



APRES LE VERDICT

Il s'agit, après la défaite, de se préparer efficacement à d'autres luttes plutôt que de perdre un temps précieux à récriminer.

Nous avons été battus et bien battus, il ne sert à rien de chercher à atténuer cette défaite. Le pire de tout, c'est que ce sont les quartiers ouvriers qui nous ont administré cette raclée; comme d'autres fois les membres des unions internationales ont méconnu la voix de leurs dirigeants et ont renié leur plateforme de principes. On dirait franchement qu'un grand nombre ne sont unionistes que de nom. Lorsqu'il s'agit d'une augmentation de salaire ou de meilleures conditions de travail, ça va bien, l'union est une bonne chose, mais quand ce sont les principes qui sont en jeu, ah non, alors ça ne marche plus, la grande masse ouvrière préfère suivre des démagogues plutôt que les hommes auxquels elle a recours quand il s'agit de difficultés industrielles et d'arbitrage. Les unionistes ne s'arrêtent pas un instant pour se demander dans quelle position ridicule ils mettent ceux qui les représentent, quelle influence auront ces hommes-là quand ils iront implorer le gouvernement de leur accorder de la législation ouvrière.

La journée de lundi comptera longtemps dans les annales des défaites du Travail Organisé; car c'est lui surtout qui fut battu et par ses propres membres encore. Nous sommes plus de 40,000 membres à Montréal. Là-dessus il y a, au bas mot, 30,000 électeurs, et la cédule A n'a reçu en tout que 26,000 votes. Si l'on déduit de ce total les 8,000 votes obtenus dans les quatre quartiers anglais où la presque totalité des électeurs sont des hommes d'affaires, il n'en reste qu'à peine 17,000 pour le reste de la ville. Il ne faut pas chercher bien longtemps pour trouver comment le Travail Organisé a voté. Le même raisonnement s'applique également aux membres des Syndicats Catholiques.

Si encore il n'y avait eu que le vote, mais on a constaté, dans nombre d'assemblées tenues par les partisans de la cédule B, que lors que certains orateurs insultaient les dirigeants du mouvement ouvrier, ils étaient salués d'applaudissements de la part de certains de nos propres membres; d'autres allant encore plus loin, se sont faits les "leaders" de la clique d'interrupteurs qui cherchaient à briser nos assemblées. Triste mentalité, bien peu encourageante pour ceux qui se sacrifient pour faire triompher nos principes.

Voilà la situation bien nette et bien franche. Nous élisons des hommes pour nous représenter, nous leur donnons une ligne de conduite à suivre, qui a été suivie intégralement et, au lieu de les soutenir, nous leur tournons le dos et les répudions. Résultat: nous faisons rire d'eux et de nous tous également.

Quelles sont les raisons de cette défaite? Elles sont multiples. En voici quelques-unes: On a commencé par déclarer que la cédule A était une charte anglaise et la cédule B la charte française; puis, dans les quartiers ouvriers, on a soulevé les préjugés de classe en disant que Foster et moi-même étions des traitres et des étrangers, que nous étions vendus aux capitalistes; pendant qu'aux hommes de profession, aux marchands et aux propriétaires on disait que c'était un projet socialiste qui permettrait aux ouvriers de s'emparer de l'hôtel-de-ville; enfin, dans le quartier irlandais, on fulminait contre les Anglais, leur rappelant les troubles d'Irlande et le traitement barbare infligé par l'Angleterre à la Verte Erin, pendant qu'on travaillait l'élément juif en déclarant qu'avec la cédule B il y aurait au moins quatre échelons de cette race tandis qu'avec la cédule A il n'y en aurait pas.

Malgré les dénégations de M. Fernand Rinfret et du Sénateur Bijou Casgrain, le fait brutal reste là, que la lutte fut faite au moyen des préjugés de race et de classe, et l'électeur l'a tellement bien compris que le vote se divisa presque dans tous les quartiers par nationalité; dans chaque poll où l'élément anglais prédominait, il y avait une majorité pour la cédule A; dans les polls résidentiels des quartiers français il y avait très souvent une légère majorité en faveur de A ou un vote presque également divisé.

Et puis la grande raison et la principale, à notre point de vue, ce fut la cabale silencieuse mais effective de l'organisation échevinale toujours à l'affût; dans chacun des trente-cinq quartiers il y avait trois ou quatre aspirants-candidats qui faisaient leur propre élection, lundi dernier, et pour qui la victoire était une question de vie ou de mort. Il fallait voir avec quel entraînement cela marchait, tout ce monde-là se croyait déjà échevin oubliant qu'il y aura beaucoup d'appelés mais rien que trente-cinq élus.

Et pour faire échec à cette puissante organisation de quartier, il n'y avait que le Comité de propagande de la Commission de la Charte qui n'a commencé le travail effectif que quinze jours avant le référendum et qui ne disposait que de moyens d'action très limités; il fut efficacement aidé par un bon nombre de corps publics et d'associations mais pas en nombre suffisant pour faire pencher la balance du bon côté.

La personnalité du maire Martin a également contribué, dans une large mesure, au triomphe de la cédule B. Il s'est jeté à corps perdu dans la mêlée et n'a pas eu peur de payer de sa personne. Il a le droit d'être fier de sa victoire. Espérons qu'il n'en abusera pas.

Devant le verdict, il ne sert à rien de récriminer; ce qu'il s'agit de faire maintenant, c'est de travailler à faire élire les meilleurs hommes possibles aux élections d'octobre prochain. Comme je l'ai déclaré maintes et maintes fois, quel que soit notre système d'administration, si le peuple élit des représentants honnêtes et consciencieux, les intérêts de la ville seront sauvegardés. Il s'agit donc d'y voir dès maintenant et de travailler ferme pour que les meilleurs hommes soient élus.

Gus. Franco.

SANS BOIRE

Il paraît qu'il existe plusieurs sortes d'animaux qui, pendant leur vie entière, n'avalent pas une goutte de liquide: ce ne sont pas les lamas de Patagonie et certaines gazelles d'Extrême-Orient.

Un perroquet a vécu cinquante-deux ans au jardin zoologique de Londres sans boire.

On signale également une espèce de

souris qui vit dans les plaines arides d'Amérique occidentale, malgré l'absence de toute trace d'humidité.

Enfin, n'avons-nous pas, en France même, dans les causses de la Lozère, des troupeaux de vaches et de brebis qui ne boivent presque jamais et qui n'en produisent pas moins le lait dont on fait le fameux fromage Roquefort?

Un bel exemple pour nos poêtrés.

Des Occasions Exceptionnelles

LUNDI sera une journée d'occasions vraiment exceptionnelle chez Dupuis. Nous vous invitons tous à venir prendre votre grande part du régal économique que nous vous offrons. Outre nos valeurs remarquables, nous aurons quelques spéciaux du matin: des aubaines hors lignes que vous ne devriez pas manquer.

Dupuis Frères

LE MAGASIN DU PEUPLE

RUES ST-CATHERINE, ST-ANDRE ET ST-CHRISTOPHE

LES DOLÉANCES D'UNE MIDINETTE

Une demoiselle de magasin m'écrit cette lettre:

Mon cher Julien Saint-Michel,

Je suppose que puisque vous portez le nom de l'archange qui a précipité Lucifer dans les enfers, c'est pour nous aider à combattre le mauvais esprit sous toutes ses formes. Je suis employée dans un magasin à rayons d'bon Dieu. Je ne lui ai jamais vu le profil depuis que je suis ici. Il ne fait que passer et si vite qu'on a juste le temps d'apercevoir les huit reflets de son "chauffeur" — je veux parler de son tuyau de castor et non pas du monsieur qui l'attend les bras croisés dans son auto. — Belle position qu'il a eue-là, entre parenthèse, bien traité, bien nourri, aussi toute la journée, il se promène et même son patron sur un temps! comparé à la nôtre, toujours debout que les pieds nous enflent au point qu'il faut nous déchausser pour servir les clients, maigrement payés et traités comme des esclaves par un gérant impitoyable, qui nous la fait couler bien tristement, allez. Le gérant, c'est notre Lucifer. Il a tout chambardé depuis son arrivée. Avec sa moustache de matou, ses cheveux séparés par une raie impeccable au-dessus de la nuque et son lorgnon d'or sur son nez de fouine, un nez fourré, portait jusqu'ici il n'a pas d'affaire, puisqu'il n'est pas chargé d'ausculter les pommons et le cœur des clients il semble dire: "Qui est semblable à moi?" Quand même le patron donne des ordres, il répond en lui-même: Non serviam! On dit que le propriétaire du magasin est le premier à trembler devant lui. Il s'imaginerait que si le matamore n'était pas là, il lui faudrait fermer ses portes. Il y a des hommes comme ça qui aiment à se faire mener, si ce n'est pas par leur

femme, c'est par leur gérant. Ce drôle fait chez nous la pluie et le beau temps, et avec cela, il se mêle d'avoir des moeurs très sévères — pour les autres. S'il voit une employée causer avec un des commis, si la jeune fille est jolie comme un cœur, il entre dans une colère folle. Mon Dieu, quand même on tromperait notre fatigue et nos ennuis avec un peu de flirt, c'est, il me semble, un peu de baume analgésique sur notre vie endolorie. L'autre jour, un commis, en me passant une pièce d'indienne — peut-être par mégarde, peut-être aussi avec intention, on ne sait jamais — m'accroche le bout du petit doigt. Le gérant, qui était là — il est toujours là — se met à me tomber dessus:

— Vous n'êtes qu'une petite bonne à rien, et si vous prenez cette maison pour un bordel... de l'eau, dirai-je, pour ne pas répéter ce qu'il a eu l'effronterie de crier dans le magasin, vous allez vous tromper. Je devrais vous flanquer dehors immédiatement, quand même ce ne serait que pour l'exemple et parce qu'une pomme pourrie peut gâter tout un baril de belles fameuses... et patati et patata!

Il m'en a chanté sur le long et sur le large pendant au moins une demi-heure. Je ne sais où il a pris ce qu'il a dit, c'est m'arrivait comme le torrent d'une dalle qui vous dégoûline dans le cou pendant que vous attendez le tramway. Tout cela pour un petit doigt accroché, qui aurait pu en compter long sur le compte du gérant, s'il avait voulu commettre des indécisions, car avec tous ses cordons il se pourrait qu'il se trouverait, sans qu'il le sache, la corde pour le pendre, le misérable.

M. Julien Saint-Michel, je dois vous dire pour que vous compreniez le caractère odieux du gérant que j'ai une frimousse très éveillée, une petit nez

retroussé qui vous regarde bien en face et des yeux, comme dit mon grand-mère, à la perdition de mon âme — mais au salut de mon corps — si je sais m'en servir pour le bon motif. Je vous rester honnête, parce que je l'ai promis à ma mère mourante, mais j'ai du mérite, allez, car depuis que je suis au comptoir, le gérant ne fait qu'un rond autour de moi. C'est ce qui vous explique son humeur de dogue quand quelqu'un me regarde. Je suis jeune et j'aime à rire, mais il fait que je sois comme une porte de prison tout le temps, parce qu'il monte la garde autour de ma vertu et dans un but intéressé; car ce n'est pas un petit saint avec sa mine contrite et sa lèvre inférieure en bécotement. Me plaindre au patron? Mais il passe en coup de vent. D'ailleurs, me plaindre de quoi? de ce qu'il veille sur mon innocence comme le dragon sur les pommes d'or. Il aurait le beau rôle. Si je disais les motifs de son austérité de moeurs, je passerais pour une effrontée. Il y a de ces choses qu'il faut tout aussi bien laisser faire, car si l'on cherche à s'en défendre, on est plus compromise encore. Si j'avais au patron ce que je sais, il ferait peut-être une enquête d'où je sorterais, moi, déshonorée et lui, avec une augmentation de salaire et une plus grande somme de considération!

