

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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WORKERS AND PROHIBITION.

THE Ottawa Citizen has attacked Mr. Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, for expressing his views on prohibition at a meeting of the Citizens' Liberty League in the Russell Theatre, Ottawa, on Sunday evening last.

The editorial writer in the Citizen interjects the inference that President Moore was not speaking for the Labor movement. Mr. Moore made it perfectly clear that he was speaking as a private citizen and not as president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Another red herring is being drawn across the trail by the writer of the Citizen's brain-storm. For such an "advanced thinker," who has written as much on labor matters, he knows more about the "open shop" than appears in his editorial.

NATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON RAILWAYS.

STRENUOUS efforts are being made in the United States by the railway operators to break away from the United States Railway Labor Board.

LABOR LEGISLATION ASSOCIATION.

THE American Association for Labor Legislation are considering holding their next annual convention in Canada.



POLITICS AND PEOPLE THROUGH THE TELESCOPE OF LABOR

J. A. P. Haydon. The International Trade Union Movement was assembled in the House of Commons on Wednesday afternoon by Mr. Ernest Lapointe, Quebec East.

Railway matters were again considered by the House of Commons during the past week. On Monday Hon. A. K. MacLean (Halifax) introduced a resolution to allow a disputation on the question of appointment of a special Parliamentary committee to investigate the affairs of the Canadian National Railways.

All but five states in the Republic to the south now enjoy some measure of Workmen's Compensation. In Canada the Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia now enjoy Workmen's Compensation laws with state funds.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

TWENTY-FIVE years ago, according to the Montreal Gazette, the Government consented to the restriction of hours of labor in Government establishments to eight in a day.

Ottawa.—The Government have practically consented to make the experiment of restricting the hours of labor in Government establishments to eight hours a day.

When the executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada waited on a committee of the Canadian Cabinet a few weeks ago, they again requested the Government to carry out this proposal.

Progress of a permanent nature is at all times slow, but Canadian workers had expected that by the entry of Canada into the labor section of the League of Nations that progress would come even more rapidly than heretofore.

point in an endeavor to find a solution of the problem. Hon. T. A. Crerar, the Agrarian leader, also participated in the debate. He supported the amendment of the Liberal leader and offered some constructive suggestions.

WILL LEAGUE MAKE WARS IMPOSSIBLE?

GENERAL SMUTS IS CONFIDENT LEAGUE OF NATIONS WILL DEVELOP AND ATTAIN FUNDAMENTAL IDEALS OF ENDING WARFARE

JOHANNESBURG, Transvaal.—"The League of Nations has not sprung from the thoughts of arbitrary workers or thinkers. It did not stand by itself. It has been born out of the events, great losses and sufferings of the war. It is an idea born out of the hearts of the people," declared General Smuts, in addressing a recent meeting of the League of Nations Union at Johannesburg.

At a certain time of the war, when they were in the trough, said General Smuts, there came in those days among the armies and people one inspiration—"Never again." It was the feeling upheld by the boys at the front. This consciousness, this determination, was one of the deepest inspirations which came out of the League of Nations originated.

It was great ideals that they were fighting for. It was for a better world, freedom, equality and the betterment of men, with a great moral peace and peace worthy of their heroes. Those were the two great inspirations that possessed their armies and people.

THE DAY BEFORE PAY DAY. It was the day before pay day. And all through the house. Not a coin could be found. Each pocket and purse was examined with care. But not even a dime could be found there.

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PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER 'P.R.'

Mr. Ronald Hooper and Other Experts to Explain System to Committee.

OTTAWA—Proportional representation will be studied by a special Parliamentary Committee of the House of Commons at an early date, with the view to ascertaining the applicability of this system of voting to Federal elections.

GIGANTIC PLANS LAID BY 'OPEN-SHOPPERS' IN U.S.

Bureau of Industrial Research Has Made a Survey of the Drive Now Going On.

NEW YORK, New York.—Who is behind the open shop drive in the United States, and where is it going? The Bureau of Industrial Research is publishing a pamphlet on this subject. It discusses the history, sponsors and activities of the movement.

