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En marge d'une résolution

"Une résolution a été adoptée... La Presse, 4 mars.

Il est surprenant de lire pareille demande par une union locale canadienne à une Fraternité CANADIENNE qui cherche par tous les moyens à sa disposition à faire du recrutement...

Toutefois, toute chose a une fin. Un beau jour, les ouvriers qu'on a égarés s'aperçoivent de la duplicité de ceux qui les ont induits en erreur...

Le local Angus n'en est probablement pas encore rendu là, mais il est certain que ses membres ne se trouvent pas à l'aise parmi leurs compagnons d'autrefois qu'ils ont trahis, délaissant la proie pour l'ombre.

Ce petit incident, dont les conséquences peuvent devenir d'une grande importance, nous a suggéré ces quelques considérations sur le mouvement ouvrier canadien qui s'apparente beaucoup au mouvement syndical catholique...

Nous serions des plus curieux de savoir quelle réception va faire M. Mosher à cette requête, qui a d'autant plus sa raison d'être que sa fraternité se donne le qualificatif de "canadienne".

Peut-être aussi que c'est une tempête dans un verre d'eau et que l'agitation cessera lorsque le local Angus aura reçu assez de publicité. Nous ne pouvons cependant que souhaiter au local Angus de remporter un succès dans ses revendications: la langue française est officielle dans la province de Québec, et le Canada, faisons-la donc respecter par ceux qui font appel à nos sentiments et à notre appui au nom du patriotisme...

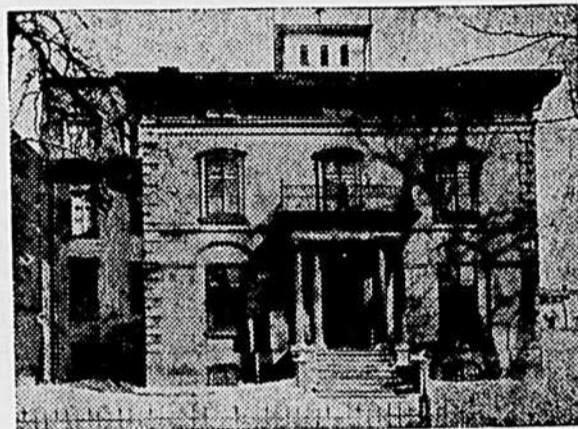
Il nous répugne, à nous les internationaux, de nous couvrir du manteau du patriotisme ou de la religion pour faire de la propagande ouvrière, estimant qu'un ouvrier n'est ni un Canadien, ni un Anglais, ni un Catholique, ni un Protestant, mais tout simplement un ouvrier qui doit lutter pour gagner sa vie et celle des siens...

Loin de nous l'idée de désapprouver le local Angus de demander du français dans ses communications avec la Grande Loge de la Fraternité canadienne. Ne pas mêler la langue ou la religion aux controverses ouvrières ne veut nullement dire qu'il faille abandonner sa langue et sa religion; tout au contraire, il faut parler sa langue le plus possible et que toute décision qu'on prend soit conforme aux dictées de la foi et de la morale que nous avons apprises sur les genoux de notre mère et de nos éducateurs qui, dans notre province, sont presque tous des religieux. Quand on perd sa langue, on perd sa foi; quand on perd sa foi, on risque de perdre... autre chose.

R. HACHETTE.

Une Bourse du Travail à Montréal

Une Bourse du Travail à Montréal fut longtemps le rêve des ouvriers organisés. Mais aujourd'hui, le rêve, car jusqu'à ce jour ce fut un véritable rêve, est en train de se matérialiser et bientôt les ouvriers, si les espérances des promoteurs ne sont pas déçues, seront en mesure de se réunir dans une maison qui sera bien à eux, où ils seront libres de faire et de dire ce qui leur plaira.



ouvriers, ceux-ci manquent des points de contact essentiels à l'hégémonie du mouvement ouvrier, que le groupement dans un seul édifice assurera plus sûrement. Pénétrés de l'idée de mettre le mouvement ouvrier international "dans ses meubles", les directeurs de la Bourse du Travail, Limitée, se sont tenus au courant des événements et, au moment opportun, ils ont saisi l'occasion qui se présentait avec des garanties de succès.

Aux Officiers et Membres du Travail Organisé, Messieurs et Confrères,

Depuis près d'un demi-siècle, le mouvement trade-unioniste existe à Montréal, nous comptons aujourd'hui une centaine d'unions locales avec environ 40,000 membres; nous sommes incontestablement le groupe le plus considérable en force numérique, mais avouons entre nous les relations fraternelles qui devraient exister entre les membres de la grande famille ouvrière, sommes-nous solidaires les uns des autres comme nous devrions l'être? Il n'y a malheureusement qu'une réponse à faire à ces questions, c'est que nous sommes encore loin d'avoir atteint l'état indispensable au plein développement de notre force économique; c'est que nous n'occupons pas dans la société la position qui nous revient pas plus que nous jouons le rôle prépondérant que nous devrions remplir.

Toutefois, nous sommes convaincus qu'il est possible de remédier à cette situation car elle est due en grande partie au fait que les différentes unités qui composent notre mouvement n'ont pas assez de rapports entre elles, éparpillées qu'elles sont aux quatre coins de la ville; elles se réunissent tantôt dans un endroit, tantôt dans un autre, dans des salles bâties assez souvent dans un tout autre que celui pour lequel on s'en sert; elles sont aménagées au hasard des circonstances, la ventilation et l'hygiène sont pour ainsi dire inconcevables, la plupart d'entre elles sont des glaciers l'hiver, des étuves l'été; aller, après une journée de travail, passer la soirée dans une salle enfumée est loin d'être un attrait pour l'ouvrier. Toutes ces raisons expliquent le nombre trop restreint de membres qui assistent régulièrement aux assemblées de leur union.

Il est hors de doute que si nous avions un endroit central pour nous réunir, notre mouvement s'en ressentirait favorablement pour le plus grand bien de tous; nous ne pouvons compter que sur nous-mêmes pour attendre ce but; d'autres organisations moins nombreuses, moins influentes que nous, ont trouvé moyen d'avoir des quartiers généraux à elles, pourquoi n'aurions-nous pas notre Temple du Travail bien à nous, acheté, construit et contrôlé par nous; restons indépendants des autres classes de la société si nous voulons imposer le respect qui nous est dû et garder toute notre indépendance.

Au Conseil des Métiers

Les délégués se prononcent contre une loi de salaire minimum de 35 cents de l'heure pour les hommes. — Ils ne veulent pas d'un ban sur l'exportation des liqueurs. — Le projet d'achat d'une Bourse du Travail est endorsed, le Conseil vote \$1,000 à cette fin. — Des matériaux étrangers dans la construction de l'Université de Montréal.

Le Conseil des Métiers et du Travail de Montréal a fait de la bonne besogne et beaucoup en même temps lors de son assemblée de jeudi dernier, à la Paletterie du National. L'assemblée était présidée par le président Foster, tous les officiers étaient à leur poste.

Il a commencé par voter une somme de \$1,000 pour l'achat de 1,000 parts dans la Bourse du Travail, Limitée, un immeuble devant servir de quartiers généraux aux unions internationales; ce fut le comité exécutif qui en fit la recommandation à la suite de la lecture de la clause suivante de son rapport:

Votre comité a reçu une délégation composée des confrères A. Martel, C. R. Brunet, et A. Bastien, représentant la Bourse du Travail. Le président de la Bourse du Travail le confrère Arthur Martel explique au comité tous les avantages qu'il y aurait pour le mouvement international d'acquiescer la propriété de l'Académie St-Léon, et que nous pourrions avoir à de bonnes conditions, et il donne au comité toutes les informations désirées.