M. Julien Saint-Michel, ne pourriez-vous avec cette épée qui pousse Lucifer dans les reins et lui fait piquer une tête dans la gueule entrecroisée d'un volcan, nous débarrasser de ce gérant graveleux, tyrannique et hypocrite? N'est-ce pas déjà assez pénible d'avoir à gagner sa vie sans subir le contact de ces êtres libidineux dont les regards et la langue venimeuse nous salissent?

Midinette de quinze ans.

Pour copie conforme, s'adresser à Julien Saint-Michel.

A TRAVERS LE MOUVEMENT OUVRIER

— Lors de la dernière réunion de l'Union des Travailleurs textiles, local 2093, une somme de 50 dollars fut votée comme bénéfices moratoires à la venue du camarade Albert Riendeau, fils, de la brigade de Saint-Henri. On a voté également, sur la proposition faite par le camarade Jos. Gauthier et secondée par le camarade Oscar Nantel, que ce local a appris avec tristesse la douloureuse perte que vient de subir M. Riendeau par la mort de son mari, membre du local 2093, et qu'un vote de condoléances soit pris. Les amis du défunt ont aussi offert un tribut floral, voulant par là vénérer la mémoire de ce camarade digne membre de l'Union.

— L'Union Internationale des Rembourseurs, local 78, a inauguré solennellement, vendredi dernier, sa nouvelle salle d'assemblée, au Monument National. Une fête fut donnée à cette occasion et les discours ainsi que les rafraîchissements ont grandement aidé à récréer l'assistance. Il fut décidé que le local commence une campagne de recrutement.

— Malgré les différends qui affectent le travail organisé, il y a cependant des exceptions qui font plaisir et qui méritent d'être signalées. Ainsi, la Compagnie Gray Drot Motor se distingue parmi les compagnies qui reconnaissent des droits aux travailleurs à leur service, comme elles leur rappellent leurs devoirs. Cette compagnie ne s'est pas contentée de reconnaître les droits des ouvriers à un salaire raisonnable, en établissant les salaires de l'Union, mais elle va plus loin. Elle vient de faire assurer la vie de ses ouvriers à ses frais, sans aucune retenue sur leurs salaires, et elle met ainsi en sûreté l'avenir de la famille qui vient de perdre son chef. Non contente d'assurer l'avenir des épouses et des enfants de ses ouvriers défunts, ou incapables de travailler, elle vient de bâtir un établissement moderne qui servira de refuge pour les familles des ouvriers. Cet établissement contient une bibliothèque, une salle de lecture, des bains et toutes les améliorations modernes propres à assurer l'hygiène et la santé des enfants des ouvriers. Au moins, le dictionnaire qu'une compagnie est un corps sans âme, n'est plus de mise. Nous espérons que ce noble exemple sera suivi par d'autres.

— A Toronto, une petite grève s'est déchaînée dans l'industrie de la chaussure.

— A Moncton, N.B., les peintres, décorateurs, plombiers et ouvriers métallurgistes se sont mis en grève, ne voulant pas accepter une réduction de salaires. On espère que les patrons céderont d'ici peu de jours.

— La semaine dernière on eut lieu les élections des officiers du Conseil Conjoint No 1 de l'Union Internationale des Cordonniers. Le camarade Zoltique Lesperance présidait et le camarade Charles McKercher agissait comme secrétaire de l'élection. Voici le résultat: Président, M. Gauthier; vice-président, O. Drolet; secrétaire-archiviste et correspondant, Arthur Charest; sentinelle, R. Savard; comité d'organisation: T. Thibault, G. Duval, J. Pépin; comité des auditeurs: E. Fontaine, R. Delamarre, P. Thibault; secrétaire-financier et trésorier: Charles McKercher.

— L'Union Internationale des Barbiers, local 455, annonce à ses membres que ce local continue à se réunir le 1er et le 3ème de chaque mois, au Temple du Travail.

— Le Club Ouvrier Sainte-Marie n'ayant pas encore loué un nouveau local, n'a pas pu tenir son assemblée régulière, lundi dernier. Aussitôt que les officiers auront trouvé un local permanent, le public sera prévenu et la date de la première assemblée sera annoncée dans les journaux.

— L'Union Internationale des Ouvriers bouchers, local 299, se réunira tous les 2e et 4e dimanches du mois, dans l'après-midi, au Temple du Travail.

— La période de difficultés entre employeurs et employés n'est pas sur le point de finir. La question de la réduction des salaires que quelques manufac-

turiers voudraient mettre en pratique ne plait pas au travail organisé qui emploie tous les moyens pour y faire échec. De là une quantité de grèves partielles qui éclatent un peu partout.

— A Montréal, la grève des ouvriers cordonniers n'est pas généralisée, parce que les officiers locaux et internationaux continuent les négociations, espérant en venir à un règlement qui donnerait satisfaction aux deux parties.

— Les typographes de Saint-Hyacinthe ayant voulu obtenir les mêmes conditions de travail que leurs confrères de Montréal, en firent la demande à leurs patrons qui ne leur répondirent même pas. Alors les ouvriers se sont mis en grève.

— Les ouvriers de Theford Mines sont atteints par un chômage involontaire. Comme conséquence du marasme dans l'industrie du bâtiment, la demande n'est pas forte pour les produits des mines d'amiant. En conséquence, les ouvriers de Theford Mines viennent d'être prévenus que le travail sera suspendu le samedi, laissant aux ouvriers cinq jours de travail au lieu de six. Si le travailleur était payé pour sa semaine complète, ce ne serait qu'un demi-mal. Que les ouvriers de Theford Mines s'unissent fermement, l'organisation seule peut leur faire payer la valeur de leur travail.

— Les travailleurs en fourrure proposent à leurs patrons l'arbitrage ou un contrat nouveau pour un an, lequel contrat pourra être révisé le 1er janvier 1922.

— Les ouvriers de la Greenberg Smith Co. ne voulant pas consentir à une réduction de salaires, ont tous quitté le travail.

— En dehors de Montréal, il n'y a pas plus de succès pour ceux qui veulent le retour aux petits salaires.

— Les ouvriers de Kérogami, près de Chicoutimi, les ouvriers des papeteries souffrent d'une contre-grève parce qu'ils n'ont pas voulu accepter une diminution de salaires.

— A Bellow Falls, 300 ouvriers travaillant dans les pulperies de l'endroit, ont également quitté le travail pour les mêmes raisons.

— A Ottawa, la Compagnie Eddy est en pourparlers avec l'Union Nationale Catholique pour faire accepter aux ouvriers une diminution de 30 pour cent. Les ouvriers offrent d'accepter une diminution de 15 pour cent.

A LA MOUTARDE

Rembrandt aimait plus encore la moutarde, si possible, que ses pinces.

Un jour, le grand peintre dinait à la campagne chez un de ses amis.

— Pas de moutarde sur la table! Vite! qu'on aille quêter la moutarde, dit-il au valet.

— Mais, riposte son hôte, avant que mon valet soit revenu, nous aurons eu le temps d'avoir au moins deux fois déjeuné.

— Que m'importe! Qu'il aille au diable, mais qu'il me rapporte le moutardier plein: j'attendrai.

Et Rembrandt, aussitôt, de prendre une des planches vernies qui ne le quittaient jamais, de se mettre à l'oeuvre et de peindre le paysage qu'il apercevait des fenêtres mêmes de la salle à manger.

Lorsque le valet revint, le tableau était complètement terminé. C'est le "paysage à la moutarde" des catalogues.

CONSEIL DES METIERS ET DU TRAVAIL

Intéressante réunion, jeudi dernier, au Conseil. On y causa notamment du référendum et, à ce propos, une résolution fut proposée à l'effet de réitérer la confiance du travail organisé en ses délégués Foster et Franco, et aussi pour remercier tous ceux qui ont aidé durant la dernière campagne électorale.

Cette résolution, présentée par les délégués Pelletier et Lynch, se lit comme suit:

Attendu que le Conseil des Métiers et du Travail a été requis par la Législature de Québec de choisir deux de ses membres pour le représenter à la Commission de la Charte, afin d'étudier le meilleur mode d'administration possible pour la ville de Montréal;

Attendu qu'après neuf ou dix mois d'étude sérieuse, un projet a été soumis par la dite Commission au gouvernement, qui n'a pas eu de voir l'accepter;

Attendu qu'un certain groupe de politiciens, ennemis de la classe ouvrière, a jugé à propos de présenter un projet alternatif qui a été soumis, avec le projet de la Commission de la Charte, au vote référendum, et a été adopté, parce qu'une campagne effrénée de nos représentants ont été particulièrement et injustement attaqués et même vilipendés par les adversaires du mouvement ouvrier, qui n'ont pas craint d'employer tous les moyens à leur disposition, même jusqu'à soulever des préjugés de race et de religion;

Qu'il soit résolu que le Conseil des Métiers et du Travail, malgré les attaques basses et mensongères de nos adversaires, réaffirme son entière confiance dans ceux qui ont été chargés de défendre nos principes à la Commission de la Charte et devant le peuple;

Qu'il soit de plus résolu que le Conseil remercie sincèrement tous ceux qui de près ou de loin ont prêté leur concours en faveur des principes que nous défendons depuis si longtemps.

La discussion qui suivit la présentation de cette résolution porta sur les diverses phases de la campagne et de multiples opinions furent émises à ce sujet, traduisant les impressions d'un certain nombre de délégués. Au nombre de ceux-ci, le camarade Blais, des plombiers, s'éleva tout particulièrement contre les tactiques employées par les adversaires de la cédule "A", qui ne craignent pas de faire appel aux préjugés de race et de religion, préjugés que nos bons hommes d'Etat se sont appliqués, pourtant, à atténuer autant que possible.

Le délégué Foucher déclara que le résultat du 16 mai comportait une leçon et qu'une campagne d'éducation s'imposait pour éclairer la classe ignorante qui est exploitée par les politiciens. C'est cette ignorance, dit-il, qu'il faut faire disparaître et ce n'est que par l'éducation qu'on y parviendra.

Le délégué Lynch demanda aux délégués de ne pas oublier les insultes qui leur avaient été lancées dernièrement. Le délégué Javalskoff, lui, considéra comme inutile de se lamenter outre mesure sur des choses passées. Il recommanda l'ouverture de clubs ouvriers où l'on se préparerait sérieusement et efficacement aux prochaines élections municipales.