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name of democracy, freedom, human rights, Americanism. On January 21, 1921, a national conference of state manufacturers' associations was held in Chicago. One of the principal objects of this conference was to forward a national open shop drive.

175 HOUSES WILL BE BUILT IN WINNIPEG THIS YEAR.

WINNIPEG.—Approximately 175 houses will be built in Winnipeg this year, according to estimates of the housing commission and the city building inspector.

APPEALS FOR HAMMOND DEFENCE COMMITTEE.

OTTAWA.—Local Union No. 412, International Association of Machinists, has sent to the editor of the "Canadian Labor Press" a paper from the Hammond Defence Fund Committee.

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Who is responsible for the change? Why have 5,000,000 wage earners rejected the "free and independent" status favored by employers?

Or did the system collapse because it rested on greed? The history of production and distribution in every country conveys the individual-bargaining employer.

When wage earners had no voice in working conditions they were ground down as are the steel trust's 11 and 13-hour serfs in 1921.

Workers unite because of necessity. They unite when they find that fairy tales, broken promises, injustice and deceit are poor substitutes for economic need.

Does he imagine that workers forget when he talks of the "glories" of individual bargaining? "A burnt child dreads the fire."

Trades and Labor Councils

BROCKVILLE.—The laborites of Brockville commenced their organization Friday night with a view to placing a candidate in the by-election in the Federal riding of Leeds and Brockville.

TORONTO.—Because of the attitude adopted by Mr. J. V. Conroy, G. W. V. A. Secretary, toward the unemployment meeting in Massey Hall, under the auspices of the District Trades and Labor Council, that body, at its last meeting, decided to withdraw its delegate to the Board of Trustees of the Veterans' Club-house Board.

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WOULD ASK U. S. MINERS TO SUPPORT BRITISH STRIKERS

Montreal Trades Council Discusses Question and Finally Refers Matter to Executive.

MONTREAL.—A request from the Plumbers' Union, railway branch, asking the Montreal Trades and Labor Council at its last meeting, to urge the American Federation of Labor to use its influence with the United Mine Workers of America, so as to dissuade its members from mining coal to be used in place of that normally produced by the British miners, now on strike.

HAMILTON STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYEES RENEW PRESENT AGREEMENT.

HAMILTON.—Everything is settled between the Hamilton Street Railway Company and street railway employees, and last year's wage scale will hold good for 1921.

CITIZENS' LIBERTY LEAGUE FOR MODERATION

- 1-The aims of the League are to secure sane liquor legislation in opposition to prohibition measures. 2-It advocates the sale of beer, wines and spirituous liquors BY THE GOVERNMENT.

MEN'S COMMITTEE PRESIDENT—Admiral Sir Charles Kingsmill.

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UNFAIR, UNPATRIOTIC AND UNJUST THAT

Continued From Page One.

Meant forcing upon the Canadian... I think, well aware that early in July, 1918, the Railway Association of Canada agreed with the Government to adopt the McAdoo award...

I am sure he, or any other red-blooded Canadian citizen, would not argue or hold that Canadian railway transportation employees who in pre-war times were conceded wages equal to and in many cases generally better than similar employees on American railways...

Mr. Scott, or some of my hearers, may think and say, that at the present moment a determined nation-wide effort is being made in the United States to reduce the wages of railway employees...

I trust my hearers will remember, however, that such a campaign, as is being conducted by many of the United States carriers, is in entire disregard of the Transportation Act...

We are, however, on account of the brief time at my disposal, brought back to the question of determining what railroad labor is entitled to under pre-war conditions...

All present, without exception, know something about the maintenance of a home, with it is hoped, a happy contented mother and healthy well-fed and clothed children there-in...

May I here digress to ask your indulgence for thought on another phase of this freight brakeman's and yardman's rate? The average life of a member of the organization to which I belong, composed chiefly of brakemen and yardmen, is less than eight years...

Under existing conditions, with the much discussed McAdoo award and the Chicago decision of the United States Railroad Labor Board in effect, the wage rates of the through freight brakeman on Canadian railways east and west is \$5.12 for eight hours, or for 100 miles...