Après considération et étude votre comité est d'opinion que le Conseil devrait souscrire mille parts à \$1.00 la part, dans la Bourse du Travail, pour le moment, et si nécessaire un montant additionnel pourrait être souscrit plus tard, et recommande en conséquence.

L'expression d'opinions fut unanime sur ce projet, tous reconnaissant que le projet est viable et nécessaire au développement du mouvement; il fut de plus recommandé que chaque union affiliée se rende acquéreur d'un certain nombre de parts en rapport avec ses moyens financiers.

tous les secrétariats, bureaux d'agents d'affaires, etc. Le tout ne demande que peu d'altérations car cette propriété fut bâtie solidement et salubrement pour fins scolaires et servait jusqu'à tout dernièrement à un pensionnat connu sous le nom d'Académie Saint-Léon.

Nous pouvons acheter cette splendide propriété, avec une grande pelouse ornée de magnifiques arbres en plein développement, pour une somme de \$50,000; en y ajoutant les frais de construction de la grande salle et l'achat du mobilier, chaises, etc., il faudra un autre \$10,000, soit une somme globale de \$60,000 pour nous mettre "chez nous" pour toujours; mais cette option n'est valide que pour soixante jours; le nous faut nous hâter si nous ne voulons pas perdre cette occasion unique.

Il nous faut donc trouver ces \$60,000 et nous allons les trouver avec votre coopération. C'est pourquoi nous faisons un appel pressant à toutes les unions ouvrières et leurs membres et leur demandons de souscrire immédiatement un certain nombre d'actions. Il nous faut au bas mot \$25,000 pour le 1er avril au plus tard; prouvons à ceux qui cherchent à nous détruire que notre mouvement est plus fort que jamais.

N'oubliez pas que c'est le moment plus que jamais de mettre en pratique la devise du mouvement ouvrier: "Unis nous résistons, divisés nous tombons"; il nous faut le concours de toutes les unions et de tous leurs membres, chacun dans la mesure de ses moyens. Placer vos fonds dans l'immeuble n'est pas une perte mais un bon placement. La propriété ne diminue pas de valeur mais elle augmente au fur et à mesure que la Ville de Montréal grandit et prospère.

SOUSCRIVONS, SOUSCRIVONS ET METTONS-NOUS CHEZ NOUS.

- Fraternellement, Le Bureau de Direction de la Bourse du Travail, Limitée. Arthur Martel, président. J.-T. Foster, vice-président. Alzée Bastien, secrétaire. G.-R. Brunet, trésorier. Charlemagne Rodier, aviseur. Gus. France, lég. J. Drolet, Jos. Girard, A. Goyette, J.-E. Vigeant, directeurs.

N. B. — Adressez toutes les communications à: 7 Est, rue Craig, chambre 22, Montréal, Qué.

Le travailleur insiste dans ses demandes, que la clause Fédérale du juste salaire soit appliquée à tous les travaux du Gouvernement, et l'établissement d'un salaire minimum uniforme compromettrait finalement l'application heureuse de la loi du salaire raisonnable.

Pour ces raisons votre comité, tout en étant en sympathie avec l'intention de la législation proposée, et reconnaissant pleinement le besoin d'action qui améliorerait les conditions déplorables qui existent dans certaines sections de la province, ne peut pas accorder son support à la proposition telle que rédigée, et recommande en conséquence.

En réponse à ces arguments et pour résumer toute la discussion, le président Foster déclara que le Travail Organisé n'était pas en principe opposé à une législation de salaire minimum qui fixerait ce minimum non par une loi mais par un médium flexible, mais qu'il était absolument opposé au bill de M. Guertin qui faisait l'objet de la discussion, non pas qu'il doutât de la sincérité de M. Guertin quoique trop souvent ces mesures de paternalisme sont empreintes d'un caractère politique loin d'être à l'avantage du bien-être de l'ouvrier; "il aurait mieux valu, dit-il, que M. Guertin se fut renseigné près des unions, avant de présenter son bill, il aurait alors obtenu la manière de voir d'hommes habitués à faire face aux problèmes économiques et aurait profité de leur expérience. Il ne faut pas oublier que les employeurs, trop souvent, considèrent le salaire minimum comme le salaire courant, voire même le salaire maximum, tout comme ils prennent le

Salaires et compétences

Le Soleil, de Québec, publiait, ces jours derniers, sous ce titre, un article plein de sens pratique que nous croyons bien faire de publier in extenso; le voici:

Il faudra payer de plus forts salaires pour avoir des compétences et pour les garder. C'est par ces mots qu'il faudrait résumer, croyons-nous, le rapport de la Commission royale chargée de faire enquête et de conseiller le gouvernement sur la classification et le traitement des fonctionnaires fédéraux.

Il s'agissait, en l'espèce, des salaires des techniciens, mais les commissaires sont d'avis qu'on doit pousser l'enquête plus loin et y inclure les autres classes d'employés d'Etat. En effet, il peut y avoir des spécialités dans toutes les catégories de travailleurs, où la capacité naturelle, le travail et l'expérience ont aussi leur valeur.

Non seulement la nomination initiale devra se faire strictement d'après la seule et unique valeur du candidat dans la première division, mais la promotion elle-même sera moins soumise à l'éventualité d'une vacance qu'au mérite du titulaire. La commission veut que "le mérite soit le seul et unique facteur de promotion et que celle-ci se fasse le plus promptement possible". Rien de plus logique. Il arrive avec le système actuel en vigueur jusqu'à ce jour, que de bons employés languissent à petit salaire pendant dix ou douze meilleures années de leur vie, pour la seule et unique raison qu'un aîné ne se décide pas à mourir ou à se retirer.

"Or, toute démocratie a besoin, à cause de l'instabilité des gouvernements, d'une armée de travailleurs de première classe. Les commissaires le reconnaissent, quand, à la fin de leur rapport, ils recommandent la reconnaissance de ces principes: "Que les fonctionnaires qui occupent des positions d'une grande responsabilité soient de plus en plus indépendants de fortune; "Que des positions qui ne deviendraient attrayantes que pour des hommes de second ordre seraient éventuellement remplies par des personnes qui ne renonceraient pas à la cause nationale tout le service désirable; "Que toute démocratie, pour être prospère, a besoin d'un corps de fonctionnaires de premier ordre."

A première vue, le paiement de forts traitements à un nombre assez considérable d'employés spécialisés, pourrait paraître exorbitant. Mais on oublie qu'un homme vraiment intelligent, travailleur et compétent, rapporte plus à une institution que trois ou quatre médiocres. Si, pour égaler l'efficacité d'un seul, il faut payer trois salaires au lieu d'un, cela ne présente aucune économie. Ce principe est admis de tous ceux qui ont l'expérience des affaires et qui ont assez de largeur de vues pour bien juger du rendement d'un bon homme en comparaison de trois ou quatre mauvais.

Ces principes ne s'appliquent pas seulement au gouvernement mais à toute corporation industrielle ou commerciale. Dans les chemins de fer, par exemple, on paiera annuellement \$60,000 à un directeur-président qui saura organiser son immense réseau et qui, par son esprit d'entreprise et son sens pratique, économisera au pays des millions. Il n'y a parfois pas de limite à la valeur d'une compétence. — Le Soleil, 27 février 1930.