Aussitôt que le vote fut pris sur la résolution précitée, laquelle fut unanimement ratifiée, le délégué Foster, en son nom et en celui du délégué Franco, remercia chaleureusement le Conseil pour cette marque de confiance. Lui aussi prétendit que le vote de lundi comportait une leçon. Les délégués, dit-il, sont supposés représenter l'opinion des membres de leur local et quand les délégués votent sur une proposition quelconque et donnent des instructions à leurs mandataires sans que ceux-ci re-

Après la leçon de choses le maître interroge ses élèves.

— Voyons si vous avez compris. Robert, qu'est-ce que du tissu?

Silence de Robert.

— Voyons, tu ne sais pas ce que c'est que du tissu? Alors, tu ne sais pas avec quoi est faite la veste que tu portes?

— Si, m'sieur. Avec un vieux pantalon à papa.

— Maman, puis-je parler?

— Non, mon petit, tu sais qu'on t'a défendu de parler à table. Attends que ton père ait fini de lire son journal.

Le déjeuner fini, le père dépose lentement son journal sur la table.

— Eh bien! petit bavard, que voulais-tu dire?

— Que le robinet de la fontaine du cabinet de toilette est resté ouvert!

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Pierre Broquille.

LE SUFRAGE FEMININ

Bien que M. Bourassa se soit efforcé de jeter le discrédit sur les femmes qui votent, il n'en reste pas moins acquis que le suffrage féminin est aujourd'hui l'espérance de l'électorat. Nous comptons sur l'aimable quatre-vingtième de l'humanité pour établir le règne de la justice sur la terre. Elles ont aujourd'hui la force du nombre en plus de la force morale qu'on s'est plu à leur reconnaître jusqu'à présent. On aurait tort de la considérer comme quantité négligeable. Elles peuvent, si elles le veulent, faire pencher la balance du bon côté. Qu'elles s'initient aux affaires pour donner un vote raisonnable. En général, on n'attache pas une grande importance à l'action qu'exerceront les femmes sur le choix des futurs administrateurs de la ville. On croit que leur vote aura le reflet de celui de leur mari et que la face des choses n'en sera pas changée. Parce qu'une femme dit toujours comme son mari pour voir la paix, il se s'en suit pas qu'elle garde cette attitude passive en face de l'urne électorale comme devant sa conscience. Elle dira oui ou non, mais elle fera non. Dans la discussion, elles cèdent souvent par lassitude, mais quand le moyen viendra pour elle d'assumer une responsabilité, elles voudront user de leur jugement et affirmer leur personnalité. Pendant quelque temps encore, le vote des femmes sera peut-être sans couleur. Avant d'avoir une opinion qui leur soit propre, elles prendront celle de leur mari, mais quand la lune de miel sera passée et que l'homme et la femme seront devenus compagnons, et qu'ils discuteront des affaires du pays, la femme se fera une mentalité bien à elle. Sa pensée ne sera plus le satellite de celle de son conjoint. Elle tirera sa lumière d'elle-même et évoluera dans les orbes qu'elle se sera tracées. Si Paris ne s'est pas fait en un jour, une vraie femme consciente de son devoir et de sa mission n'est pas l'œuvre d'une année, mais au moins d'un quart de siècle. Il n'y a pas de génération morale spontanée, qu'on se le dise. Il faut s'attendre que le vote des femmes sera nul et de nul effet tant qu'elles n'auront pas pris conscience de leurs obligations. Peut-être seront-elles prêtes plutôt qu'on ne croit. L'évolution a pu se faire sourdement, sans qu'on s'en aperçoive de rien. Une femme bien cultivée disait :

« Je me garde bien de faire montre de mon savoir devant mon mari, car il en prendrait ombrage. Je l'écoute bouche bée, avec l'air de le gober tout plein et il en est très flatté. L'homme est un peu comme le bon Dieu, il ne veut pas que nous mangions du fruit de l'arbre du bien et du mal, car il craint que nous devenions semblables à lui. »

M. Bourassa ne voudra pas pour tout au monde d'une femme qui ferait des discours à la fédération, car il serait forcé de l'écouter parler quelques fois, quand il n'aurait qu'à entendre le son de sa voix. Il est de l'avis de saint Paul : Quand l'homme parle, la femme doit se taire.

Beaucoup de femmes sont obligées de faire les niaiseries pour charmer leur mari. On croit à tort que certains hommes cultivés souffrent d'avoir des épouses gaffeuses et stupidement naïves. Ils en raffolent, au contraire, car elles leur servent de repoussoir. Elles leur donnent du montant ou du piquant. Il y a des hommes qui doivent leur fortune à la bêtise de leur compagne. Quand on n'a pas la chance d'être soi-même un imbécile, c'est une compensation que d'être uni à

ELECTEURS, ATTENTION !

Lors du référendum de lundi dernier, des milliers de travailleurs n'ont pu donner leur vote parce qu'ils n'étaient pas inscrits sur les listes électorales. Sans vouloir nuire à qui que ce soit, on a cependant le droit de se demander comment il se fait que tant d'électeurs étaient omis des listes électorales, quand le bureau de la perception de la taxe d'eau les trouve si aisément lorsqu'il s'agit de leur faire payer la taxe d'eau. Nous demandons donc à tous les ouvriers dont les droits ont été lésés de se rendre à l'hôtel-de-ville pour obtenir leur inscription sur les listes électorales pour les élections d'octobre prochain. Plusieurs citoyens habitant le Canada depuis de nombreuses années et naturalisés sujets britanniques ont été classés comme habitants. A eux de faire valoir leurs droits.

Une maman, tenant son petit garçon par la main, est arrêtée par un rassemblement.

— Viens vite, dit-elle à l'enfant.

— Non, répond le petit garçon, je veux voir l'écrasé.

Alors la maman, simple et persuasive :

— Viens, viens... nous en verrons d'autres plus loin...

Nos bons domestiques.

— Baptiste, vous n'avez pas essayé ce moule aujourd'hui ?

— Madame devrait bien voir que ce n'est pas de la poussière d'aujourd'hui.

UNE CONVENTION DES EMPLOYES DE CHEMINS DE FER BIENTOT

Elle doit avoir lieu les 25 et 26 mai, à la salle Saint-Joseph, rue Notre-Dame-Ouest. — On discutera les conditions anormales qui existent à l'heure actuelle. — Les agissements aux Etats-Unis auront leur répercussion au Canada. — Les salaires.

Les membres de la International Brotherhood of Railroad Station Men et de la Railway Employers Alliance of North America tiendront conjointement un congrès, à la salle Saint-Joseph, 1882, rue Notre-Dame ouest, les 25 et 26 mai, pour discuter les conditions anormales qui existent à l'heure actuelle et pour faire une étude complète de la situation parmi les employés de chemins de fer. On nommera tout probablement un comité qui étudiera la situation et qui verra à adopter les meilleures mesures, au point de vue économique, pour le bénéfice de tous ceux qui sont concernés. Parmi ceux qui seront présents à ce congrès on remarque le président international, R. P. Neil; P. L. Hillcock, général des lignes canadiennes; J. K. Rankin, général adjoint; F. S. Walker, secrétaire général des lignes canadiennes; tous membres du comité exécutif. Un grand nombre d'employés du Grand-Tronc venant de Windsor, Ontario, de Coaticook, Québec, seront présents à ce congrès.

M. Frank McKenna, vice-président de la Fraternité des employés des chemins de fer, a déclaré que bien que le bureau des chemins de fer de la Fédération Américaine du Travail n'ait pas accepté les décisions du Railway Board américain, les décisions de ces deux corps auront une répercussion au Canada.

M. McKenna a fait remarquer que toutes les unions des employés de chemins de fer au Canada et aux Etats-Unis appartiennent à la section des chemins de fer de la Fédération Américaine du Travail et que l'administration de ce département était divisée entre quatre districts, le Canada étant le district No 4. La section canadienne, cependant, a un comité des salaires, qui décide de la question des traitements sans chercher de ligne de conduite nulle part ailleurs qu'au Canada. La section des chemins de fer comprend les wagonniers, les machinistes, fabricants de bouillottes, forgerons, mouleurs, poseurs d'appareils de chauffage, dessinateurs de patrons et toutes les autres catégories de mécaniciens employés dans les ateliers des locomotives et des wagons.

Les anomalies, nombreuses dans les salaires, et on considère que cette question fera l'objet d'un vif débat. On croit que la discussion portera vers une réduction vu que le public demande une réduction de toutes les commodités de la vie dont le transport par chemins de fer constitue une bonne partie. On suggère aussi de publier la liste de paie des chemins de fer afin de démontrer au public la somme d'argent qu'on paie pour du travail qui n'est pas fait.

On cite, par exemple, le cas d'un agent de gare, pas loin de Montréal, qui recevait un traitement mensuel de 120 piastres, mais que le travail supplémentaire se chiffrait à \$110 par mois pour quelques heures seulement, mais dû à la façon de compter les heures supplémentaires. La compagnie trouva que cet employé recevait trop d'argent et elle en plaça un deuxième, mais, dit-on, si on faisait une enquête on verrait qu'il se gaspille encore une bonne somme d'argent tous les mois.

On parle aussi de plusieurs autres cas analogues qui demandent d'être étudiés afin de mieux répartir les salaires payés et ne pas gaspiller l'argent des compagnies qui diront ensuite qu'elles dépendent beaucoup trop pour les traitements et qu'il faut nécessairement accepter une baisse.

ET MAINTENANT

Ceux qui avaient espoir, il y a quelques mois, que le travail d'un quinzaine d'hommes consciencieux, aurait pu changer notre mode d'administration suivant les besoins et les nécessités actuelles se sont trompés, comme nous nous trompions. Le projet de charte progressif fut défilé par une grande majorité lors du référendum du 16 mai dernier. Les meilleures intentions ont été défilées par un système qui n'est pas à l'honneur de ceux qui l'ont employé et les tristes conséquences dans l'avenir prochain nous vengeront du mensonge et de la calomnie.

Quand partout on cherche le meilleur système d'administration pour les cités, nous, les Montréalais, nous revenons à l'ancien système, nous retournons en arrière. L'avenir nous dira qui avait raison.

Nous constaterons, lors de la présentation des candidats à l'échevinage, l'an tonne prochain, qu'aucun candidat ouvrier ne pourra se faire élire, parce que, durant la dernière campagne, une certaine catégorie d'orateurs a empoisonné l'opinion publique et principalement la classe ouvrière en disant que le système de la Commission de la Charte ne donnerait pas justice aux travailleurs. Ces mêmes orateurs seront candidats ou combattants les candidatures ouvrières.

Le public gobeur de belles phrases, qui aida au succès du projet alternatif, ou le retour à l'ancien système, sera le premier à se plaindre des résultats de la nouvelle administration.

D'ailleurs, on s'apercevra bientôt qu'au lieu de s'occuper des affaires de leurs concitoyens, les nouveaux échevins feront comme leurs devanciers, qu'ils soigneront leurs intérêts personnels avant ceux des contribuables. Le trouble nous est déjà annoncé par M. Lévesque, qui se propose de nettoyer l'hôtel-de-ville, et comme ce nettoyage fera des vides qu'il faudra remplir, le patronage sera encore une fois en grand honneur.

AVIS IMPORTANT

Nos abonnés qui ont changé d'adresse ou qui changeront d'adresse au 1er mai sont priés de nous avertir au plus tôt de ce changement, afin qu'il n'y ait aucun délai dans l'expédition de leur journal. Le Monde Ouvrier, 2 rue Saint-Paul Est, Montréal. Téléphone: Main 3415.

