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## DEUX THEORIES A LA LOI DE COMPENSATION

Celle de nos gouvernements qui veut que cette loi ait plutôt un caractère de charité. — Les Unions Internationales qui considère la réparation des dommages comme un droit acquis et une question de simple justice. — Pourquoi nous ne sommes pas satisfaits de cette loi? — Ai-je sacrifié les intérêts des ouvriers pour un plat de lentilles? — Réponse à la "Minerve". — Une organisation ouvrière à l'état embryonnaire qui croit fermement à la parabole: "Les premiers seront les derniers et les derniers seront les premiers!"

Voici ce que "La Minerve" de samedi le 21 février dernier, publiait:

... J'ai lu dans les journaux que l'hon. M. Galipeault a déclaré en Chambre, sur pression de M. Sauvé, que les ouvriers par leur représentant M. Gustave Franco, à Québec, s'étaient déclarés satisfaits de son bill sur les compensations. Le ministre du Travail n'était pas autorisé à faire pareille déclaration. M. Franco n'a pas pu approuver ce projet. S'il l'a fait, il a trahi la mission qui lui avait été confiée, car le bill ne rencontre pas l'adhésion des ouvriers. La parole est à M. Franco. A-t-il ou non approuvé le bill Galipeault? Les ouvriers veulent le savoir. Ils veulent savoir ce que M. Franco est allé faire à Québec. Il y a assez longtemps qu'on nous chante toutes sortes de choses à propos de ces organisations ouvrières qui guttent les positions et s'en accaparent. Nous voulons savoir si les griefs sont fondés. Nous voulons savoir si M. Franco a représenté les intérêts ouvriers ou s'il les a sacrifiés pour un plat de lentilles.

Allons, M. Franco, expliquez-vous. Pourquoi n'avez-vous pas démenti M. Galipeault?

M. Franco est-il à l'emploi du gouvernement de Québec? David.

Je me permettrai d'abord de faire remarquer au correspondant "David" de la "Minerve" que je ne lui reconnais pas le droit de parler au nom des ouvriers en général et encore bien moins au nom de ceux que je représenterais à Québec, à savoir: toutes les unions nationales, locales et internationales affiliées au Congrès des Métiers et du Travail de Montréal et qui comptent plus de 50,000 membres dans notre Province sans recourir au miracle de la multiplication des membres, miracle qui s'accomplissait dans le temps pour le pain et le poisson et de nos jours pour les unions catholiques. Ceux que je représenterais n'ont pas besoin de la "Minerve" — journal qui ne daigne même pas porter l'étiquette de l'union typographique — pour me demander compte de mes actions et dont je ne manqueraï d'ailleurs pas de rendre compte à la convention de Windsor en septembre prochain.

Mais comme après tout il n'y a rien de tel que le choc des idées pour faire jaillir la lumière, je veux bien lui dire que les amendements importants qui ont été apportés à la loi de compensation des accidents du travail ne sont pas ce que nous avions demandé pour la simple raison que nous n'avons pas présenté aucun amendement à cette loi depuis des années, parce que nous sommes convaincus que la base même de la loi est inefficace et ne répond pas aux besoins actuels. La loi de compensation de la Province de Québec fut calquée sur l'ancienne loi française, elle-ci avait plutôt pour objet de venir en aide aux indigents victimes d'un accident du travail que de reconnaître le droit légal de tous les travailleurs à une réparation pour un accident du travail, qui réduisait au lui faisait perdre son pouvoir de production; cette compensation devant être assez élevée pour permettre à la victime de conserver le même pouvoir d'achat — qui est son pouvoir de production — après l'accident qu'avant, le tout garanti par une assurance d'Etat non-contributive en ce qui regarde l'ouvrier, mais alimentée par une taxe sur l'industrie fixée au pro rata des salaires payés et graduée suivant l'étendue des risques inhérents à chaque industrie.

