, while it is expected that this summer the Department of Colonization and Development of the Canadian Pacific Railway will conduct a large party of Scottish farmers, farm workers, and their families, emigrating to Canada.

### CHINA

**General Strike Planned**—A general strike of all workers in Canton is threatened because of the excessive taxation. Merchants handling general provisions already are on strike, and further general strikes are expected unless the government agrees to abolish the disliked extra taxes. One of the objects of the natives planning the strike is the driving out of the soldiers here from other provinces, particularly from Yunnan and Hunan. Volunteer troops from surrounding districts, numbering about 12,000 are concentrated at Canton, prepared for emergency.

### CUBA

**Excess Labor Supply**—With the exception of the sugar industry, the supply of labor continues to exceed the demand. This surplus is constantly augmented by numbers of southern Europeans, temporarily domiciled in Cuba, awaiting an opportunity to effect an entrance into the United States.

### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

**Unemployment**—During the first quarter of this year, unemployment in Czechoslovakia has shown a marked increase, with no prospect of immediate relief.

### GERMANY

**Federal Bureau of Estimates**—According to a recent notice in the Reichsanzeiger a Federal Bureau for handling estates left by deceased Germans abroad and for making investigations into the whereabouts and personal welfare of German citizens residing abroad has been established.

**Harbor Strike Ended**—Striking harbor workers and longshoremen at Bremerhaven have resumed work under adjusted conditions calling for an eight-hour day, a wage increase of seven cents per day, an increase in extra wages for handling heavy cargoes, and other concessions of a minor nature, which, it is said are not altogether satisfactory to the former strikers.

**Textile Industries Adjust Hours**—In all the fourteen principal manufacturing districts of Germany, new arrangements regarding working hours in the textile factories have been recently made. The districts of Silesia, Thuringia, Lorraine and Kaiserlautern, where this question is still pending, are expected.

### INDIA

**Cotton Mill Strike**—It is said that more than 150,000 employees were on strike during the Bombay cotton mills strike, large numbers of whom left Bombay for the country districts, from which they had been recruited. Latest available reports state that about one half of the mills have resumed operations and that many departees are returning to work in the mills.

## Strike Incidents Have Court Sequel

Postle Is Remanded on Charge of Assault—Relief Man Arrested

Toronto, Ont.—Resulting from the strike, two cases came up in the Police Court on Saturday last, one concerning Edward Potter, a strike-breaker, who, trying to elude some pickets, was mistaken for a burglar and arrested, and the other concerning Albert Downey, a former letter carrier, who was charged with assault on another strike-breaker, William Stronach. From the evidence in the latter case, it appeared that Downey was one of a crowd of pickets who saw Stronach entering 24 Yonge St. with letters for delivery last Friday afternoon. Stronach stated that someone followed him into the building and as he stood waiting for the elevator, he was struck on the chin and his letter knocked out of his hand. Witness, however, who is crippled in one hand and wears glasses, was unable to identify Downey as his assailant, nor could Orville Ingram, who was on the first floor and saw something of the incident.

Detective Waterhouse, who arrested Downey in the Metropolitan Church grounds, said that defendant admitted scattering the mail but denied the assault.

### Defendant's Story

Speaking in his own defence, Downey said: "I simply followed the man into the building. I spoke to him and asked him how he was getting on and told him he was taking the bread and butter out of my mouth. There was a crowd behind me. Somebody must have knocked the letters out of his hand. I never struck him. He kicked me and I may have knocked some letters out of his hand then."

Downey was remanded on his own bail until next Friday after his evidence had been heard.

The case relating to Potter was something in the nature of a comedy. He had been followed by pickets on Friday night and in fear and desperation he dodged behind a house on Broadview Avenue. Here the pickets, carrying searchlights, came along, and residents seeing the flashes and the lurking figure, put two and two together and made five, phoning the police that some desperado was trying to break into a house. Porter at first, probably hailed the arrival of the police with a sigh of relief, but this turned to consternation when he was arrested. Things were satisfactorily smoothed out in the Police Court, however, and the charge withdrawn.

## Labor Council Wants Change of Gov't.

Sees No Other Way to Solve Problem of Unemployment

Unemployment, immigration and banking were the subjects to claim the attention of the District Labor Council last night, and regarding each the Dominion Government came in for warm criticism. The delegates went on record as being of the opinion that the unemployment problem would never be solved until there was a change of Government at Ottawa. The immigration and settlement policy of the Canadian National Railways was approved, because it was considered the best that had been promulgated or that could be under the present capitalistic system. But although it was a good system, they feared it would not last, for the reason that manufacturers and capitalists would not consent to its being given a fair trial. It was decided to write the Labor members at Ottawa to urge upon the Government the desirability of establishing a National Bank, so that the savings of the people would be safeguarded. The present banking system was described as "rotten," as it offered too many facilities for "looters and wreckers" to get away with depositors' money.