DE PARTOUT UN PEU

— Tandis qu'en presque tous les pays on se plaint de l'abandon de la terre, la Hollande a un surplus de main-d'œuvre agricole dont se plaignent les associations ouvrières. En une semaine, l'Union néerlandaise des ouvriers agricoles recevait 1,000 demandes d'emploi de ses membres sans travail à l'époque où les travaux de la ferme battaient leur plein. Ces membres offraient d'aller travailler aux exploitations agricoles à n'importe quel endroit. La partie nord de Groningen contient de 600 à 700 ouvriers agricoles non organisés qui ne trouvent pas d'emploi sur les terres. Quelle est la cause de cette crise? Personne encore n'a pu donner de réponse satisfaisante.

— La Hollande fut un des premiers pays à se conformer à la convention de Washington relative à la journée de huit heures. Dans bien des circonstances, cependant, le patronat trouve moyen de violer la loi. Une grosse compagnie de construction de digues, Hengelo, a obtenu du gouvernement l'autorisation d'allonger la journée de 8 à 10 heures, mais les ouvriers n'ont pas voulu céder une parcelle de leurs droits à la journée de huit heures, et le gouvernement supprima l'autorisation. Vouloir, tout est là.

— L'Alliance Internationale des Coopératives Ouvrières a tenu une convention à Copenhague, Danemark, au commencement de ce mois et 16 pays différents y étaient représentés par 42 délégués. Le principal sujet de discussion fut la diffusion des coopératives ouvrières de consommation, c'est-à-dire le développement du plan Rochdale sur un plan d'ensemble. Parmi les propagandistes du système on remarquait V. Scroby, pour la Belgique; Chas. Gilde, la France; H. Kaufmann, Allemagne; et F. H. Hayward pour l'Angleterre. Ce dernier donna un aperçu de travail favorisant la reprise des relations avec les fédérations coopératives de la Russie. Son projet fut combattu par les délégués belges, allemands et français, qui n'eurent pas de peine à démontrer que le système de coopération libre avait été supprimé en Russie et remplacé par l'association internationale du grand commerce. Une autre convention sera tenue en Suisse, à Bâle, du 22 au 25 août prochain.

— La crise de chômage ne cesse pas ses ravages à Berlin, Allemagne. En avril dernier, il y avait 45 pour cent plus de sans-travail à Berlin qu'en avril 1920. On y compte actuellement plus de 131,000 chômeurs.

— Pour se conformer aux décisions de leur bureau exécutif, les mineurs allemands ont décidé de ne faire aucune heure de travail supplémentaire aussi longtemps que tous les sans-travail ne seront pas remis à l'ouvrage. Ceci est le résultat d'un vote secret donné par l'organisation des mineurs.

— A la dernière élection municipale d'Amsterdam, métropole de la Hollande, les voix se sont partagées comme suit: Catholiques, 45,021 voix, 8 sièges; parti ouvrier démocrate, 34,127 voix, 14 sièges. Ici comme en Belgique, les fermiers ont droit de vote. Le vote est obligatoire et les élections se font par le système de représentation proportionnelle. En 1909, le résultat fut le suivant: Catholiques, 19,631 voix; parti ouvrier démocrate, 35,240 voix; les femmes ne votaient pas à cette élection.

— A Niagara Falls, Ont., quatre manufactures de papier s'entendent de fermer leurs portes. Les ouvriers ne se sont pas rendus à l'ouvrage comme protestation contre une réduction de salaires que les compagnies veulent imposer.

— La Gazette du Travail d'Ottawa annonce que le coût de la vie d'une famille

le, en mai, est tombé \$16.36 en avril à \$12.62. Il est à présumer que ce chiffre n'est pas d'une grande exactitude pour la ville de Montréal, car les détailliers ont oublié de vérifier leurs factures et ne se rappellent pas que les prix du gros ont un peu baissé. C'est un singulier phénomène que celui d'un épicer se rappelant très vite que le prix d'un produit est facturé à un prix un peu élevé sur la dernière facture et ne se rappelle que très longtemps la baisse d'un partiel. Dans le premier cas, il ne manque jamais de majorer son prix du double de l'augmentation.

— Lundi dernier, le 16 mai, s'est ouverte, à Saint-Louis, Mo., la convention générale des cordonniers de la B. & S. W. U. of North America. Toutes les Unions Internationales des Cordonniers sont représentées. Les membres de Montréal sont: Z. L'Espérance, Lionel Thibault, R. Delamarre, et N. Poirier.

— Ottawa s'attend à avoir une grève de typistes. Les négociations entamées entre patrons et ouvriers sont interrompues. Le conflit est causé par l'hostilité des patrons pour la semaine de 44 heures. La grève serait déclarée pour le 1er juin, le contrat expirant le 31 mai. Cependant, il est à remarquer que la grève des typistes de Saint-Hyacinthe s'est terminée par la victoire de l'Union Typographique qui a obtenu la semaine de 44 heures et une augmentation de salaires. A Regina, les typistes ont aussi remporté une victoire sur leurs patrons qui se sont rendus à l'évidence et qui ont reconnu que les demandes de leurs employés étaient fondées.

GALEJADE

Rencontre l'excellent ami Tartarin.

— Comment va? fit-il.

— Peuh! tu me vois inquiet. Avec ces grèves permanentes on n'est plus jamais sûr du lendemain.

— Bah! répliqua Tartarin en haussant les épaules, ce n'est rien encore. Que dirais-tu si tu vivais dans un pays que je connais et où non seulement les hommes, mais les choses elles-mêmes, se mirent en grève un dimanche.

— Les choses! Mon cher Tartarin, tu exagères!

— Moi, j'exagère? Mais non. Et la preuve, c'est que pendant un jour les bateaux à voiles ne marchaient plus. Ils jetaient le feu aux orties. Les paprapuies, sous le prétexte que c'était dimanche, refusèrent d'ouvrir. Désirant savoir quel jour du mois on était, je voulus consulter le calendrier. Impossible, ce dernier avait donné ses huit jours. Je tâtai de traverser la rivière pour me rendre sur l'autre rive. Pas moyen: les ponts rendaient leurs tabliers.

— Assez, assez, risque en me sauvant.

AT THE PLAYHOUSES

Among the features on the bill at the Princess Theatre next week will be found a thumbnail review by Florenz Ames and Adelaide Winthrop, entitled "Alice in Wonderland." Mr. Ames and Miss Winthrop combine farce and travesty, and have placed it in a song setting, they themselves being classified as comic players. Jay Velle and girls will contribute a pro-

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gramme de danses. Bobby Bernard & Co. will be seen in a comedy sketch entitled "A Regular Guy." Lena Arnold and Harry Lambert will present their song, dance and patter turn, which they call "Pills." James Burke and Eleanor Durkin will offer "A Telet-a-te" in song. "Dance Fantasies" is a dance revue which features Froebrik Easler and Beatrice Squire. Les Kellers will be seen in a travesty on the side shows, which they call "And That's Not All." W. D. Pollard will offer his offering as "Uncommon Sense."

AT THE ORPHEUM

Originality in plot has characterized the comedies written by Geo. Middleton and Guy Bolton, co-authors of "Polly With a Past," which the Orpheum Players will present next week. The authors have woven their story around a rich young man who is in love with a girl in his own set, but being of a philanthropic nature, the girl thinks she has a duty in "uplifting" her fellow-creatures and salvaging all the human wrecks she encounters, and consequently the young man finds he plays but a small part in her life. Two of his friends take pity on him and devise a scheme whereby the girl can try some of her "saving" on him, and they persuade a perfectly respectable and proper young woman to impersonate an adventuresome seeking to ensnare the young man. They are confident that when the other woman sees the young man falling into the clutches of the beautiful siren she will start "saving" him, and this will engender love, and all will be well. But the plan miscarries, for the young man falls in love with the supposed adventuresome and doesn't want to be "saved." A rich old uncle is sent for to help rescue his nephew, but he too falls a victim to "Polly's" charms and an embarrassing situation develops. When they all realize that the young man is in earnest the

scheming friends try to convince the faithful that Polly is a perfectly proper person for the son to marry.

AT THE ST. DENIS

For the last week of the season of the St. Denis Theatre, Mr. Frank Crow, the general manager of the theatre, has gone to New York to engage some special attraction for the benefit of the Montreal mail carriers. The promised feature, it is said, will be one which has never been in Montreal before, and a special comedy is also promised.

AT LOEW'S THEATRE

A dance revue will be the feature offering at Loew's all next week, starring Frank and Mazie Hughes. Other acts on the bill will be Jimmy Lyons; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hill in "Poor Old Jim," a comedy; Lou and Grace Harvey, in song studies; and Alvin and Kenny on the flying rings. "The Mutiny of Elsinore," adapted from the story by Jack London, will be featured on the photograph end. The story is said to be one of thrilling adventures, starring Mitchell Lewis. A Sonnet comedy, "Astray from Steerage," the Mutt and Jeff cartoon, and Loew's News Weekly will round out the programme.

AT THE CAPITOL

Next week the feature film at the Capitol Theatre will be "The Spenders," featuring Joseph J. Dowling, which is said to be a love story full of fun. The operatic contribution will be a scene from "Martha," which will be directed by Signor O. Marando, the director of productions of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation, with John Arthur wedding the conductors' baton, with the symphony orchestra. The Capitol Baller will feature Helen Grenelle and Dorothy Buck, with Nell Quill, in what is heralded as an artistic offering. A comedy will also be included in the bill.

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AVIS IMPORTANT

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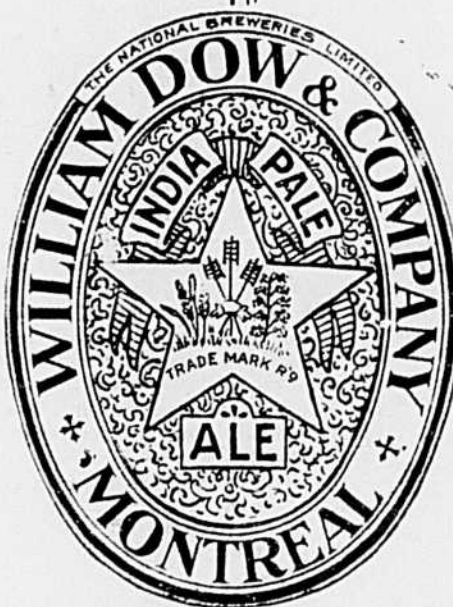
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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

The Dominion government has promised a full investigation by the Labor Department into the problems of old age pensions and unemployment insurance. After the investigation, with all the facts before the people, definite legislation can be drafted that will meet the situation.

The principle involved will no doubt make the unemployment payments a charge upon the wage bills of the various industries. The workers will no doubt be assessed a certain proportion of their wages to bear part

of the cost, but the major portion will be saddled upon the industries in which investigation shows unemployment occurs.