Pour parler en termes brutaux mais plus expressifs, voici une autre définition: Le développement industriel a fait de l'ouvrier ni plus ni moins qu'une partie de la machine, il en est devenu partie intégrale, s'il arrive un accident à une machine, qui est responsable et qui paie les frais d'une nouvelle machine ou de sa réparation; le patron n'est-ce pas? Eh bien, appliquons le même principe brutal à la partie humaine de la machine, si celle-ci se brise ou se détériore soit par un accident ou par une des nombreuses maladies professionnelles le patron est responsable et doit payer les dommages, non pas seulement la moitié ou le quart jusqu'à un certain montant, mais la valeur pleine et entière des dommages, quel que soit le salaire minime ou élevé de la victime. Et comme après tout cette partie animée de la machine est un être humain qui doit être protégé, il faut donc des lois pour forcer le fort à rendre justice au faible et une assurance d'Etat pour lui en garantir le paiement intégral.

Voici maintenant la situation: jusqu'à aujourd'hui, le gouvernement de Québec et l'opposition aussi — à en juger par son silence sur cette question — sont partisans de la première théorie que la loi de compensation est plutôt une loi d'aide aux indigents; car presque chacun de ses articles en porte la marque indélébile; le Congrès des Métiers et du Travail s'est prononcé pour la deuxième théorie — qui est d'ailleurs reconnue aujourd'hui par la majorité des provinces de ce Dominion; il n'y a donc pas d'entente possible sur une question de principe, et c'est pourquoi nous avons présenté la requête suivante à ce sujet:

Loi de compensation des accidents du travail. — Attendu que malgré les amendements qui ont été apportés depuis quelques années à la Loi de compensation dans les accidents du travail afin de faire tomber sous son application le plus grand nombre de cas possible, et malgré que le montant des indemnités ait été augmenté pour faire face à l'augmentation constante du coût de la vie, cette loi n'atteint pas encore le but pour laquelle elle a été créée, qu'il soit résolu: Que nous réitérons notre demande pour la nomination d'une commission qui ferait une étude complète de cette importante question de compensation afin de doter notre Province d'une loi de compensation moderne répondant à notre développement industriel.

Lorsque le Ministre du Travail m'informa qu'il était impossible de nous accorder ce que nous demandions, il s'agissait alors de présenter des amendements à la loi actuelle, c'est ce que je fis, après consultation, avec l'Exécutif Provincial et les députés ouvriers Landreau et Lacombe, et le résultat fut que presque tous les amendements suggérés sauf quelques changements furent adoptés.

Le Ministre pouvait donc déclarer en Chambre que j'étais satisfait des amendements apportés à la loi de compensation sans être obligé de dire que ce n'était pas cela que nous avions demandé et que nous aurions voulu obtenir. C'était le cas de dire une fois de plus: "Quand on ne peut pas avoir un gros pain on se contente d'un petit". C'est d'ailleurs le cas du chef de l'opposition qui voudrait bien être premier ministre, mais qui est obligé de se contenter de trois pelés et d'un tondou pour former la loyale Opposition de Sa Majesté. J'espère que ceci éclaircira la situation.

Il y a malheureusement la fin de l'article de David qui est méchant et injuste, et que je ne crois pas méritée. J'ai toujours eu beaucoup d'estime pour "La Minerve" et son directeur Arthur Sévère, et je ne puis croire que ces lignes auraient été publiées s'il les avait vues. M. Sauvé sait très bien que je ne suis pas un chercheur de positions, que si je l'avais été, j'aurais pu, depuis de longues années être assis près, très près de son siège à Québec ou lui faire vis-à-vis de l'autre côté de la Chambre; il sait très bien aussi que je ne suis ni à l'emploi du gouvernement de Québec ni à celui d'Ottawa, que je n'ai pas craint dans ma vie publique d'appuyer ou de condamner l'un ou l'autre sans égard à mon intérêt personnel, que j'ai le courage de mes convictions, et que je ne crains pas d'en souffrir au besoin; ce qu'il ne sait peut-être pas aussi bien, c'est que je n'ai jamais accepté aucune position ni de Québec ni d'Ottawa, sans avoir été élu à ce poste par une convention régulière ou recommandé par l'Exécutif du Congrès des Métiers et du Travail du Canada.