Through freight brakeman would receive \$133.12 per month, \$1,597.44 per year. A local freight brakeman, \$143.52 per month, and \$1,722.24 per year. A yard foreman would receive \$180.96 per month, and \$2,171.52 per year.

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tion and excessive railroad construction costs that have been added upon the Canadian people these past many years. A striking example of optimistic, and therefore, somewhat commendable but advance railroad construction and operation in this respect is found in the first hundred or more miles east of Toronto with its three single track trunk line railways and its one double-track trunk line.

Under the regulation of the Government, which is effected by the political attitude of our people, is I think, responsible for the demand of certain railway men and others who hope to write public opinion, to the belief that the railways should be forced to bear the burden of resumed prosperity and that all of the cost of this resumption be taken out of the hope, snow, hope, comfort and happiness of Canadian railway employees.

WHAT THE LABOR PRESS SAYS CONCERNING N. C. U. Alberta Labor News, Calgary. Organized labor in Canada does not often express agreement with the Hon. Senator Robertson, Minister of Labor, but in his decision to not recognize the National Catholic Union the Minister will receive the approbation of trade unionists generally throughout the Dominion.

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Industrial Production

By J. A. P. Hayden. The International Labor Office has sent to all workers and employers' organizations of the world a questionnaire on production.

Canada is the official body of organized labor in this Dominion and it embraces workers of all religions and creeds as well as those who have no religion or creed. It is a workers' organization and there is no discrimination because of religion or lack of it.

Alberta Labor News, Calgary. Organized labor in Canada does not often express agreement with the Hon. Senator Robertson, Minister of Labor, but in his decision to not recognize the National Catholic Union the Minister will receive the approbation of trade unionists generally throughout the Dominion.

The Canadian Government, through the Minister of Labor, recently addressed to all employers in Canada a questionnaire relative to the efficiency in their establishment. The questionnaire sent out by the International Labor Office is along similar lines, but goes more thoroughly into the matter than the questionnaire of the Minister of Labor.

There are no economic differences between the Catholic who works in a mine or factory and his Protestant fellow worker who labors beside him, and there is no possible economic justification for a workers' organization based upon religious lines.

Labor Leader, Toronto. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association was a sufficient mouthpiece for the employers of the country and that the Trades Congress was the proper body to be recognized as representative of Canadian labor was a wise decision of Senator Robertson, Minister of Labor.

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Earnestly we ask you to vote—vote to clinch your former vote. By your last vote against the Sale of liquor you made Ontario safe from within.

Now vote against Importation, to make Ontario safe from without. Prohibition should apply to all alike. Take nothing for granted. Every temperance vote is needed. Every temperance vote must be cast.

See that your wife and every member of your household, with a right to vote, gets to the polls. Let us roll up a decisive majority today and settle this question.

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PRODUCTION OF CANADIAN MINES SHOWS INCREASE

Almost All Mines Show In-
creased Production During
Year of 1920.

OTTAWA.—The year 1920 was successful for the Canadian mining industry, the estimated value of production for the twelve months showing a gratifying increase over the figures of the previous year, and being only slightly less than those of the banner year of 1918, when the war stimulus of production was at its zenith. The Government's estimate of production for the year is \$200,000,000 as compared with \$176,686,000 in 1919, and \$211,391,897 in 1918. In all minerals there was substantial increase in production, with the exception of lead and silver, which showed small declines from the previous year's figures, and iron ore, where there was a heavy falling off.

One of the notable features of the mining year was the marked recovery in the production of copper, zinc, and nickel among the metals, and of coal among the non-metallic products. There was also a small increase in gold production. Zinc, coal and asbestos reached the highest figures of production in the history of Canada, whilst the output of chromite, gypsum, fluor spar, mica, and salt was well sustained. The situation is satisfactory, more so, indeed, than a survey of these figures without making an allowance for extraordinary war conditions would suggest. For under the stimulus of war, Canada's mineral production increased from a total value of \$128,863,000 in 1914 to a value of \$211,300,000 in 1918. The reaction in 1919 resulted in a falling off to \$176,686,000, practically the same value as was placed upon the 1915 production. The banner year of war-stimulated production, 1918, was the only one which exceeded in its mineral production the twelve months just ended. The total production of nickel is estimated at 1,500,000 pounds, an increase of 38 per cent. over the 1919 production, and an output that has been exceeded in Canada only during the four war years. The production of this metal in Canada, for some years to come, will be limited only by the demands of the market, the developed deposits assuring an ore supply for a long period. Smelting capacity has been constructed in the Dominion during the year considerably higher than any reached during the war. The production of copper is estimated at 82,500,000 pounds which