Ce qui est vrai pour Ottawa, l'est également pour Québec, c'est un fait admis que la majorité des employés civils, du haut au bas de l'échelle, ne reçoivent pas un salaire exorbitant, malgré le relèvement qui s'est opéré il y a quelques années. On prétend que, comme les positions du gouvernement sont de tout repos — des sinecures, en certains cas — cela compense pour la modicité du traitement et attaché. Il peut y avoir un semblant de vrai dans cette affirmation mais, d'un autre côté, cela ne prouve pas que cela soit bien. Ne vaudrait-il pas mieux diminuer plutôt le nombre des parasites, ne garder que des compétences bien établies, les faire travailler davantage si nécessaire, mais leur payer un meilleur salaire?

Ce n'est pas facile d'accomplissement parce que trop de représentants du peuple se font des quémandeurs de places pour leurs protégés et que trop d'incompétents qui n'ont réussi dans rien veulent se créer un fromage aux dépens du gouvernement; le fonctionnarisme est une de nos plaies sociales, cela existe un peu partout à l'état plus ou moins aigu, c'est un mal difficile à extirper mais qui peut s'atténuer par l'introduction d'exams de capacité, de commissions de service civil, etc.

Eloignons les incompetents, les nullités, les créatures politiques, cabaleurs de profession et le reste, remplaçons-les par les meilleures compétences possibles mais donnons à ceux-ci des salaires attrayants qui les attireront et les garderont au service de la chose publique. Nous admettons toutefois que c'est plus facile à dire qu'à faire, mais rien n'empêche de préconiser l'idée et d'appuyer ceux qui voudraient la mettre en pratique.

nombre d'heures maximum comme la journée de travail régulière. De ce fait, nombre d'ouvriers qui reçoivent aujourd'hui 50 cents de l'heure et plus pour un travail de manoeuvre, se trouveraient exposés à voir leur salaire réduit au minimum de salaire légal établi par une loi qui ne pourra être changée que par une autre loi.

Un délégué ayant fait remarquer qu'il ne s'agissait que d'un minimum de salaire pour les "journaliers" et non pas pour les ouvriers de métiers, le président Foster répondit que d'abord rien dans ce bill ne stipulait le mot "journalier" mais bien "un employé du sexe masculin âgé de 16 ans ou plus", puis, même si un amendement y était apporté pour dire "journalier", comment établir la ligne de démarcation entre un journalier et un ouvrier de métier, quand celui-ci fera du travail que l'employeur prétendra être du travail de journalier et l'ouvrier prétendra le contraire, qui sera juge de la question; puis un salaire minimum de 35 cents de

l'heure pour toute la province n'est pas juste, ni équitable, il pourra aider à relever les salaires ridicules qui se paient dans les districts ruraux mais il sera de nature à faire baisser les salaires des ouvriers des villes durant les saisons d'ouvrage. Pour toutes ces raisons, le Travail Organisé est opposé au bill Guertin dans sa forme actuelle.

Le vote étant pris, le rapport du Comité exécutif se prononçant contre le bill Guertin fut adopté sur division.

La question de l'emploi de matériaux canadiens dans la construction de la nouvelle bâtisse de l'Université de Montréal fit également le sujet d'une discussion intéressante, cette clause qui se lisait comme suit fut adoptée:

Votre comité a reçu un rapport du sous-comité nommé pour entrevoir le Premier Ministre au sujet de la construction de l'Université de Montréal et

(Suite à la quatrième page)

Un savant mélange de feuilles choisies avec le plus grand soin LE THE "SALADA" 'Tout frais des plantations'

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The Labor World



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16th Year — No. 10

SAMEDI, 8 MARS 1930 — MONTREAL — SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1930

PRICE: 5 CENTS

Want in the Midst of Plenty

Can Poverty Be Eliminated?

By BERNARD ROSE

Whether we agree with the suggested remedy for the many evils in modern society, which he points out in his memorable work "Progress and Poverty," the late Henry George nevertheless drew attention to conditions, in language so simple, striking, and convincing, that even though he wrote almost sixty years ago, and great progress has been made along mechanical lines, the truths he uttered are as valid today, as they were then.

Henry George was gifted with the faculty of being able to make himself understood by the worker who had only received an elementary education. His "Progress and Poverty," and the doctrine it enunciated, won numerous adherents not only in his own country, but other lands. The principles he laid down were debated by conflicting schools of thought, and he numbered quite an army of enthusiastic disciples who were convinced that adoption and application of the single tax theory would largely, if not altogether, overcome the evils against which he declaimed with so much force.

Since his day, the wealth of the world has increased tremendously and the United States stands out as the world's richest and most powerful nation. Invention and mechanical development have increased production to an extent that could not possibly have been imagined by those whose optimism was such, that they believed in the coming of a golden age when luxuries would be within the reach of all and the worker would not be worried by unemployment or the fear of a dependent old age.

Notwithstanding the great increase in the productive power of men and machinery, the nations are still grappling with the critical and urgent problem of improving the lot of the workers by seeking a remedy for the evil of unemployment.

In Great Britain, a Labor Government the heads of which are sincere advocates of every means to help the worker, find themselves practically impotent to immediately relieve a situation that has been the nightmare of several governments.

The tendency today, in every country with a working population, is to manufacture within its borders, what it requires for its needs. Furthermore, once manufactures are established, a demand is made for the protection of home industries against foreign competition. The manufacturers argue that, since they have invested capital, and are giving employment to fellow citizens, unless they are given a measure of protection, sufficient to enable them to keep out the products of rivals, their capital is in danger and the future of their industries in serious jeopardy.

What seems somewhat singular, is that even in so highly protected a country as the United States, there are periodical crises that are responsible for a considerable degree of unemployment and the suffering and hardship that ensues therefrom.

It cannot be denied that the employed worker, in the United States, is in a far more fortunate position than the wage earner in other countries across the sea. His wages are very much higher and he is able to purchase, when fully employed, what is entirely beyond the means of the wage earner in the several European lands.

In our own country, we likewise from time to time have our attention drawn to the unemployment that prevails and the necessity for action being taken by the Municipal, Provincial, or Federal Governments. In previous years the Dominion Government contributed to an unemployment fund. The same demand is being made this year by the officials of municipalities and governments of several provinces.

What the earnest student of social, and economic conditions cannot understand, is why men willing to work, and whose labor adds to the wealth of the community, or state, are unable to secure employment and forced to either eat up their meagre savings, or depend for the actual necessities of life, upon public or private charity.

Henry George asks the same question in a manner that certainly provokes one intensely to thought. He says: "Look simply at the facts. Can anything be clearer than that the cause of poverty which festers in the centres of civilization is not in the weakness of the productive forces? In countries where poverty is deepest, the forces of production are evidently strong enough. If employed, to provide for the lowest not merely comfort but luxury. The industrial paralysis, the commercial depression which curses the civilized world today, evidently springs from no lack of productive power. Whatever be the trouble, it is clearly not in the want of ability to produce wealth. It is this very fact — that want appears where productive power is greatest and the production of wealth is largest — that constitutes the enigma which perplexes the civilized world, and which we are trying to unravel."

In a well ordered commonwealth, poverty should be as rare as the diseases that society has been successful in eliminating. Poverty is a social disease, largely due to the economic mismanagement and a failure on the part of the State, the employer, and the worker, to realize and recognize their several reciprocal obligations and the necessity for effective coordination and organization, of all the factors that are included in the production and distribution of wealth.