## LA BALEINE... AVALEE PAR JONAS

Le juge Robson a donné comme motif de sa démission de président de la Commission du Commerce son antipathie pour la loi des "monopoles" et des "prix raisonnables". Quand on songe que depuis la signature de la paix et après les belles récentes que nous avons eues l'automne dernier le coût de la vie a suivi une marche ascendante, on comprend l'ironie d'une semblable législation qui n'a su apporter aucun soulagement à nos maux. Ce président démissionnaire me semble un homme sensé autant qu'honnête et de ne pas vouloir tremper les mains dans cette conspiration des pouvoirs contre l'intérêt public. Il est inutile d'essayer de combattre les mauvais effets d'une cause, quand on laisse la même cause subsister. Si la loi protège les trustards et les exploitateurs, à quel nous sert-il de nous insurger contre eux? Tant que saint Patrice n'est pas chassé les serpents de l'Irlande, il était impossible aux Irlandais de se mettre en garde contre l'inondation de leur venin. Au moment où les fils de la Verte Erin s'y attendaient le moins, une tête se dressait dans un fourré, hideuse et menaçante, sa langue prête à la mortelle "aspersion" qui les empoisonnait. Il en sera ainsi, tant que nous n'aurons pas pris des mesures radicales pour arrêter le fleuve.

L'attitude de M. le juge Robson vient confirmer notre sentiment sur le rôle odieux qu'ont joué ceux qui détournent des monopoles et s'entendent comme larons en force pour nous tromper et nous voler. Un conférencier a prétendu que les capitalistes avaient été bien raisonnables, qu'ils ne nous avaient pas tous jetés aux os et qu'ils nous ont laissé la vie et la quelques toffes de notre belle toison. Nous leur redevrions la reconnaissance d'un petit os de la gorge du loup lui demandant une récompense pour sa petite opération si bien réussie. Le grand égoïste qui lui répondit: "Soyez contents que je ne vous aie pas coupé le cou pendant que vous aviez la tête dans ma gorge!" Je ne sais pas si les capitalistes ont souffert de la guerre, mais il est certain qu'aux Etats-Unis, le nombre des millionnaires a doublé, chez nous également. Voilà qu'ils se paignent maintenant l'avarice et les manèges par le peuple! Mais regardez donc ces manèges s'enfermer, sûrement, est-ce de tout qu'il y a dans ces "autres"? Pauvres millionnaires, qui n'ont plus que le cinquante de leurs bénéfices scandaleux de cet âge d'or de la guerre comme ils appellent le temps horrible que nous venons de passer et qui ressemblait davantage à l'âge de pierre! Ils sont bien à plaindre de ne pas être du côté pour tout sur leurs diverses industries! Gardez-vous d'imposer le revenu, car vous contristeriez ces tendres cœurs! Ils sont d'une générosité, ces riches trustards, ils dotent les villes de bibliothèques, de sanatoriums, d'hospitaux, de monuments, ils rendent au peuple ce qu'ils ont volé au peuple. Préfère-t-on aux millionnaires, c'est à prêter à Dieu, il vous le rend au centuple.

Autrefois, peuple paria, tu peinais tu souffrais, tu étais sacré jusqu'à la moelle par de hideuses sangsues, mais on te plaquait, au moins, des poètes, des romanciers t'ont consacré leurs plus belles pages et ceux là qui t'exploitaient versaient sur tes malheurs des larmes de crocodile! Aujourd'hui, on regarde tes lambeaux avec un sourire sceptique, on te croit un Don César de Bazan qui tire vanité de ses guenilles. Mais ce gueux est riche, émilien, chaque semaine il apparaît en cet hôtel, trente, quarante de lairs à sa famille et quand on n'a pas de débris, on est millionnaire!