The following table gives statistics of the thirty principal industries in Canada for 1918, showing the number of employees in each industry, the amount paid out in salaries and wages, and the value of the products. This list takes in 62 per cent of the wage workers in the industries of Canada, and 66 per cent of the value of the products:

Industries	Employees	Salaries and Wages	Value of Products
No.	\$	\$	
Lumber, lath and shingles.....	60,868	49,786,122	146,333,192
Manitowoc.....	36,760	45,914,822	186,034,920
Foundry and machine shop products..	26,463	28,960,374	82,493,897
Pulp and paper.....	25,863	26,974,226	119,309,434
Shipbuilding and repairs.....	21,705	26,350,128	74,799,411
Housebuilding.....	21,107	20,983,169	60,522,151
Rolling mills and steel furnaces.....	20,447	27,653,972	209,706,319
Car repairs.....	16,531	18,677,388	40,972,617
Cottons.....	16,004	9,227,343	66,399,228
Hosiery and knit goods.....	12,627	7,231,182	45,755,129
Printing and publishing.....	12,277	10,875,418	30,325,123
Slaughtering and meat packing.....	11,816	12,153,501	229,231,666
Cars and car works.....	11,739	13,126,459	66,068,705
Clothing, women's factory.....	10,853	8,066,246	32,364,340
Plumbing and tin-smithing.....	10,622	9,136,367	41,870,529
Agricultural implements.....	10,672	10,268,539	31,853,673
Electric light and power.....	9,646	10,354,242	53,449,133
Boots and shoes.....	9,240	9,425,097	46,387,665
Clothing, men's factory.....	8,961	7,560,749	33,835,793
Electrical apparatus and supplies.....	8,859	8,449,841	30,045,309
Lumber products.....	8,226	6,390,083	29,425,925
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes.....	7,897	5,338,347	37,883,974
Boilers and engines.....	7,803	8,940,221	29,470,457
Flour and grist mill products.....	7,047	7,555,476	262,537,129
Butter and cheese.....	7,005	5,503,594	94,927,032
Fish preserved.....	5,170	3,566,442	34,007,628
Smelting.....	5,508	8,639,472	62,482,256
Drugs and chemicals.....	4,292	5,872,947	38,252,587
Leather, tanned, curried, etc.....	3,631	3,464,845	33,273,025
Sugar, refined.....	2,558	2,626,890	58,812,219
Total, 30 industries.....	422,397	\$418,623,502	\$2,311,831,449
Totals all industries.....	677,787	\$629,460,863	\$3,458,036,975

The above table shows conclusively that industry could easily bear the unemployed burden by a slight levy without any contribution from the working class.

When employers cut or raise wages, they cut or raise them ten per cent and even more at a time. Wages are now being cut ten per cent in many instances. The cut, instead of being ten per cent, might easily be seven and a half per cent, and the other two and a half per cent of the cut be laid aside as an unemployment fund to be paid out to the unemployed. The employers will say no doubt that such a charge would be a grievous one to be born, and would hamper industry. Should they make such a statement, they know that it would not be true.

An unemployment assessment upon employers of two and a half per cent upon the wage bill would bring in \$15,000,000 in one year to the fund, and in seven years, about the time another panic would be due, the unemployment fund would amount to over \$100,000,000. This fund is more than all the relief provided in all Canada during this worst period of unemployment that Canada has ever experienced. Unemployed relief in Montreal has not exceeded a million dollars. In all Canada it has not exceeded fifteen or twenty million dollars. The relief, it is true, has been most inadequate, but a hundred million dollar fund should take care of all unemployment payments required.

This fund looks large, but the charges could be added to the selling price of commodities, if necessary, and would hardly be felt by the purchasing public. For, as the \$15,000,000 annual charge is born by commodities selling for over three billion dollars, the actual charge upon the purchasing public, if honestly charged and not made a source of profiteering, would be less than one-half of one per cent. Upon a hundred thousand dollar steel order, the charge would be less than \$500.

Canada is a protected country. Organized labor has declared the necessity of protection to keep out products of countries where labor is sweated. It endorses the principle of protection with the proviso that protection shall be related to a fair standard of living and working conditions for Canadian labor. If it should be necessary, a one half of one per cent tariff duty might be added to cover the unemployment charge upon Canadian industry, but it should be imposed only on those countries which do not insure their workers against lack of work.

But no additional duty will be necessary, for duties now charged are high, quite frequently being over forty per cent. This is sufficient to cover the added wage charge. There is another reason why no additional duty need be imposed, for at present the sales tax on imported goods is one per cent higher than the sales tax on Canadian made goods, thus adding a one per cent margin to the tariff, and this

is sufficient to cover any unemployed charge on Canadian industry.

However, in considering the question a little more deeply, the tax will be no charge upon industry, for two reasons. The first reason is that the charge will cause a readjustment of business to prevent unemployment, and the second reason is that unemployment is a charge at present on the community and a rearrangement of the incidence of that charge will not hurt the business community.

At present industry runs wild. It has no balance wheel to keep it steady. There is feverish haste during prosperous times. The whole aim is to turn out the goods. Then there is a slowing down of production resulting in stagnation. With industry realizing that the workers must be paid not only when they produce, but also when they are idle, the men at the head of large industrial plants will make it their business to see that the workers are more steadily employed. Plans will be laid to provide work on government buildings in slack times. Much work that is rushed during boom times will be held over for the slack seasons. In this way employment will become more steady.

The unemployed are a charge upon the community. They and their families must live in bad times as well as in good times. Their support is a drain upon created wealth, for they are consuming wealth even while they are not producing it. If this burden is placed directly upon industry, the community as a whole loses nothing; the method of supporting the unemployed is simply changed.

Unemployed payments will benefit the employing class by taking away one of the stock arguments of radicals. This argument is that there is something wrong with society when men who produce shoes must go in old shoes because they are out of work on account of having produced so many shoes. This argument runs throughout industry. The clothing workers must go shabby because so much has been produced that the people are not buying. With workless workers being able to purchase the necessities of life this argument ceases to be valid.

It is high time that a progressive unemployment law be passed to take care of the workers ready to work in return for a fair wage and for whom no work is waiting.

—It is announced that Secretary of Labor Davis hopes to create a highly paid staff of specialists to mediate labor troubles in 10 basic industries that will be designated later. It is stated that the federal official expects to be able to secure 10 "labor experts," at \$10,000 a year, who will devote their entire time to labor matters in these industries, one expert making a study of each industry. There will also be a staff of 25 other experts, at salaries of about \$3,500 who will aid in the work. When the experts are not engaged in mediating labor disputes they will be engaged in studying conditions in industry.

PENITENTIARY PROGRESS

Brig.-Gen. W. S. Hughes, Superintendent of Canadian penitentiaries, gives the following facts to the public with regard to the industrial training of the convicts in the Kingston, Ont., penitentiary and the treatment of convicts generally throughout Canada:

The penitentiary shops are very large, light and airy with lofty ceilings and spotless walls—models of their kind. In fact I know of no shops where free labor is employed that can, in any way, compare with them. One-half of the inmates of the penitentiary who work in these shops can see over the wall, and the lake, islands, etc., are in full view.

In these shops the following trades are taught: Tailoring, carpentering, shoemaking, tin-smithing, painting, blacksmithing, stonecutting, pipe-fitting and bag-making; there are also well equipped machine shops: printing, book-binding, changing room, laundry, drying closet, showerbath house, kitchen, bakery, quarry and engineering departments.

In all these branches the inmates are taught by capable and qualified instructors. All work pertaining to the construction or maintenance of the institution is done by the inmates. We build all our own buildings thereby saving the Government hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Large farms are worked at all of the penitentiaries. The value of the farm products produced in the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1919, was \$94,257, while the cash revenue returned to the Government for the same year was \$138,618.04.

Qualified cooks are now employed in the penitentiaries. The food is served on the Cafeteria plan and it is kept warm on steel tables, which are steam heated. The inmates help themselves to what bread they wish but they are not permitted to waste it.

During the past year plain woolen clothing, the color of the Air Force blue, has been ordered for all penitentiaries for winter wear, and plain brown denim for summer use.

Writing privileges have been increased 100 per cent and visiting privileges fifty per cent.

The "libraries" are large and the books are selected by the Warden and Chaplains. They have been largely increased during the past few years and an honest endeavour is made to furnish each inmate of the institution something suitable to his mentality and education.

Schools have been operated in all of the penitentiaries, and school teachers are now being employed, whose duty it will be to devote themselves entirely to the education of the inmates.

Since this report was issued, a number of reforms have been suggested by the Parliamentary committee appointed to investigate the institutions to further improve the condition of the convicts.

With such care, education and comfort provided for those unfortunate enough to be shut away from their fellow men, the thought arises that those workers who have their liberty and are employed in private factories should have more comfort provided for them. How many of the places in which the toiling many labor do not possess the beautiful facilities supplied the convicts. How many of the unemployed who have committed no crime do not have the chance to wear warm clothing, sleep in a beautiful, light, well-heated cell, and have meals provided on the cafeteria plan.

Surely if those adjudged guilty of wrongdoing are so well provided for, free workers should have equal facilities to work in clean, bright, sanitary workshops, and to have equal freedom from worry as to where the next meal is coming from.

SUBSIDIZING THE PRESS

G. Murray, of Toronto, had a nice little scheme for controlling the newspapers of Canada. It was through an organization to look into the policies of all papers and to have advertisers give ads to those papers alone which were good to business. The strictly Tory papers were to get all national advertisements going. The Independent papers were to get advertising, enough to keep them quiet, and the Liberal and radical papers were to get no advertising at all. G. M. Murray carried on for a while and his scheme looked good, till the Liberal and farmer papers began to wonder why some advertisements did not come their way. They discovered the reason and began to talk about the throttling of the press. Reports state that G. M. Murray's agency has gone out of business.

The scheme looked all right on paper, but Murray made one mistake. He did not provide a little advertising for Liberal papers — enough to keep them quiet.

—Says the Halifax Citizen: "The Printers' strike has brought to light the fact that government printing is being done under low wage conditions, whereby girls and boys are employed to do the work of men. The sooner the government passes a fair wage law, governing all public work, the better it will be for the workers of this province. Efforts in the past have been made to secure a fair wage law in Nova Scotia, but so far without success. At present there is a lot of government printing being done under low wage conditions. If a fair wage law were passed these unfair employers would be compelled to pay living wages to their help, and this would help to stabilize the industry in Nova Scotia."

CONSULTING THE EMPLOYEES

Some of the employers of Canada are consulting the employees on matters of wage reduction. Building contractors in Winnipeg have been asking labor unions to recommend their own reductions in wage scales, in order to give an impetus to building, contracts for which have been held up on account of the present cost of construction. The Dominion Steel Company at Sydney, N. S., has laid before the workers the status of the plant. The representatives of the employees were told that if the men would accept a ten per cent reduction in wages, the company could book a 50,000 ton rail order from the Government and operate the plant at capacity for a long period of time. The men were told that the steel outlook was very grave.

This is a good policy on the part of the employers. Labor should be consulted. But why limit the conferences to questions affecting the reduction of the earnings of labor?

If labor is to be consulted when wages are to be reduced because of the difficulties facing the employers, why should labor not be consulted when times are good and contracts are fat?

When times are good, prices are advancing and plants are engaged in making large profits; why should not the employers call the representatives of the men in, explain the situation and tell the men that the steel plant is booked ahead for many months with contracts at very profitable figures, and suggest to the men that taking all the facts into consideration, if the men are willing, a ten per cent increase in wages will be allowed?