It has by degrees dawned upon the employing element in society, that the employe must no longer be treated as a mere cog in the industrial wheel but given that consideration which he is entitled to, as one of the important contributors to the productive process; and concurrently, recognition of his place in a society as a citizen whose welfare the State must in every way promote and protect, particularly where he becomes incapacitated; is deprived of the opportunity to work or, because of age, is the last one called upon to accept employment when work is plentiful.

The problem of production has been solved. Modern machinery and organization can furnish all that is required to meet the needs of every citizen in the commonwealth. There is enough to go round and even leave a surplus. Where the injustice begins is when the worker, continuously employed and receiving a wage barely sufficient to meet his wants, through no fault of his own, is thrown out of employment, and thus immediately becomes a social and economic liability. His inability to continue contributing to production lessens his ability to consume. Leaders and thinkers other than professional economists have pointed out that a country's prosperity should not be measured entirely by what it produces, but the degree of consumption which enables the worker to approximate to the higher standard of living which has been sought for by the men and movements who devote themselves to promoting the welfare of labor.

Every effort should be made to develop a higher appreciation of the advantage and need to mete out economic justice to the worker. This is possible, only where the proceeds of industry are more equitably distributed. If, notwithstanding this equitable division of the product of the industry, mechanization still causes a displacement of labor, the State, where the industrial directors refuse, must step in and force recognition of the principle, that the worker must be given sustenance out of the proceeds of the industry, the mechanization of which deprived him of his job, or alternatively, that he be given an amount required for his common needs from the general wealth of the community.

It is at times somewhat difficult to convince those who administer the Government and the executives at the head of large enterprises, that the worker, be his age what it may, cannot in morals and sound economics and law, be refused the necessities of life where he is willing to work — or, where having worked the major part of his life, can no longer obtain employment, or if employed, produce in the same degree.

The Week at Ottawa

By J. S. WOODSWORTH, the Labor World's Parliamentary Correspondent.

Our readers will be glad to know that Mr. J. S. Woodsworth, M.P., who represents Labor in the House of Commons, will, during the course of the present session, contribute a weekly summary of the doings of Parliament.

No one is better qualified to summarize, from the Labor standpoint, the purpose and advantage of measures coming before the House, than Mr. Woodsworth.

Mr. Woodsworth has the faculty of being able to, in a very readable way, give the substance of the debates and legislation that come before the House. He is an outspoken and fearless advocate of Labor's cause, and our readers can rest assured that what in any way affects the welfare of Labor, from the legislative standpoint, will not be overlooked by him.

THE LABOR WORLD.

It is a week since Parliament assembled, but as one looks back there has been very little of interest to those at home.

As the Members returned to Ottawa there was more or less of the sense of comradeship. As at Old Boys' Reunions — many who had fought on the school playgrounds found themselves great friends. Indeed, the sooner we vanish from the public mind the idea that the parties always stand as with swords drawn, the more we will understand the reasons why nothing much happens in our political life. At home, red-hot partisans will hardly speak to one another; here Mr. Mackenzie King and Mr. Bennett can walk down the Chamber arm-in-arm.

Several days are given up to formalities. The King's Speech, which originally gave a fairly clear indication of the legislation that was likely to be brought forward has become an almost meaningless document. It tells only the unimportant things that everybody knows, and leaves out all the important things which most people should know.

The Reply to the Speech is moved and seconded by two young back-benchers who usually, in flowery language tell all the nice things they can about their own constituencies, which, of course, please the constituents and hurts nobody else. After this preliminary the big guns are brought out. It is the part of the Leader of the Opposition to paint as black a picture as possible of conditions in the country. He is followed by the Leader of the government who, of course, must paint as bright a picture as possible. Each bolsters up his contentions with elaborate statistics, sometimes drawn from different paragraphs of the same article. The Leaders are of course vociferously applauded by their followers, and their speeches broadcast far and wide, but after all, what did they say?

Mr. King reaffirmed that there was great prosperity and quoted as authority Mr. Bennett's banking friends. Mr. Bennett, on the other hand, would seem to hold Mr. King responsible even for the lack of rainfall in Western Canada.

The performance of the leaders might have been repeated by their fol-

lowers ad nauseum, but fortunately at 10 minutes to 6 a speaker stopped rather unexpectedly; everybody expected vaguely that somebody else would speak, nobody rose to his feet; the question was promptly put, and the first "full dress" debate of the Session terminated abruptly. No one wept. The prepared speeches can be trotted out at some late stage of Parliament.

Among the formalities one should mention the elaborate social functions. On the evening preceding the opening there is the State Dinner to which, of course, only the political higher-ups are invited. Then there is the formal Opening in the Senate Chamber which is the big event for hundreds of the Ottawa ladies and visitors to the Capital.

A curious innovation this year was the admission to the Floor of the Senate Chamber of a mere man, the husband of the new woman senator, so things do move.

The following evening comes the Drawing Room, with all the formalities of Westminster, and everybody in attendance. Some because they think they are especially privileged; others eager for a chance to scale the social ladder, and others because they claim they went simply to see how things are done.

In addition to this there are innumerable smaller semi-private receptions and dinners, of which, probably the big reception at Rideau Hall is the outstanding. After a week of these social events we are ready to begin our arduous duties as legislators.

In those early days Private Members have their innings. Yesterday was typical. First comes the introduction of bills and questions when the Members are given the opportunity of securing information concerning almost anything under the sun, much of which it must be confessed is already published or could readily be obtained through the Departments. Then come the Order of Motions in which Private Members are able to secure discussion on certain questions which they believe important. Yesterday Mr. McGibbon urged that:—

"...in the opinion of this House, any ex-soldier who has served in any

theatre of war, who applies for a pension or an increase of pension and submit evidence or an opinion from any reputable physician or surgeon in Canada, stating that his disability is directly or indirectly attributable to war services, the onus of disproof shall be upon the Board of Pension Commissioners and that unless the same be disproved a pension shall be granted to the said applicant in accordance with the schedule at present in force under the regulations of the Board of Pension Commissioners."

This motion probably goes a bit too far, and yet it shows an interest in the returned men. Let me say that undoubtedly this is a genuine interest. Probably 95% of the Members of the House would vote for a more considered treatment of the returned men. But what happens under our present party system. The Government is in the position of having to administer the Act and further, to safeguard public expenditures. The Opposition for the time is irresponsible. If ever they come into power they will have to justify expenditures, and the Opposition will find great sport in looking up Hansard and quoting to them their speeches against them — while each side grins at the other.

In the meantime there is a great chance for the Opposition Members to put themselves on record on behalf of the returned men and at the same time in condemnation of the Government. They kept at it all day so successfully that they "talked-out" their own motion. That is, one man after another spoke until with a Conservative speaking the time for adjournment came and no vote could be taken. This means that this motion goes down to the "foot of the list" and in all probability will not again be reached during the Session.

If the Opposition had not "talked out" the motion, probably the Government would have done so. In this case probably neither party was anxious for a vote. The Government could not turn down a motion providing greater benefits for the returned men without incurring a great deal of hostility throughout the country. Editorial columns would ring with condemnations even though the precise terms of the motion were not quoted in the Editorial. On the other hand, for the Opposition to vote solidly for such a motion might possibly lead to an embarrassing position in case the Conservative Party came into power after the next election. As it is, no one is committed to anything and tens of thousands of Hansards can be sent out as political propaganda.