Mais ce qu'il lui donne d'une main, on le lui ôte de l'autre. O Garpeuta, n'as pas même la pitié de ce Gargantua qui s'attendrissait parfois sur toi, quand il avait bien mangé et bien bu! Il roule maintenant des yeux de Barbe-Bleue quand il te regarde. Il t'en veut parce que tu manges ses trois repas par jour. Ce n'est pas de la charité, c'est de la pitié, il te fait sauter deux boutons de son pantalon, lui. On avait encore le respect de la pauvreté, il n'y a pas si longtemps.

Julien Saint-Michel.

## Les représentants du travail organisé sur la commission de la charte

Les délégués Franco et Foster ont été choisis comme représentants du Conseil des Métiers et du Travail. — Le différend des employés du havre de Montréal.

L'assemblée régulière du Conseil des Métiers et du Travail de jeudi dernier, sous la présidence de J. T. Foster, fut certainement une des plus intéressantes et plusieurs questions de la plus haute importance furent le sujet de la discussion. Le secrétaire A. Mathieu fit la lecture du rapport du Comité exécutif du Conseil, recommandant que les officiers du Conseil de la Construction coopèrent avec les organisateurs internationaux en faveur de la campagne d'organisation entreprise par les différents unions internationales. Le rapport fut adopté. M. J. E. Girard a été élu président du Comité exécutif, et le délégué Alphéus Mathieu, secrétaire.

Dans le rapport du comité exécutif il fut aussi fait mention du différend des employés du havre de Montréal dont un grand nombre furent renvoyés de leurs travaux sans avoir été entendus. On s'est intéressé à l'attention du département du travail à Ottawa, auquel une demande d'arbitrage a été faite. Le conseil accorda son support moral à ces ouvriers. Le sujet dominant de l'assemblée fut le choix de délégués pour représenter le Conseil sur la commission de la charte. La majorité des membres était favorable à cette représentation. Les autres voulaient que le Conseil s'abstienne de nommer des délégués, ce qui amène un très long débat où chacun exprima son opinion sur la question.

Ceci fut le résultat d'une lettre reçue du président de la Commission Administrative, M. E. R. Décarie, avisant le Conseil que les délégués devaient être nommés en dehors d'un mois de la sanction de la loi, autrement le lieutenant-gouverneur en conseil aurait le pouvoir de faire des nominations et comme le temps s'écoulerait rapidement, il fallait donc se hâter. Les délégués Lynch et Lemieux proposèrent que la lettre fut acceptée et que le Conseil nommât les deux délégués tel que requis.

Les délégués Alfred Mathieu et A. Vaillancourt proposèrent un amendement à la question soit déposée sur la table. A leur point de vue si le Conseil nommait deux délégués sur cette commission de révision de la charte, le conseil, par le fait même, approuvait tout ce que le gouvernement avait fait concernant les affaires de Montréal. Le délégué Alphéus Mathieu, secrétaire, déclara que le Conseil ne pouvait véritablement pas s'abstenir de participer au travail de cette commission. Qu'advient-il, demanda M. Mathieu, si le Conseil refusait de participer à ces débats? En supposant qu'un mode d'administration soit suggéré qui ne concernerait pas les vus des ouvriers syndiqués et que ceux-ci le refusèrent sur

Comme vice-président de l'Exécutif de la Province de Québec du Congrès Ouvrier du Canada, j'ai été recommandé par mes camarades pour le représenter sur la Commission de l'Unification des Lois, ils ont apparemment confiance en moi, et ils doivent me connaître depuis trente-deux ans que je suis membre des Unions Internationales, il y en a même qui prétendent que je connais mieux les lois de ce pays que beaucoup de législateurs et d'avocats, ils n'ont peut-être pas tout-à-fait tort, puisque depuis une dizaine d'années, j'ai publié divers Livres de Lois, de Manuels Pratiques, etc.; bref, ils m'ont recommandé, devais-je refuser, parce qu'une organisation encore actuellement à l'état embryonnaire n'y sera pas représentée? Et si je ne refuse pas, serais-je pour cela un chercheur de place et aurais-je pour cela sacrifié les droits des ouvriers pour un plat de lentilles? A chacun de vous de donner la réponse qui convient!