A Coal Shortage

By ELIAS SEARLES, Editor, Mine Workers' Journal.

It begins to look as if things are shaping up for a coal shortage this year that may be even more serious to the coal-consuming public than was the shortage of last year. Right now, when the people, the railroads and the industries should be buying coal, they are not doing so. They are putting it off until the last minute and everyone knows that if all of the consumers made a grand rush for coal at the same time late in the year, some of them will not get any coal. It will be impossible for the miners, the mines, or the railroads to meet such a demand all of a sudden. It would be the thing for the public to do to buy coal now and store it for future needs. By doing so they would avoid the trouble that is sure to come if they wait until the last minute.

No doubt some people are waiting in the hope that wages of miners will be reduced and that this might bring down the price of coal. But if any are entertaining such a thought, they may as well get it out of their heads at once, for there is not going to be any reduction in wages. The United Mine Workers will not permit any reductions. President Lewis has made this point clear. Therefore, no one need delay buying coal on the ground that wages may come down. The miners could not make more than a living at present wages, even if they were employed full time. It is quite certain that they are not making a living under present conditions, when work is scarce and hundreds of mines are closed down. It is to be hoped that the people will not be subjected to the hardships of a fuel shortage next fall, when the frosts begin to bite. The miners of this country stand ready to dig all the coal the people want or can use, but if the people will not buy, the miners cannot produce. Conditions at this time are very much like those which existed last year, when everybody howled for coal at the same time. Railroads were demoralized and unable to haul enough coal to satisfy everybody. They are in no better condition now to handle a large coal traffic than they were last year. They have allowed their rolling stock and power to deteriorate. They have not even attempted to keep their equipment in condition for good service. When the grand rush comes, the railroads will be able to haul just so much coal and no more, and the amount of coal to be produced by the miners will be limited by the ability of the railroads to move the coal from mine to consumer.

If consumers would buy coal now thousands of mine workers who are unemployed could go back to work and have the opportunity to make a living. If the people continue to refuse to buy coal and a shortage comes as a result, it will be no fault of the miners. The public will have only itself to blame. The total production of pig-iron from blast furnaces in Ontario in 1920 is estimated at 1,850,000 short tons, and the total production of steel ingots and steel castings at 1,220,000 short tons, both records showing a substantial increase over the production of the previous year. Delegation of the National Union was merely a part of the One Big Union movement, and that if countenanced would create Bolshevism.

HULL WORKERS SUPPORT LABOR MINISTER'S STAND

One Delegate Declares N. C. U. Merely Part of the O. B. U. Movement.

Unanimous approval of the stand taken by Senator Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor, with regard to the status of the National Catholic Union, was voiced by delegates at the meeting of the Hull Trades and Labor Council this week. President Hebert, in introducing the matter, said that the International Trades and Labor organization was the only recognized labor body in the Dominion, and that in its ranks no distinction was made with regard to race or creed. He believed that the stand taken by the Minister of Labor should have the approval of every member of the labor movement, and that the attitude adopted by Dr. J. E. Fontaine, the federal member for Hull, was in strange variance with one he had displayed last year, when he had espoused the cause of the Hull Trades and Labor Association. On the motion of Delegate Paradis, seconded by Delegate Laprade, a letter will be forwarded to Senator Robertson and also President Tom Moore, of the Trades and Labor Congress, expressing the approval of the Hull association, at their refusal to recognize the National Catholic Union, as entitled to representation at the forthcoming Industrial Conference. Delegate Paradis said that in his opinion the National Union was merely a part of the One Big Union movement, and that if countenanced would create Bolshevism.

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