All this is part of the game of politics. Is it any wonder that the Press Galleries sit above the battle become somewhat cynical and after a few years find it rather difficult to show an intense interest in the ordinary routine of Parliamentary life.

strait, it is difficult to see any other way out than to let the citizens, who have allowed their city to drift into trouble, pull it out again as best they can. Montreal with a population of 1,000,000 must get along with \$38,000,000 of revenue.

For Montreal citizens, with civic elections looming in the near future, the moral is — eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. A city like a nation, get the government it deserves. The best way for the residents of any city to warn their civic administrators that they are being closely watched, is to turn out on election days and register their votes en masse. It is particularly important that the polls covering business, financial and professional interests should show a heavy vote, so that the city's administrators may know that the property owners who provide the bulk of the money, are watching the big moves of the city administrators.

To the real estate interests of the city, it should be sufficient to point out the frightful depreciation of property values that would result in Montreal if such a situation ever developed here, in order to make them alive to the importance of giving constant attention to civic government. Past experience in Montreal and adjoining municipalities has shown that a even a much less serious civic catastrophe than that which has befallen Chicago can have very grave effects on the happiness, comfort and prosperity of every resident, from the humble laborer to the bank president. The time to stop any such unhappy development, is two years before it starts. And next April will be the beginning of another two year period. This period will mean a great deal to the property owners of this great city of ours and it behooves each and every citizen to give unto it the serious consideration and attention which it merits.

MANY OLD-AGE PENSION BILL INTRODUCED

Introduction of many bills providing for old-age pensions in U. S. Congress and State Legislatures marked the progress of the old-age pension movement in January. United States Senator Bill of Washington introduced a bill calling for the appropriation of \$10,000,000 "in order to provide for the promotion of pensions for old age and for disabled persons by the various States." Pension bills were introduced in New York, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Virginia.

The Talking & Singing Picture

Should not Constitute the Major Part of the Theatre Programme. Rasping, Grating and Irritating.

By BERNARD ROSE

Our industrial and social progress can, in a measure, be ascribed to the introduction and adoption of mechanical devices for increasing production. The machine has undoubtedly very materially contributed to the increased production of wealth that has led to the workers demanding higher standards of living.

In communication and transportation, the progress made is truly remarkable — but remarkable though this progress is, it has resulted in the application of the machine to phases of social and cultural life, that are making these more mechanical than aesthetic.

I had occasion, the other evening, to visit one of our local theatres. As usual, we were treated to an exhibition on the screen of characters who sang and spoke. The music accompanying was of the phonographic kind.

If we continue permitting managers and owners of theatres to furnish us with music of the mechanical kind, it will not be very long before the appreciation of even the novice in matters musical, will be so dulled, that he will not be able to distinguish between the selection played by the members of a famous symphony orchestra, and that which we are afflicted with when attending the theatres which have adopted the talking picture. The rasping, grating, and irritating sounds supposedly a reproduction of the human voice, ground out by an operator are the reverse of pleasant. I think it can be said, with every confidence, that it is physically impossible to convey through a mechanical device, the fine timbre and inflection of the human voice, as we get it when listening to an instrument or vocal rendering by the artist who plays before an audience in a theatre or concert hall.

Not only have the musicians who have been displaced a just grievance, but the public likewise. No one would ever pretend that the phonograph or gramophone record is the equal of the human voice, as we get it when coming from the throat and chest of an almost divinely endowed singer, or the skill of an experienced musician? Music coming from the artist whom we can see, is inspiring, elevating, and instructive. It appeals to the finest of human emotions. It lifts one into the very realms of delight. It makes for the development of all that is good, true, and beautiful.

Why, then, should we tolerate being irritated and tortured by the melody of discordant sounds that issue forth from the mechanical contrivance which is used to accompany the showing of the film? Surely, it cannot be contended that there is anything elevating in the music we get from the machine. If we fail to express our discontent and make our dissatisfaction strongly manifest, managers and producers will take it for granted, that the newest method of furnishing us with so-called amusement and recreation is adapted to our wants.

A strong sentiment must be awakened, the consequences of which will demonstrate to managers and producers that, while the talking picture may effect a saving from the financial standpoint, the average theatre patron will not tolerate it, except as a slight diversion from the programme which, previous to the adoption of the talking picture, was furnished by the theatre managers.

How can we expect the younger generation to develop an appreciation for music, if they do nothing but attend theatres where what is portrayed on the screen, synchronizes with the so-called music which comes from revolving wheels.

The American Federation of Musicians have for several weeks endeavored to rouse the public, by means of pictorial representations in magazines and newspapers of large circulation. Their propaganda is timely and in the cultural interest of the public. It is however not sufficient. It cannot rouse the antagonism of the public to that degree of white heat, that will sufficiently influence theatre owners, managers, and producers, to change their policy. What is necessary, is the holding of meetings throughout the country; the delivering of addresses before audiences of various kinds, the passing of resolutions and the concerted action on the part of workers, whereby their disapproval of the new policy will be immediately felt by the owners of theatres, because of the refusal of a considerable percentage of the theatre going public to continue patronizing establishments the major part of whose entertainment is the talking picture. The aid of women's associations of all kinds should be enlisted without delay. The carrying on of an active campaign of this kind would force the theatre managers to recognize that the public have had their fill of the talking machine, and that they want the orchestra reinstated, so that lovers of music and real art can get the pleasure and musical entertainment to which they are accustomed and which they have a right to demand.

What the Federation should do, is to engage able speakers to deliver addresses who are well supplied with facts as to how the latest innovation affects not only the unemployed musician, but the public, particularly that part of it which realize and appreciate the inestimable advantages and blessings that come from listening to excellently rendered vocal and instrumental selections, from experienced artists who have made a life's calling of their profession.

Ford's Assembly-Line Schools

Henry Ford announces he will take \$100,000,000 and establish a string of schools to teach trades to young persons. No person has done more to bring into operation the kind of industry that destroys trades.

After Ford has started a lot of schools and worked out a scheme of education that works like an assembly line and after he has taught trades to a lot of young persons, what will those young persons do with the trades they have learned?

One more important item for this little budget of discussion is that experience has shown that Mr. Ford's vocational education proposal is out of line with modern trends. It seems to be the kind that all progressive educators have discarded.

The Worker's World

—Boat traffic on the upper Yangtze River of China was paralyzed by a strike of pilots recently.

—In the same courtroom at Charlotte, N. C. where last September seven textile strike leaders were sentenced for the murder in a riot of O. F. Anderholt, Gastonia Chief of Police, the State of North Carolina on February 24 began the trial of five alleged members of a mob which on Sept. 14 killed Mrs. Ella May Wiggins, a member of the National Textile Workers' Union, a Communist organization.

—In a campaign to employ only American citizens in city work, immediate dismissal of 748 laborers employed by the city of Detroit who are not citizens of the United States was ordered in a resolution passed unanimously on February 25 by the Common Council.

—More than twice as many murders, in proportion to population, are committed in States which have capital punishment than in those which have abolished capital punishment, according to statistical analyses recently made public by the League to Abolish Capital Punishment.

—Joseph Wauters, noted Belgian trade unionist and participant in the Belgian coalition government of 1926, is dead. Tributes are paid to him by European trade unionists in the International Federation of Trade Union Press Service. Wauters was well known in the United States.

FEWER GERMAN CHILDREN EMPLOYED AS MESSENGERS

Fewer children under 14 years of age in Germany are being employed before and after school hours as messengers and newsboys, according to reports of the labor inspectors. This decrease is attributed to the cooperation of teachers and inspectors with child welfare authorities in enforcing the child labor law, to a changed attitude on the part of parents and to preference given by employment agencies to adult applicants because of the prevailing unemployment situation.