The employers might go further. They might state to the men the exact position of the plant with regard to all financial and manufacturing matters. They might tell the men just how much capital was put into the plant, and how much of the capital represents the capitalization of the hopes of the promoters thereof as to the amount in unearned revenue that could be squeezed out of the steel users on the one hand and the employers on the other. They could explain just how much profits are needed to pay the interest on a just capitalization, how much raw material cost, how much is required for overhead expenses, depreciation, and reserve funds, and how much is required for labor. Then the workers would know the condition of the plant and could work intelligently upon the question of increased remuneration for increased output.

The workers could be told just how much there would be saved to the company by turning out the 50,000 tons of steel rails in a third less time, and offer the workers a just share of the increased savings for quickness of output.

Workers are chary of profit sharing schemes and bonus promises, for these promises and schemes are placed before the workers without the workers being allowed to investigate the books of the employers. The workers have found that by speeding up their work, their wages are generally reduced eventually so that the employers absorb the profits arising from the increased activities of the men.

Quite frequently labor does not do its best. No incentive has been held out to labor to make it worth its while to increase output. Labor is kept in ignorance as much as possible of the accounting end of the firm that employs them. This was necessary in the past for with firms competing against each other for business, knowledge of the financial standing and rate of profit of one firm would be of invaluable assistance to another firm in out-competing it.

But today industry is being placed on a national scale. The British Empire Steel Company plans to absorb the principal steel plants of Canada. With industry on a national scale, competition is eliminated, and the necessity for concealing rates of profits, costs and other company matters passes away.

Let the employers consult the employees not only in a small way, when wages are to be reduced, but let them trust labor to do the right thing, and consult it on all occasions, and let the workers know the bookkeeping end of the firms they work for, the managerial and technical problems, and let the energies and abilities of the working class be utilized to help the employers increase the productivity of their plants.

ELECTORS, ATTENTION

In the course of the referendum of the 16th of May many thousands of workers were unable to vote because their names were not on the electoral lists. Without wishing to accuse anyone, it may nevertheless be asked how and why it happened that so many voters were omitted from the list, when the Water Tax department can find them so easily when it is a question of collecting the water rates.

We therefore suggest that all those whose rights were taken away from them in the referendum to go to the City Hall and see that their names are put on the lists in order that they may vote in the October elections.

Many Montrealsers who have been in Canada for years and who have become naturalized citizens were classed as foreigners and denied the right to vote. Let them see that justice is done them.

THE SLIDING SCALE

The National Federation of Building Trade Operatives of Great Britain have decided to recommend the acceptance by the building workers of a sliding scale of wages, in order that there may be a national standard of wages and conditions. It is proposed to take existing wages as being 170 per cent above the pre-war cost of living. Should there be an advance in the cost of living over 170 per cent wages will be automatically adjusted. For every 6½ points in the cost of living, wages are to advance 1 cent an hour to all employees, for every fall of 6½ points in the cost of living wages will fall 1 cent an hour.

In this manner it is proposed to bring stable conditions to the workers of the building industry. The benefits will be that the working class will no longer have to worry about the rise in the cost of living and will not have their hopes raised by seeing living costs fall, only to have those hopes shattered by an equal or greater reduction in wages.

In Great Britain, the workers during the war, climbed out of grinding poverty. They emerged to a condition where there was a margin between their wages and a bare, bleak living. They desire to conserve that margin.

With wages based on the cost of living, many strikes will be averted. Strikes are generally due to either rising living costs and the desire of the workers to get increased remuneration to cover it, or falling living costs, and the desire of the employers to prevent the workers getting the benefit of stationary wages while living becomes cheaper. Strikes over union recognition are due to the workers realizing that their unions are necessary to conserve wages.

With the disputes over wages removed, labor will be free to fix its attention on other matters. While labor has its energies taken up with wage disputes, it cannot exert much energy in other directions.

With the wage rate fixed to the living cost, labor can bend its energies to obtaining a higher standard of wellbeing along indirect lines. It can work to bring about a just system of unemployment insurance under which no worker need suffer want, because work does not offer. With nationalized wages on a sliding scale, the employers will have no incentive to keep the unemployed in semi-starvation in order to use them as a means of lowering wages. The unemployed will not be allowed to take the place of their working comrades at lower rates of pay.

The workers can work for a nationalized medical service. It can work for suitable old age pensions. It can work for education reform whereby schools will be made free from the lowest to the highest. It can work for maternity aid, for the raising of the working age of children, for larger playing grounds, for the prohibition of overcrowded tenements, for the absorption of surplus profits by the public for public purposes.

Once let the question of wages be settled for good upon a permanent sliding basis, there will be released a tremendous amount of working class energy that can be used to bring about many much needed reforms.

—An economic paradox is a "shorter work day means higher wages." Long hours of labor mean low wages. Short hours mean longer lives and more enjoyment of life. The shorter work day is the corner stone of national progress.

INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS

Industrial democracy means the rule of industry by the people. It is generally taken to mean the rule of industry by the workers in the various industries united together in industrial councils. Russia has endeavored to introduce this system but as the people were not ready for it, the Soviets abolished private control of industry and placed the power in the hands of communists.

At present we have industrial democracy. The workers do not rule industry, capital rules it. The producers do not have a say in the management of plants. The men who have invested money in the plants in which the producers work control and manage them.

The first faint beginnings of industrial democracy arose with the first attempts of labor to have a say in the conditions under which labor would work in the plants. All these attempts were opposed. The owners of the plants dictated the wages to be paid and the hours to be worked. The employees had to take the wages offered. In England it was conspiracy for two workers to get together and try to get higher wages. Workers were condemned as criminals and transported to Australia as convicts for trying to organize small groups of workers into unions to demand higher pay.

Despite the repressive laws, unions grew and the laws were repealed. Now we have in England eight million organized workers, in the United States five millions and in Canada nearly four hundred thousand.

These tremendous organizations are gathering power and the old absolute tyranny in industry is passing. The owners still own and control industry; capital is still in power, but that power is curtailed by the massed might of the unions being used to determine and modify in a limited way the rates of pay and hours of labor in the industrial plants.

A further step is being taken. Labor does not desire to remain a minor factor in plant control. It desires more power. It is exercising its power in the political field by demanding many laws, old age pensions, unemployment insurance, maternity allowances and very many others. It is demanding greater freedom in the shops, and the employers are yielding in part.

Industrial councils are being established. However, it is the policy of all rulers to pretend to give while really not giving. Knowing this, organized labor closely scrutinizes all plans put forth by governments or by individual employers.

The Canadian government has recently begun to organize industrial councils. It does not initiate, but sends government agents acquainted with such plans to the plants requesting

instruction. The Department of Labor organizes councils in plants and takes no account whether the employees are union, non-union or anti-union. At the Industrial Conference in Ottawa in 1919 the representatives of labor declared that labor would only approve industrial councils upon the principle of the Whitley plan which provides for full recognition of organized labor and organized employers. That is the British plan.

The plan adopted by the Canadian government authorities is imported from the United States. These plans, put into effect by the Rockefeller corporations and the companies composing the packing house trust and the anti-union textile plants, are organized for the purpose of smashing the unions and are a part of the open-shop campaign.

Many of these plans provide for the governing of shop conditions by a lower house, a senate and a president. The lower house is composed of representatives chosen by the workers, the upper house is composed of the office staff and the president of the council is the manager of the concern, or the owner. The workers are the common electors who elect delegates to the lower house, who draw up resolutions and plans for the regulation of conditions in the plant. For these plans to come into force the upper house and the president must concur. If the president vetoes any plan it is killed. Thus these industrial councils have no real power. The voters are watched, and if they elect radical delegates to the council, those delegates are let go. The union agitators in the shop are also let go.

The scheme is to make the workers separate themselves from workers in other plants and thus divide the working class. Then the management works to get tame delegates elected by the employees who will be the tools of the owners and who will agree to longer hours, lower wages, and the abolition of conditions favorable to the working class.

With the Whitley plan, which allows full organization and recognizes the unions of the various crafts, the workers in the shops and the delegates to the councils are protected by the massed might of their fellow workers and by union funds in case of a dispute.

The real significance of these industrial councils is the recognition on the part of the employers that the workers can no longer be kept out of having a voice in the management of industry. Labor has not fought for fifty years without learning many valuable lessons. The employers will learn that the workers are ready for real industrial councils, and are not to be taken in by fake plans to lead the workers away from their true organizations and their desired progress.

A BIG DAY for DAVIES CO.

When our new store was opened at 247 St. Catherine Street West, near Bleury, a guessing competition was opened to the public to guess how many customers were served in the opening day. It was won by

Mrs. LOUISA TREE, 120 Plymouth Grove, City.

Number of guesses..... 2,822
Correct number..... 2,823

GET THE DAVIES HABIT AND SAVE MONEY.

Wm. DAVIES CO., LIMITED -- Stores all over the city



Hats for Victoria Day

Tagals, Milans, and Novelty Straws, trimmed with flowers and ribbons. Ever so many smart styles and all the fashionable colorings. Plenty of streamer trimmed Hats for girls. This is an example of the extraordinary values we give our customers.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

ALMY'S

MONTREALS LANCET STORE

69c

THE UNITED CONSUMERS OF MONTREAL, LIMITED

(Inaugurated and endorsed by the Trades and Labor Council)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any Member who changed his, or her Postal Address on the 1st May, please send in the new address as soon as possible to the Office at 419 Ontario Street East, also their orders for Coal with full details as to kind, quantities, time of delivery, and whether they reside on 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Flat.

The prices per ton will be regulated by the prevailing local prices of the month of delivery.

LABOR THE WORLD OVER

CANADIAN NOTES

—At its last meeting in April, the Regina Trades and Labor Council endorsed The Hon. Gideon Robertson's stand with regard to the City Council's abstention from the right of free speech in reference to Lindsay Crawford's meetings on behalf of Irish independence, and appointed Secretary Kinsella to be official correspondent to the Western Labor News.

—The Brandon, Man., Trades and Labor Council has been reorganized. The provisional officers elected were: F. Cose, Musicians, president; J. Williams, Carpenters, vice-president; B. E. Hickling, secretary. Ten locals were represented by delegates having responded to the call of Organizer-Farmilio. Other locals are taking the necessary steps to affiliate.

—The Toronto Trades and Labor Council, upon the recommendation of its Educational Committee, will ask that it be made a part of the duty of teachers and nurses of the Board of Education and the Medical Health Department of the City to report on all cases of insufficiently fed children attending the public schools of the city, and that it be made the duty of these also to report on all children in the city who are insufficiently clothed. The Council will also urge that truant officers also report cases where children are prevented from attending school through lack of proper boots and clothing.

—The Dominion Trades and Labor convention to be held in Winnipeg next September, will be housed in the Royal Alexandra Hotel, in one of the finest auditoriums in the West.

—According to the Workers' Weekly of St. John's, N. S., a number of clerks were summarily dismissed from the employ of the Scotia steel plant at Sydney Mines, in some cases men with families and with no other means of support and are still without employment. The primary reason why certain clerks were dismissed was because of their activity in the Clerical Union which is now dying. Although the steel plant has been practically lifeless all winter, the clerical staff has been kept on with the exception of those dismissed for their activity in the cause of organized labor.