## The Charges Against Murdock

The charge against Hon. James Murdock, made in Parliament by E. Guss Porter, Conservative, is that he withdrew four thousand dollars from the Home Bank two days before its failure, and that in doing so he used certain information he had received as a Member of the Government; and that such action on his part was "contrary to his obligations as a Minister and in derogation of his office and the honor, dignity and traditions of Parliament."

Mr. Porter said that last February "The Ottawa Journal" and "Toronto Mail and Empire" made the charge against Mr. Murdock which he was now making, and therefore the Minister himself and the Government, as well as the general public, became aware of the matter at that time. Mr. Murdock does not deny that the money was deposited in the bank and

was withdrawn, and it is admitted that is now being returned. He is further said to declare that he acted on the same rumors that caused others outside of Ottawa to withdraw their money at the same time. The hearing of the case will be before a standing committee of twenty-eight members empowered to call witnesses and demand the production of documents. The verdict of this committee will be final. If it is against Mr. Murdock, "The Ottawa Journal" says, he will probably resign his seat, and test the feeling of his constituents, in a by-election. If the decision is in his favor, it is said Mr. Porter will probably resign, and ask his constituents for their verdict on his action in bringing the charges. An Ottawa despatch says that now that the charges have been made everybody feels a degree of sympathy for Mr. Murdock, but, of course, that will not influence the committee in its finding on the evidence. Mr. Porter, in bringing the charges, said it was difficult to find precedents either in British or Canadian records, because cases where Ministers in office were directly charged with abuse of office for personal gain were so rare; and this leads "The Ottawa Journal" to observe:

"That is a significant truth, one that should be taken to heart by unthinking people who constantly sneer at politicians. When the Teapot Dome scandal was exploded in Washington some months ago, the thoughtless and the ignorant exclaimed: 'Just another case of political corruption!' Yet the act was that one had to go back to the administration of President Garfield to find a precedent for the scandal. The truth, indeed—it is a great pity that it is not more thoroughly appreciated—is that public life is singularly free from financial dishonesty; breaches of faith are but the rare exceptions that prove the rule."

## Unemployment To Be Solved

Belleville, Ont.—When asked what attitude of the city was with regard to existing labor conditions, Mayor Mikel recently very emphatically stated that everything in the power of the Public Works Department and the Labor committee of the city, was being done to assist in the matter.

"The Public Works Department is preparing plans as rapidly as possible for the pavement to Corbyville and the sewer to Albert College," asserted the Mayor.

"Furthermore, we have asked the Government to get the preliminary work commenced as soon as possible in the Corbyville road matter," he said.

Mayor Mikel explained that the Labor committee had work which it is hoped, will be under way very shortly. The Corby baths have been commenced, and other work will follow.

"We plan to not only supply work for men in the summer, but also in the winter and throughout the whole year. The result of which will be the discontinuance of the dole system which has been practiced here in past winters."

What is Belleville going to do for her unemployed?

That is the question of the hour with many men of this city, who by virtue of their business are in a position to know just what the labor conditions are. They wish to know also if the city fathers are aware of the situation, and what they, or the Provincial Government plan to do to alleviate the conditions.

**Turning Men Away**  
In conversation with The Intelligencer recently, Mr. Jamieson of the Patterson Construction Company, stated that an average of twelve men per day enquire at his office for employment, and all are turned away, as there is no work for them. Before eleven o'clock to-day eight men had

applied for work, and other contractors in the city report the same conditions.

"The unfortunate part of the situation is the fact that the men are well known, decent men who are anxious to get work," explained Mr. Bone.

A woman in tears, whose husband had been unemployed for six months has recently been given a loan of \$15 to pay the rent and similar cases are to be found in the city. Good men are leaving the city owing to the lack of work.

The Patterson Construction Company are working on two or three little jobs, requiring skilled workmen, but they have no jobs in sight, especially for laborers. Mr. Bone said construction and building operations had certainly fallen off compared to the same period last year.

"Of course the weather conditions have been adverse also," added Mr. Bone.