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Minimum Wage Opposed by Trades Council

Proposal of Guertin's bill for 35c. per hour turned down. — Export of liquor bill protested. — Trades Council favors project of Labor Exchange, votes \$1,000 for a start. — Foreign material and the University of Montreal.

Last Thursday was the regular meeting night of the Trades and Labor Council, at the Palestre National. The meeting under the presidency of J.-T. Foster dealt with many very important subjects. All officers were in attendance.

The first item on the order of business was the grant of a sum of \$1,000 for the purchasing of 1,000 shares of the Labor Exchange, towards the acquisition of a building to serve as headquarters to international unions. This followed the recommendation of the Executive Committee after the reading of the following clause of its report:

Your Committee received a delegation composed of Brothers A. Martel, G. R. Brunet and A. Bastien representing the Labor Exchange, Ltd. The President of the Labor Exchange Bro. Arthur Martel explained to the Committee all the advantages there would be for the International Labor movement to purchase the property St. Leon Academy, which could be bought at reasonable conditions, and gave the Committee all desired information.

After consideration and study your Committee is of the opinion that the Council should subscribe for one thousand shares at \$1.00 per share in the Labor Exchange, and if necessary an other amount could be subscribed later, your Committee recommends accordingly.

There was not a single dissent on this question, as it is the contention of Organized Labor that this should have been done long ago, it was further recommended that each affiliated union purchase a certain amount of shares according to their financial means.

That a minimum wage be defined by provincial statute in this province for all workers was the subject of a lengthy discussion, and it was finally resolved that Organized Labor opposes itself to a determined schedule through legislation without taking into consideration the local conditions of the industrial market. The following clause of the Executive's report brought up this discussion:

Your Committee had under consideration a letter from Mr. Aimé Guertin, deputy of Hull, Quebec, containing copy of a bill he is presenting before the Legislative Assembly of the province of Quebec, seeking the establishment of a minimum rate of 35 cents per hour for all male unskilled labor employed within the confines of the Province and asking that the Council pronounce itself upon the merits of his proposal.

After carefully considering the matter, your Committee is of the opinion that they cannot recommend endorsement of Mr. Guertin's proposals for the following reasons:

Because of the varied character of employment, the adoption of a fixed minimum rate applicable to all industry in all parts of the Province, which appears to be the intention of the proposed bill, is not calculated to be in the best interest of those whom the bill seeks to protect.

Furthermore, the proposed rate is entirely inadequate and far below rates already established by mutual agreement in certain industries and municipalities throughout the Province.

That the recognition of such basic rate could not react to the detriment of those already in receipt of a higher rate.

Labor has been insistent in the demand, that the Federal Fair Wage clause should apply on all government work and to establish an all-inclusive minimum wage, might ultimately react on the successful application of such Fair Rates.

For those reasons your Committee, while sympathetic toward the intention of the proposed legislation, and fully recognizing the need for some action which will ameliorate the deplorable conditions existing in certain sections of the Province, cannot extend its support to the bill as drafted and recommends accordingly.

The general discussion that followed the lecture of this clause showed immediately that there was a split on this matter in the Council.

President Foster summed up the view of labor when he said that while they were not opposed to the establishment of minimum wage standards as a general principle, the proposed bill was not clearly designed to protect the existing rights of labor groups operating under favorable contracts. He did not question Mr. Guertin's sincerity, although bills of a similar nature commonly had political implications which had nothing to do with the welfare of labor, but he considered it would have been wiser if Mr. Guertin had first consulted with organized labor, before bringing forward his proposal. Had he done so he would have been given the experience of men who have been in the labor movement for many years, men who know its

problems and the best ways of meeting them.

The bill was also criticized on the ground that it does not define "unskilled labor." To illustrate how the enactment of such legislation might militate against some labor groups now classed as unskilled, Mr. Foster pointed out that he is presently engaged in arbitration between a group of workers and employers. The workers, many of whom are classed as unskilled, now receive 50 cents an hour and are seeking more. If Mr. Guertin's bill were allowed to pass these same workers might find themselves in the position of being obliged to accept 35 cents an hour instead of wage they now receive. Too many employers, he added, were eager to take advantage of minimum wage standards to keep wages down to the minimum whether the nature of the work was worth more or not.

Alderman Alfred Mathieu supported the minimum wage of 35c. on the assumption that it would help unorganized labor in the rural district. He thought the enactment of such legislation would help many workers who are now compelled to labor for 15, 20 or 25 cents an hour. Men are now being employed in the demolition of buildings to make way for the Harbor Bridge, he pointed out, and they are being asked to work for 15 cents and 20 cents an hour. In the rural districts, he added, all Government work is done on a 20 cent per hour basis. These workers would benefit by such legislation.

Some delegates expressed themselves as willing to aid unorganized labor throughout the province but they did not believe that the proposed measure would meet their difficulties.

Other delegates agreed with Aid. Mathieu that these workers might benefit of the proposed legislation, but the dangers to unskilled labor now receiving greater remuneration was so great that they could not support the measure.

In explanation to question put up before the meeting, President Foster told the delegates that the bill did not only concern common laborers but "all male workers of 16 years and over" and even if an amendment was brought up to common laborers only, how it be possible to establish the demarcation line between a common laborer and a mechanic, the employer always taking the privilege of defining the class of work to his own advantage.

Building materials to be used in the construction of the future University of Montreal was also the subject of an interesting discussion after the reading of a clause of the report which was adopted:

Your Committee has received a report from the sub-committee appointed to interview the Prime Minister of the Province as regards to the construction of the University of Montreal and the use of imported material in the construction of said university. The Hon. Prime Minister of the Province declared to your representatives that he had this question under consideration, and that he would do his utmost for the Canadian material to have preference over the imported material, that he is perfectly in accord with us on this question. He has promised to give this matter his personal and immediate attention. Your Committee recommends that this report be accepted as given.

Wages paid in the demolishing works of the Old Point St. Charles' shops of the Canadian National Railway will be made the subject of an immediate investigation and the attention of the Directors of the Canadian National will be called to the facts contained in the following clause of the report of the Executive:

Your Committee had under consideration a letter from Local 606 of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, bringing to our attention the fact that a contract has been granted by the Canadian National to a company for the demolition of the old shops at Point St. Charles and that said company is offering 25 cents per hour for those willing to work on that particular job, no consideration being given to the fair wage clause that should be paid.

Your Committee recommends that copy of said letter be sent to the Directors of the Canadian National Railway urging that action be taken immediately.

The attention of the delegates to the Council was also brought to Premier King's bill providing for the refusal of clearance for the exportation of intoxicating liquor to countries where the import of liquor is prohibited. A resolution urging upon the govern-

ment the desirability of giving fuller consideration to this controversial question was presented by President Foster. It read as follows:

Whereas, a bill has been introduced in the House of Commons seeking to amend the Export Act to provide for the refusal of clearances for the exportation of intoxicating liquor to countries where the import of such liquor is forbidden by law, and

Whereas, the enactment of such legislation would create a precedent in as much as it seeks to prevent the exportation of a Canadian product in its manufactured state, and

Whereas, a further precedent is contemplated by this bill as it seeks to prevent the transaction of business generally recognized as legitimate and legal throughout the Dominion, and

Whereas, the ultimate adoption of such legislation would undoubtedly react to the detriment of Canadian citizens by the displacement of a section of trade, and

Whereas, the workers are particularly interested in this contemplated displacement feeling that it would further accentuate what is at this moment recognized as a serious unemployment problem.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the delegates to the Montreal Trades and Labor Council declare themselves as being opposed to the passing of the said measure and urge upon the government the desirability of a fuller consideration before definite action is taken, and

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister and his colleagues, to the President of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, and to the press.