—In speaking before the Social Service Council of Ontario at Peterborough, Premier E. C. Drury pledged the support of the Farmer-Labor government to the fighting of social evils.

—Agricultural implement firms of Brantford, Ont., would not be adverse to trading with Russia, providing financial arrangements are satisfactory, according to George Wedlake, Vice-President and General Manager of the Cockshutt Plow Company.

—By a vote of 55 to 44 the Toronto Trades Council adopted a resolution to hold a meeting in Massey Hall if that place is available on the first Sunday before Labor Monday. The idea is to have a Labor Sunday as well as a Labor Day.

—In the recent report of the Labor Statistics issued by the Ottawa Department of Labor, the national and Catholic unions report local branches of 124, a gain of 41 locals over last year, and a membership of 45,000, a gain of 10,000 members over last year. These large round numbers show that the Catholic unions have not reported their exact numerical strength, but have guessed at their membership. That guess will not err on the side of making the unions smaller than they really are.

—Patrick J. Reid, who was sentenced to three months in jail for heading an unemployed parade in a raid on a restaurant, has been ordered deported from Canada by the Immigration Board on the ground that he is an undesirable British subject and has no right to be in Canada. Reid is appealing from the decision.

—Burglaries have become so numerous in Montreal that the surety companies are refusing to write burglary insurance policies in this city.

AMERICAN NOTES

—Senator Moses has introduced a motion into the United States Senate to investigate the clothing industry, with special reference to the manufacturers and the unions. President Hillman of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers makes two comments on this resolution. He says it is remarkable that such a resolution should be introduced after the majority of the striking workers have won out and are back at work, and asks why the government should waste money on an investigation when the books of the Amalgamated are open and the information can be easily obtained.

—The building trades council of St. Louis, Mo., favors the passage of a national law providing \$50,000,000 to be advanced in small loans not exceeding \$7,000 each for people to build homes with. As America is short a million homes, there is required all the way from three to five billions of dollars for housing. The fifty millions is but one per cent of the capital needed to finance new homes. The United States could find twenty-four billions of dollars for war purposes, and labor asks merely for fifty millions for homes for the people.

—The West Tennessee Teachers' Association have rescinded the resolution passed last year condemning affiliation with the trade union movement.

—The New York assembly, by a vote of 77 to 62, declared vacant the seat of Assemblyman Henry Jager, Socialist, Kings county.

—The rural credits bank of South Dakota has put out \$35,000,000 in less than two years of operation. Farmers of Minnesota carry over \$150,000,000 of high-interest, short-term mortgages.

—Nebraska farmer-labor forces are calling for a referendum upon the repeal of the legislation just passed forbidding picketing of plants and preventing strikers talking to the men who are hired to break a strike.

—The House of Representatives have passed the navy bill carrying appropriations of \$396,000,000, which is nearly three times the navy appropriations for the past year.

—Since congress met in extra session on April 11th last, there have been 1,493 bills introduced in the senate and 5,585 introduced in the house, or a total of 6,988.

—Delegates from seventeen local unions of janitors, elevator operators, charwomen and other building service employees met in Washington recently and formally launched the Building Service Employees' International Union.

—When Roosevelt engineered the Panama deal there is little doubt that certain financiers knew what was going to happen and secured big profits from

buying up the shares of the French Panama Canal company and selling at a much higher figure to the United States government. Now the Columbia treaty has just been put through by which the United States government pays Columbia \$25,000,000 for the Panama Republic in its revolt against Columbia. It is now charged that Columbia agreed to let an American syndicate, in which the Secretary of the Treasury Mellon is prominently interested, have large oil concessions if the treaty were approved. The American people pay, the financiers get the concessions.

—Illiteracy is declining in the United States. Between 1910 and 1920 the class of persons over ten years of age declined from 22.9 per cent to 16.1 per cent in Alabama; from 12.6 per cent to 9.4 per cent in Arkansas; and from 5.1 per cent to 5.9 per cent in Delaware.

—The New York World predicts that next winter coal owners will state the same old excuse for high prices and the public will "bite" again.

IMPERIAL NOTES

—Plain English, a six-penny weekly edited by Lord Alfred Douglas, makes the charge that the translation of the naval code used by the Germans at the battle of Jutland revealed the fact, during the actual fighting of the battle of Jutland that Germany was in communication with some powerful individual in the British Admiralty, and that plans for the escape of the German fleet were being devised by this means.

—Australian unionists are answering the plot of big business to smash their unions by forming a Council of Action on the same lines as that organized in Great Britain in 1920 to fight the Russian blockade. This Council of Action will have power to take any action deemed advisable to combat the scheme to wreck the unions. It has also been decided to form economic councils throughout the country to collect information concerning the administration and control of industry in the event of the working class should decide to initiate a campaign for the control of industry by the working class.

—Recently at Aldershot, England, some soldiers waved a red flag and the soldiers formed a mob and went through the town wrecking shop fronts. The rioting shows the material the British military authorities have been recruiting to try and break the strike of the miners by force.

—Important government works will be begun in Palestine following the approval of Great Britain's mandate over that country by the League of Nations. Railways, postal, telegraph and telephone services, highways, harbors, government buildings, water supply plants and other public utilities are among the improvements planned.

—Owing to threats of the unemployed of St. John's, Newfoundland, to close the legislature, a relief program has been put into effect to give employment to men in and about the city on public works. For this purpose four and a half million dollars have been borrowed in New York by the government of the island colony.

—So greatly has the threat of revolutionary communism moved a large section of the population of New Zealand that advanced Liberals are uniting with organized labor to work for much needed reforms.

—The British government has seized communist documents and is proceeding to bring the communists to trial. It seems strange that with two millions unemployed in Great Britain the government proceeds to try communists instead of looking into the grievances which cause the working class to listen to the communist agitators.

—The Labor government of Queensland has established several baby clinics at Brisbane, under the care of qualified nurses. The clinics are for the use of persons unable to meet the cost of ordinary medical and nursing attention. The welfare of children from birth up to the age of five years is looked after by the clinics, and, where necessary, the homes of the children are visited. Advice and instruction are given to mothers in regard to the care and attention of the children.

—A despatch from London says: The success of the building guilds, the workers' home building organization, which started without a penny of capital, is brought out in a recent statement by S. G. Hobson, their secretary. He says that they now have a weekly income of \$5,000, and that there is every prospect of obtaining contracts from the co-operative societies worth approximately \$1,000,000.

—The National Union of Railwaymen of Great Britain has pronounced against the handing back of the railways to private control.

FOREIGN NOTES

—For many years education of the working class has been recognized in Switzerland as the most important factor in the workers' struggle for emancipation. The political and economic organizations of the workers unite to provide educational facilities for the workers to acquire knowledge in economics, history of socialism and the trade union movement, natural history, science, hygiene and so on. Rooms for classes can be obtained frequently at low cost in a People's House or a public school. Lack of money for these classes brought an interesting proposal to collect a progressive income tax from all the members of the Socialist party.

—Sentiment for disarmament is growing among business men throughout the world. Of 7,000 postcards sent to business men throughout Japan asking for an opinion on the subject, 2,060 replies were received, and 2,000 of these favored a reduction in the naval building program.

—Pilsen, about fifty miles from Prague, in the Czechoslovak Republic is noted chiefly as the place from which Pilsen beer comes. It has the largest brewery in the world. But it is also the place in which were made most of the great guns which Austria used in the war. Some of the great unfinished guns are still there, for when the Republic was declared all work on them was immediately stopped. The huge plant employing thousands of people, whose energies were formerly used to make life-destroying instruments, is now entirely used for the production of locomotives, railway wagons, agricultural implements, motor cars and other transport vehicles.

—Hugo Stinnes, Germany's coal and shipping magnate, locked out 2,000 workmen who refused to launch the latest Stinnes ship because it was named the "Tirpitz".

—The Greeks declare that the persistent rumors of massacres and persecutions by the Greeks in retaliation for Turkish cruelties are pure calumnies invented to neutralize the sympathies of the world. War atrocities stories are always widely circulated by warring nations against their opponents as part of their propaganda work. Such stories generally contain a little truth and great lies.

—An International of young workers has been formed. The aim is to work for the unity of all non-communistic juvenile organizations, with the ultimate purpose of making political socialism the mode of government.

—The Agricultural Workers' Union of Italy, which today numbers 70,000 members, has unanimously retained as general secretary Signora Argentina Altobelli. A woman directs the negotiations of one of the largest and most militant labor organizations of Italy. The main office of the Union is at Bologna.

—The Communists have captured by the ballot Philippopolis, the second largest city in Bulgaria. They obtained 9228 votes and 11 aldermen, against 2538 votes and eight aldermen for the Liberals and 513 votes and one alderman for the Socialists.

—The Italian elections were held on Sunday, May 15th. The first computation of the votes cast, which may be modified by more complete returns, gives the standing of the parties as follows: Coalition Liberals 266 deputies, Socialists 134, Catholics 101, followers of former Premier Nitti 15, Slavs 6, Germans 4. In the former parliament there were 132 Socialists and 19 Communists. As the Fascists went into armed during the election and intimidating the working class voters, the result is a striking one. Later reports may give the Socialists a larger standing. Following its policy of hitting labor wherever it can, the Association of Press in its first despatch after the election declared the Socialists would lose fifty seats. The Socialists actually gained two seats according to the second report and that report is admittedly incomplete.

—The Azerbaijan government in the Caucasus region has issued a decree by which all children from birth to the age of sixteen years shall receive all necessities, food, clothes, etc., free from the state, irrespective of their parent's social position.

—No news is being published from Russia in the employers' press. Were all those stories of Russian atrocities lies, or were they truth and have the Russians suddenly become angels, or has the employers' press laid down on the job of giving the news from Russia?

—The Charter Commission plan provided for some innovations.

—Against the Charter Commission plan were the great majority of the aldermen and their adherents, who knew the wards, knew the electors and had many personal friends. The regular election organization was at the disposal of the opponents of Schedule A. Racial and religious cries were raised, and many of the French Canadians were led to believe that proportional representation would give the majority of the city council to the English minority. This of course is absurd as the French would have representation exactly proportionate to their numbers, and this would give them the majority control.

Organized labor lost out in the vote. But it can safely be said that the majority of the votes cast in the labor wards in favor of Schedule A were cast by members of the unions.

The lesson to be applied is that organized labor must continue its campaign of organization and education. More members must be got to join the unions and those members must have the principles of labor policies brought to their attention by a comprehensive and intensified system of propaganda.

The work of the Charter Commission was not altogether lost, for some of the reforms advocated by the Commission appear in the plan set forth in Schedule B. The Executive Committee of the Council is to appoint a manager and define his duties. The manager will be under the influence of the council more or less, but his hands must be strengthened by the backing of the citizens in his endeavors to fulfill his duties for the benefit of the city at large.

Elections take place in October. It is for all the citizens who have the interests of the public at heart to see that good men are nominated for aldermen, and when nominated to work for their election.

Labor admits of no defeat. There may be delays in the realization of the aims labor desires to achieve, but the cause marches on. In the last campaign, much valuable educational work was done by the speakers who took the opportunity to set forth the benefits of proportional representation and other reforms. Although the electors did not choose to enact these reforms at present, nevertheless a valuable educational campaign was conducted and the thoughts have been sown in the minds of the people that will bear fruit in the future.