Work which was done and which would be commenced almost immediately, as outlined to The Intelligencer is the pavement to Corbyville and the construction of the sewer to Albert College. This work which the City must do, it was pointed out, and there was no time like the present.

Then there is the half mile road construction at Foxboro, and the six miles of road work between Belleville and Trenton. Tenders for the Trent road job closed on March 26th., but the job has not as yet been let and only yesterday, the newspapers called for tenders again, for either a macadam or concrete road. Tenders on the Foxboro section also closed in March.

### Are Good Men

When the representative of the Government Employment Office here was interviewed, he said "There are a considerable of first class local workmen who are really anxious for employment. This number does not include the stragglers from other centres, but are married and have homes in the city."

These men should have steady work from now until Christmas if the city is anxious to overcome the hardships of a future winter unemployment depression.

## Labor Condemns for Address

Claim He Made Malicious and Unwarranted Attack

Montreal, Que.—Organized labor, by a resolution unanimously adopted by the Montreal trades and labor council, recently, condemned F. N. McCrea, Liberal M. P., for Sherbrooke for statements attributed to him in a house of commons speech on the budget was in the resolution construed as a "malicious and unwarranted attack" upon international labor organizations.

Reported declarations by Mr. McCrea to the effect that Canadian



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## Want C.B.R.E. in T. and L. Congress

Invitation to Join After Three Years' Seclusion

The Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, which broke away from the Trades and Labor Congress some three years ago, has been invited to rejoin and send delegates to the annual convention to be held here the week of September 15.

Members of the local union of the C. B. R. E., composed of clerks, office men, freight handlers, station workers and other employees of the Canadian National Railways, have not yet passed their opinion on the invitation and the matter is likely to be referred to A. R. Mosher, Ottawa, grand president of the association.

A. R. Mosher, Ottawa, withdrew from the labor convention held in Winnipeg three years ago and the branches of the C. B. R. E. throughout the Dominion have not been affiliated with the central body since that time. The London union of the C. B. R. E. has held its meetings in the Imperial Bank Chambers, and not in the Labor Temple, since the withdrawal of the C. B. R. E. from the convention.

## Protest News Stand

Board of Trade Supports Business Men of Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, Man.—The Winnipeg board of trade has promised to take action as a result of the protest made recently by a deputation of Portage Avenue business men against the letting of space for a news stand in front of the Winnipeg post office on Portage Avenue at a rental of \$10.00 per month. Their grievance is founded on the fact that they are forced to pay high rents and taxes in order to carry on business in the city's principal street while the public works department rents space to their competitors at a ridiculously low price.

## Large Number of Men Unemployed

Quite a Number of Small Jobs Are Available But Steady Work is Scarce

Peterboro, Ont.—The employment situation in this city is still weak and has not picked up any in the past month with still a large number out of work. Small jobs are more plentiful than they were a few weeks ago, but steady work for the ones who are out of work is very scarce. Considerable building is going on in the city at present but most of the men required for this work are skilled men. There is plenty of work for men on the farms but the city workers do not seem to want this kind of employment. It was thought that there would be work for a considerable number of men on the spring drives but nothing very promising is seen in this line at present. A number of men have secured small jobs looking after lawns and gardens, but there is still a large number of men who can't find anything to do and do not know where to look for their next meal.

Early in June there were 42 new applicants at the Employment Bureau and 24 were placed, the greater percentage of these being on small jobs. There are not as many immigrants coming in at present as a few weeks ago but there is still the odd one being brought over by relatives and friends.

## WHAT ABOUT WAR ORPHANS?

A writer in the Iowa Bulletin of State Institutions gives some interesting comparisons between orphans of civil war soldiers and orphans of world war soldiers. At the Soldiers' Home at Davenport, Iowa, eight hundred civil war orphans were admitted within three years after that war. During the corresponding period of time after the world war no soldiers' orphans applied for admittance and only five have applied up to date.

labor unions are under the dictation of American-run international organizations, roused the council to refute the suggestion that Canadian labor has no autonomy. The delegates resolved in every means possible to counter-act "such mischievous and dangerous propaganda."

## Iron Moulders Strike

Guelph, Ont.—26 iron moulders refused to accept a cut of 12 1/2 per cent. at the plant of the Gison Manufacturing Company, Limited, and are on

strike. The men affected were in conference with the management of the company but no settlement has been reached. President E. Barreman stated that owing to a temporary depression in business, the cut in wages was made necessary, and it was with a view of keeping the men employed that he decided to reduce wages instead of laying the men off.

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