Several delegates expressed their views on the proposition, President Foster stating further that the United States had enacted in the prohibition law legislation with which the majority of Canadians were not in sympathy. The people of the United States were unable to enforce their own legislation and there was really no reason why Canadians should help them to do so. It was all very well to do a friendly turn to a friendly neighbor, but when that neighbor proposed to erect a tariff barrier that would deprive Canada of a substantial market, and when the same neighbor proposes to establish a quota for Canadians, the time had come for Canadians to consider seriously before agreeing to a project which would probably have no serious wholesome effect on the enforcement of prohibition and would undoubtedly result in serious inconvenience and loss to Canada.

The order of business being concluded the meeting adjourned on Thursday, March 20th.

From Our Readers

Editor, The Labor World,
Dear Sir:—

The official bulletin now gives the crop of Canadian wheat at close around 300,000,000 bushels. By dividing this by 9,000,000, as the number of our people, we find that we have practically six (6) pounds of wheat for every Canadian every day for the year 1930.

As the average food of a people is about two pounds (2) a day, it is plain that we grew, in wheat alone last year, sufficient food for many times our population. This proves that all of us, poor children, can be fed in school or at home until we complete some sort of a college education.

Are we not entitled to it? Canada for Canadians!

If we add the other foodstuffs to this we run up in the direction of twenty (20) lbs. available every day for everybody for the year, 1930.

Why not educate us all fully before this production escapes from the country? Even if we sell it, surely it should come back to the children in dollars or bananas, or something to keep us at school for our birthright of equal educational opportunity.

It takes efficient people to make efficient empire.

Yours very truly,
TILLIE FELDMAN,
Juvenile Post No. 1, Girls, Grand Army of Child Welfare.

Editor, The Labor World:
I note the item "Workers Should Awake to New Industrial Revolution." The highest equitable remuneration anyone can get is an equal duration of adult human work to that which others get from him. But the workers need never expect to get the amount of remuneration so long as prices (and wages and salaries are prices) are fixed on a result-unit basis (that is, fixed on some other basis than that of the actual duration of the adult human work involved for an equal duration of human work). So, no matter what organized workers may be able to do to raise money wages (and that will avail them little if they cannot also keep down the money prices of what they buy), they need to get a clear understanding of the fact that they are unavoidably slaves to others as long as prices are so fixed as to put a charge of human work on what is not human work.

VAUGHN BACHMAN BROKAW,
THE DOUBLED WAGE STANDARD

That the principle of equal pay for equal work, though officially recognized, is far from being carried out and that this situation constitutes a grave danger both moral and material for women, and also a serious obstacle to the raising of men's wages, a goal towards which the unions are striving, was another high point in the Amsterdam resolution of the Women's International Trade Union Committee. A clarion call was sounded to women to join trade unions both in their own interests and from a sentiment of solidarity.

Again, the double wage standard is stressed in a survey of the earnings of workers in factory offices in New York State for the year ended October, 1929. Men were found to earn about twice as much as women, the men averaging between \$40 and \$60 a week, the women between \$20 and \$30. A general upward trend of Women's earnings in offices during the past 10 years was reported. Office workers on the whole were found to fare better than shop help, because of their higher pay and shorter hours.

AU CONSEIL DES METIERS

(Suite de la première page)

de l'usage de matériel importé, dans la construction de ladite université. L'honorable Premier Ministre de la province a déclaré à vos représentants qu'il avait la question sous considération et qu'il ferait tout son possible pour obtenir que le matériel canadien soit employé de préférence au matériel importé, qu'il était parfaitement d'accord avec nous sur cette question.

Il a aussi promis de porter une attention personnelle et immédiate à cette question. Votre comité recommande que ce rapport soit accepté tel que donné.

Les salaires offerts aux travaux de démolition des vieilles usines de la Pointe-Saint-Charles feront le sujet d'une enquête immédiate et l'attention des directeurs du Canadian National sera attirée sur les faits contenus dans la clause suivante de l'Exécutif:

Votre comité avait sous considération une lettre du local 606 de la Praterie des Wagonniers d'Amérique, portant à notre connaissance le fait qu'un contrat a été accordé par le Canadien National à une compagnie pour la démolition des vieilles usines de la Pointe-Saint-Charles, et que la dite compagnie offrirait à ceux qui veulent travailler le salaire de 25 cents par heure. Ce qui n'est pas en accord avec l'échelle de salaire raisonnable qui devrait être payé.

Votre comité recommande que copie de la lettre soit envoyée aux directeurs du Canadien National leur demandant de prendre action immédiatement.

La question de l'exportation de liqueurs alcooliques du Canada dans des pays qui en défendent l'importation a fait le sujet d'un autre débat. Elle fut soumise par le président Foster et contenue dans la résolution suivante:

Attendu qu'un bill a été présenté à la Chambre des Communes cherchant à amender la Loi de l'Exportation pour permettre au refus d'accorder un permis de sortie pour l'exportation des liqueurs alcooliques dans les pays qui défendent l'importation de ces liqueurs, et

Attendu que la mise en force de telle législation créerait un précédent par le fait qu'elle tendrait à prohiber l'exportation d'un produit canadien ouvré; et

Attendu qu'un autre précédent pourrait être suscité par ce bill, cherchant à empêcher la transaction des affaires qui sont généralement reconnues comme légitimes et légales dans tout le Dominion; et

Attendu que l'adoption éventuelle de telle législation aurait sans aucun doute une réaction au détriment des citoyens canadiens, par le déplacement d'une section du commerce, et

Attendu que les ouvriers sont particulièrement concernés dans ce déplacement projeté de main-d'œuvre, croyant qu'il ne ferait qu'accroître le chômage, qui est un problème de l'heure assez sérieux.

En conséquence, qu'il soit résolu, que les délégués au Conseil des Métiers et du Travail de Montréal se déclarent opposés à ce que cette mesure soit adoptée et fassent une pression auprès du gouvernement pour que cette question soit soumise à une étude sérieuse avant d'être adoptée, et

Qu'il soit de plus résolu, que des copies de cette résolution soient envoyées au premier ministre et à ses collègues, au président du Congrès des Métiers et du Travail du Canada et aux journaux.

Plusieurs délégués exprimèrent leurs vues sur cette question, tous furent unanimes toutefois pour déclarer que le Canada n'était nullement intéressé à faire la police de l'Observance des lois d'autres pays; si les Etats-Unis ont cru bon d'adopter la prohibition, cela les regarde, mais pourquoi irions-nous faire du tort à notre industrie, jeter sur le pavé des centaines d'ouvriers employés dans les métiers concernés, pour faire plaisir à un voisin qui nous élève un mur tarifaire pour nous faire perdre un marché substantiel, qui cherche à établir un quota d'entrée pour les citoyens canadiens, tout cela pour adopter une mesure qui n'aura qu'un effet insignifiant sur la vente clandestine des liqueurs alcooliques chez ces voisins surpris qu'elle nous causera à nous un surplús de chômage et des pertes sérieuses. Ce fut en quelques mots le ton des remarques faites par les délégués, la résolution fut adoptée à l'unanimité.

Après quelques affaires de routine, l'assemblée s'ajourna au 20 mars.