—Labor unions of Arizona have just been hard hit by the failure of several private banks in which they had deposited all their funds. The Central Trades Council of Tucson, Arizona, is organizing a co-operative bank which will protect the funds of organized labor in that part of the state.

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Trades and Labor Council Meeting

Labor expresses its confidence in Franco and Foster and prepares for the October elections.

Practically the only business before the Council meeting on Thursday evening was a resolution dealing with the referendum upon the city charter, expressing confidence in labor's representatives, Messrs. Franco and Foster, and thanking all those who assisted labor in the campaign. The resolution was introduced by delegate Jos. Pelletier and seconded by R. Lynch. It read as follows:

Whereas the Montreal Trades and Labor Council had been requested by the Quebec Legislature to delegate two of its members to the Charter Commission, the duties of said Commission were to draw up a Charter for the government of the city of Montreal, and

Whereas after nine or ten months serious studies of the question, a project was submitted to the Legislature by the said Charter Commission, and that the Legislature did not see fit to accept this project, probably because it was found too democratic, and

Whereas a certain group of politicians enemies of Organized Labor, decided opportunist to present an alternative scheme, which was submitted to the electorate at the same time as the project presented by the Charter Commission to a referendum vote, and was adopted; because a most disloyal campaign in which our representatives were particularly and unjustly defamed and abused by the adversaries of the Labor movement, who did not hesitate to employ every means at their disposal even to raise the creed and race cry; be it

Resolved that the Montreal Trades and Labor Council, in spite of base and false statements and a campaign of the most disloyal kind made by our enemies, reaffirm its entire confidence in the delegates charged to defend our principles at the Charter Commission, and before the public; and be it further

Resolved that the Montreal Trades and Labor Council sincerely thanks all those who in any way lent their help in favor of the principles advocated by organized labor from its inception.

The discussion upon this resolution included general opinions as to the results of the referendum and the duty of organized labor to begin the campaign for the October elections. Delegate Blais, of the Plumbers, condemned the tactics of the opponents of Schedule A to appeal to racial and religious issues and cries and to raise passions which it has been the life work of our noblest statesmen to obliterate.

Delegate Foucher of the Fur Workers declared that the lesson of the referendum was to carry on an educational campaign between the elections. Mederie Martin was not responsible for the ignorant vote cast. It is the ignorance of the people which is responsible, and if it were not Mayor Martin who took advantage of that ignorance for personal ends it would be some other person. This ignorance can only be overcome by education.

Delegate R. Lynch declared that labor should remember the epithets that had been hurled at it. It had been insulted by being called everything from an orang outang to a canal horse and many other epithets had been used against labor that were not found in any dictionary. He predicted that within a few years from now labor would be paying the piper for the tune that had been played on May 16th. It should be our endeavor to leave to our children a better heritage than we were enjoying.

Delegate Zavalskof declared that it should not be our part to lament over past events. They were gone. It should be our part to constitute ourselves into labor clubs and committees and work for the triumph of labor at the coming civic elections next October. Italian labor had just shown what could be done.

When the resolution had been unanimously passed, Delegate Foster rose and thanked the Council, on behalf of himself and Delegate Franco, who was absent, for the confidence the Council had so often expressed towards them under the heavy slanders they had suffered. The vote of Monday should convey a lesson. The delegates are supposed to reflect the opinion of the local members, and when the delegates vote upon a subject and instruct their officials to carry out certain mandates, without fully representing the local members, those entrusted with the mandate are placed in an invidious position.

Delegate Foster declared he was not disappointed. It was not the first time labor had suffered a check, but those checks have always been temporary ones. The opponents of organized labor have just triumphed. They too have suffered defeat in the past and may suffer defeat again. Personalities creep into the contest on the side of labor's opponents. They always do in elections. We wish that our opponents had discussed the issues from the standpoint of the principles involved, but they were no doubt sincere in their support of Schedule B. Let us take our opponents at their word. They declared that they were in favor of small wards in order that labor might get representation. Let us see how many we can send to the Council next October. The people by referendum vote have expressed their desire for Schedule B. We submit and are glad to see the referendum principle introduced. Let it be extended to other important legislation.

President Alfred Mathien closed with a few words. He declared that tomorrow, the next day, the day after, labor would be the conquerors.

The following delegates were seated: Bollemakers and Iron Shipbuilders, 134; W. Grange, A. C. Coady, D. S. Clark; Sheet Metal Workers, 116; J. A. Beland; Fur Workers, Arthur Foucher, Emile Perreault, Albert Roy; Lithographers, 27; Jos. Lanson, John P. Christie.

There was no Executive Committee report as there had been no meeting. There were no reports from other committees for the same reason. All had been busy with referendum work.

With regard to the communication of the Plumbers asking the Council to see if the United Mine Workers could be prevailed upon not to ship coal to England during the strike, a communication was read from the Dominion Executive of the Trades and Labor Congress to the effect that the U. M. W. had resolved to remain neutral. As far as Nova Scotia coal was concerned, the Dominion Coal Company had tens of thousands of tons banked and could fill all orders without

calling upon the miners for more supplies, hence the refusal of the miners to mine coal would be useless.

The United Consumers Co-operative announced that it was selling coal and all orders of all sizes of coal could be filled by applying to 419 Ontario Street East. This Co-operative was prepared to furnish coal at the same prices as other dealers, but all workers could become members by subscribing fifty dollars to the capital of the company, payable one dollar a week. They would then share in the dividends on their purchases. The business of the Co-operative was conducted on a cash basis.

The Label Committee announced that a meeting of the Committee would be held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, at 3 Craig Street East, and all delegates representing trades with a card or label are invited to attend without further ceremony.

Delegates Castonguay and Jolivet were unanimously elected to the Credential Committee.

Delegate O. Gauthier suggested that the Trades and Labor Council take a referendum vote as to political candidates nominated in order to test out the will of workers. Delegate Foucher declared he would submit it to his conferees on the Constitution Revision Committee, but as for himself, he was against the proposal. The Trades Council is an economic organization. The Labor party is the political expression of the working class. If the Trades Council is going into the political business, the Labor party would be rendered useless, and trouble would be created by raising political animosities in the economic organizations.

The meeting then adjourned.

CO-OPERATIVE NOTES

—An investigation into the British Co-operative movement shows that the trade of the societies is increasing while that of the private merchants has been dropping. This has always been the case during hard times, the more marked is the growth of the co-operative stores. It is the membership especially which increases during such periods.

—1,650 consumers, including the 30 dairy workers in the plant, have organized the Franklin Co-operative Creamery Association in Minneapolis, capitalized at \$200,000. There are 1,625 square feet of glass in the 2-story creamery to let the sunlight in. All machinery is driven by electric power, and the plant can handle 24,000 quarts of milk in an eight-hour day. The plant opened for business on March 12th last. According to the by-laws of the company, 25 per cent of the profits go to reserve, 5 per cent go for educational purposes, and 70 per cent are returned to the consumers.

—The first quarterly meeting of the Bridgeburg, Ont., Co-operative Society declared a three per cent purchase dividend. That is to say the purchasers were given \$3 for every hundred dollars they had spent at the store. This means a twelve per cent dividend during the year. Many strikes have taken place for or against a ten per cent increase or cut in wages. By organizing a co-operative society and patronizing it, workers can get dividends equal to a ten per cent increase in wages on that part of their income they spend at their own co-operative.

Province of Quebec, District of Montreal, No 1051.

SUPERIOR COURT

Dame Golda Klein, of the City and District of Montreal, wife common as to property with Joseph Marcu Herscu alias Herscovici, merchant, of the same place, Plaintiff,

vs

Joseph Marcu Herscu alias Herscovici, of the City and District of Montreal, merchant, Defendant.

An action in separation as to property has this day been instituted in this cause.

Montreal, 21st April, 1921.

POPLIGER & ROBINSON,
Attorneys for Plaintiff.

17, 18, 19, 20, 21.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

VICTORIA DAY SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICE

(The time shown here is Eastern Standard Time, one hour slower than Daylight Saving Time.)

Laurentian Mountains

Tuesday, May 24th—Train No 437, from Montreal, Place Viger, 7:30 a.m., will carry parlor-car from Montreal to Lachute.

Special train carrying parlor-car will leave Lachute, 5:00 p.m., and arrive Montreal, Place Viger, 9:10 p.m., stopping at all stations Lachute to St. Jerome, also at St. Janvier, Ste. Therese and Mile End.

Lachute—Montreal

Tuesday, May 24th—Special train will leave Lachute 7:30 p.m. and arrive Montreal, Place Viger, 9:05 p.m., stopping at all intermediate stations.

Rigaud—Montreal

Tuesday, May 24th—Train 504, from Ottawa, due at Montreal, Windsor Station, 10:05 p.m., will stop on signal at Dragon, Altonville and Hudson Heights.

TRAIN SERVICE DE LUXE

On and after May 22nd, the "Trans-Canada Limited", the popular Canadian Pacific train from Montreal and Toronto to Western Canada, making the fastest time between terminals of any train in America, will leave Montreal, Windsor Station, 5:00 P. M. daily (Eastern Standard Time). Fort William will be reached in 30 hours, Winnipeg in 42, Regina in 53, Calgary in 67 and Vancouver in 92. This is an all-sleeping car train, carrying sleeping car passengers only, except between Montreal and Ottawa, where a limited amount of parlor car accommodation is available. All the equipment used is of the finest type which includes through sleeping cars dining car and compartment-observation car.

You naturally want to see all you can when you travel, and at the same time reach your destination as soon as possible. This train affords the biggest travel treat that is possible for a trans-continental trip to contain. You are able to see practically every major point

HARMONY OF HELP IN INDUSTRY

THE NATURAL LAW OF CO-OPERATION IS PROGRESS

—The following representative business houses are sympathetic with Labor and are interested in the welfare of not only their own help but of workers generally. They believe in the LABOR WORLD and are assisting its policy of cordial relationship between Employer and Employee

A number of leading firms whose names do not appear in this list are friendly to labor and have shown their sympathy in a practical way.

ORPHEUM

"Polly with a Past"

A rich comedy

FIRST TIME IN MONTREAL.

Prices, Max.: 10, 15, 25, 35c. Etc.: 15, 25c, 50c, 75c. — Popular prices.

ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW

Princess Theatre

Home of the high class vaudeville

Most comfortable theatre in town

ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW

Always Something Good at

LOEW'S

The Union-Right-Through

Million Dollar Playhouse

IMPERIALTHEATRE

ALL NEXT WEEK

Winston Churchill's

"The Inside of the cup"

RICHARD HALE, Baritone.

Theatre comfortable in any weather

ST. DENIS THEATRE

FINEST VAUDEVILLE AND FIRST RUN OF PICTURES

Always a Good Show—Popular Prices

MOST COMFORTABLE THEATRE IN TOWN

CAPITOL

CANADA'S GREATEST PLAYHOUSE

Now Open

ST. CATHERINE ST. NEAR MANSFIELD

DOMINION PARK

NOW OPEN FOR THE SEASON

Bigger and better than ever. New features; latest novelties. Same prices as last year: Adults 15 cts; children 7 cts. Tax