MACHINE BRING UNEMPLOYMENT; PRODUCTION BEING "ROBOTIZED"

"Many of our factories are producing more than we can consume and unemployment thus goes hand in hand with under-consumption," said Secretary of Labor Davis, in a radio address in Washington, D. C.

The cabinet member warned of the danger to civilization if the machine controls man.

"We cannot 'robotize' America, because we must remember that the machine does not eat or sleep," he said. "It does nothing but produce. It consumes nothing but a little oil. We must watch out that with our efficiency and modern management we keep control of the machine. If the machine ever controls us, civilization is gone."

Mr. Davis quoted a long list of industries that have substituted automatic machinery and scientific processes for thousands upon thousands of workers. "Every industry has been modernized," he said. "The railroads today are hauling much more freight than ever, and are doing it with 250,000 less men. Industry is producing 15 per cent more with nearly 1,000,000 fewer workers. Our coal mines are producing more with fewer men."

"New machinery, new efficiency methods, new consolidations have driven out manual laborers and skilled workers. White collar clerks and book keepers have been turned into the streets by the thousands."

"Since I became Secretary of Labor, nine years ago, a complete and radical change has come over the economic structure of the country. That means the industrial life of our people."

WISDOM
Poverty, cruelty, greedy and crime will dissolve into a forgotten past when friendship to mankind becomes the accepted standard of conduct.—Victor A. Olander.

Le Monde Ouvrier-The Labor World

Rédigé en collaboration
The Official Bilingual Mouthpiece of the Province of Quebec Organized Workers
Le porte-parole des ouvriers organisés de la Province de Québec



AT THE PLAYHOUSES

AT THE PALACE
Warner Brothers' prodigious production featuring all their stars, "Show of Shows" will be the feature presentation at the Palace Theatre starting Saturday. "Show of Shows" boasts of a hundred stars headed by John Barrymore, Dolores Costello, Richard Barthelmess and scores of others. "Frisky Dicks" Broadway stars, acts as master of ceremonies. There are several spectacular features including a number showing several of the real sisters of the screen, George Argentin, Monte Blue in a military number, Irene Bordone, and John Barrymore in an exciting "Frisky Dicks" number.

AT THE IMPERIAL
"The Other Tomorrow," starring Billie Dove, will be the feature film offering at the Imperial Theatre commencing Saturday. The film is adapted from a story of Georgia by Octavious Roy Cohen and tells of the feud of two men over a girl. Heading the vaudeville bill are Jimmy Allard in a skit, "Journey's End" and other acts include dancing by Stepanoff and Company in a review, "Songs and Steps," Mary Marlowe in "Song Impressions," Zinka Panna, Hungarian symbolist, and Boyd and Wallin. Short subjects complete the programme.

AT LOEW'S
Evelyn Brent and Olive Brook are co-stars in the Paramount picture "Slightly Scared" which will be the feature film offering at the Loew's Theatre starting Sunday. "Slightly Scared" is an all-talking film, telling of the thrilling adventures of an American girl and of an Englishman at a resort in Southern France. The cast includes Paul Lukas and Eugene Pallette.

AT THE PRINCESS
"Lumoux" a pietrization of the novel by Paul Ivoi will be the feature film offering at the Princess Theatre starting Saturday. The story tells of the life of a drudge in a New York lodging house. It is said to be portrayed in a dramatic manner. The cast includes Winifred Westover, who was personally chosen for the role by Fannie Hurst, Ben Lyon, William Collier, Jr., Edna Murphy and others. The programme will also include a sound cartoon, a burlesque feature and a divertissement "Madrid."

AT THE CAPITOL
Pauline Frederick and Conrad Nagel head a distinguished cast in the Vitaphone all-talking picture "The Sacred Flame" which starts at the Capitol Theatre Friday. "The Sacred Flame" is based on the play by Somerset Maugham and is directed by Archie L. Mayo. The story is a melodrama of a college lover, who with the wedding of an officer in the flying corps, he decides to have his honey-moon by plane and is injured. The cast includes Lily Dale Miller, Alec B. Francis, and Walter Byron. On the stage, Harry S. Dahn, presents Dora Marshall and her Capitol ballet in "The Call of the Jungle."

AT THE ORPHEUM
"Mexicali Rose," an all-talking story of Mexico is the feature film offering at the Orpheum Theatre starting Friday. The story concerns a college lover, who is discarded by her sweetheart and determined on revenge tries to strike at him through his younger brother, who falls into her own trap. The cast includes Sam Hardy and Barbara Stanwyck. Sound News and short subjects complete the bill.

STEEL MILLS FORCE SEVEN-DAY WEEK, AGE LIMIT, TWELVE HOURS, COMMON

The seven-day week and the 12-hour day continue in many steel plants throughout the nation, although the public were assured, seven years ago, that this system was discarded.

An age limit of 45 years is common in these plants.

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ made this announcement following last summer's study of plants employing 250,000 men by graduate students co-operating with the Council's research department.

More than one-quarter, or 26.9 per cent, of these men work seven days a week; 46.6 per cent eight hours a day, 44.6 per cent ten hours a day, 2 per cent 11 hours a day and 6.7 per cent 12 hours a day. The 14 and even the 16-hour day is not uncommon.

Names and locations of the plants are not disclosed. The inquiry was made in 155 plants operated by 127 companies in Alabama, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Western New York and Northern Illinois.

Wage rates for common labor range from 24 cents to 56 cents an hour, but in the majority the range is from 35 to 45 cents. In at least 42 plants an age limit for hiring is in effect and the range is from 45 to 60 years. The most common limit is 45 years.

Many managers of steel mills refused to give information to the investigators, who were told, in effect, that "I run my business." Visits to the homes of individual workers secured the necessary information.

Following the nation-wide steel strike, eight years ago, these employers promised President Harding that they would abolish the 12-hour day when "there is a surplus of labor available." Later they professed acceptance of the six-day week.

FIVE-DAY WEEK IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
After years of preliminary negotiations it is reported that the five-day week will be incorporated in the British Columbia building trades unions' agreement for 1930, which will shortly be prepared. It is understood that builders and other employers of union labor have signified their approval of such an agreement.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DIVORCE
Notice is hereby given that Orwell Bishop Walton, of the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, Montcalien, will apply to the Parliament of Canada, at the present or next session thereof for a Bill of Divorce from his wife, Florence Adele Walton, of the City of Kitchener in the Province of Ontario, on the ground of adultery.
Dated at the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, this 11th day of February, A. D. 1930.

FRED G. McBRIEN
70 Albert Street, Toronto, Ont.
Solicitor for the Applicant.
7-11
Province of Quebec
District of Montreal
No. D-65288

SUPERIOR COURT
Dame ROSE KUSSNER, of the City and District of Montreal, wife of ISIDORE DASHOFKY, merchant of the same place, residing in Smith's Falls, in the Province of Ontario, will apply to the Parliament of Canada, at the present session thereof, for a Bill of Divorce from her husband, Isidore Dashofsky, on the ground of adultery.
Dated at the City of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, this 11th day of February, A. D. 1930.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR DIVORCE
Notice is hereby given that HENRY EVERETT MARKELL, railway conductor, of the City of Montreal, at present residing in Smith's Falls, in the Province of Ontario, will apply to the Parliament of Canada, at the present session thereof, for a Bill of Divorce from his wife, Hazel Emma Rombough, of the City and District of Montreal, on the ground of adultery.
JOS. A. BUDYK,
60 St. James Street, West, Montreal.
Solicitor for Applicant.
7-11

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