Gus. Franco.

longtemps. De nobles âmes s'inclinaient vers elle. Le misérable avait sa majesté que le Christ avait dédaignée, mais on lui pardonnait aujourd'hui. On fait plus que le renier, on le nie! C'est Poncet qui est allé d'avoir mangé la grande vache caillée et Jonas convaincu d'avoir avalé la baleine! Je suis sûr que c'est lui qui cache les jambons, le bacon, les volailles dans son hangar. Dans la poche des queteux vous trouverez des "victory bonds" et des coupons d'impôt du Pacifique. Les ententes ne reculent pas les victuailles que vous croyez. Ces réfrigérateurs sont des espèces d'arches de Noé où se réfugièrent les gens du Griffintown quand le Saint-Laurent inonda le bas de la ville. Vous imaginez vous que les trustards traient caeler leurs commestibles au su et au vu de tout le monde, sans le nez de la police fédérale. C'est le peuple qui détient les tinettes de beurre, les meules de fromages, les barils de sucre!

Imaginez si le conférencier qui a proclamé le désintéressement des capitalistes a été acclamé. Pour une originalité, c'en est une! Eux-mêmes n'en croyaient pas leurs oreilles. Ils étaient les victimes et se pensaient les bourreaux, quelle surprise! En reconnaissance de leur virginité rafistolée, ils parlent d'offrir une bourse à cet intelligence orateur. Ils lui doivent bien cela, car cette découverte va révolutionner les sciences économiques, en même temps que réhabiliter les trustards devant l'opinion publique. L'innocence est toujours reconnue. Ce bourgeois, qui n'est pas allé pendu, assez raisonnable! Ils étaient grugés et ils ne s'en doutaient guère. De vrais paillers perdus sans le savoir. On les taxait de durés, d'égoïstes, alors que c'était le peuple qui manquait de cœur et caressait ses bienfaiteurs. Je suis même d'avis que si on ressuscitait la procession du 24 juin, on proumerait bourgeois pour représenter le monteur national. Il est si utile et si rose, si innocent, il ne lui manque que la peau de l'agneau.

Julien Saint-Michel.

Le président Foster profita de l'absence pour parler des fausses interprétations concernant le travail organisé dans la ville de Montréal telles que publiées par la "Gazette" contre M. Bruce. Il dénonça la politique de la "Gazette" envers le travail.

Le délégué Bruce parla en faveur de la campagne d'organisation entreprise par le Conseil des Métiers et de la construction et des effets désastreux des grèves durant l'année passée. Le but de cette campagne est de négocier paisiblement avec les employeurs pour améliorer les conditions des membres de la construction. Il réfuta aux attaques faites contre lui et contre le travail organisé par la "Gazette", qui s'est toujours montrée contre le travail organisé. Il ne veut pas être louangé par la "Gazette", car son record dans le mouvement ouvrier fait foi de tout.

Le conférencier Bruce annonça qu'une assemblée monstre aurait lieu lundi prochain à la salle de l'hôtel de ville de Saint-Louis, et que cette assemblée était entreprise dans le but d'obtenir plus de justice pour les travailleurs.

L'organisateur Rivière, des ouvriers textiles, annonça qu'une délégation complète de l'union textile 2003 serait présente à la prochaine assemblée du conseil pour affiliation. Il rapporta que récemment 22 employés de l'union textile 2003 ont été licenciés et que peu après, 15 membres de l'union furent licenciés simplement parce qu'ils appartenaient à l'union. Le cas fut porté devant le département du travail à Ottawa. Ceci était basé sur le fait qu'un travail de propagande avait été fait sur les propriétés du moulin. Lorsque le traité de paix a été signé, le droit des travailleurs de s'organiser a été reconnu, mais à l'heure de la paix, cela, certains employeurs, font encore ce droit à leurs employés. M. Rivière dit que des compagnies payaient leurs employés tous les mois, et que ceux-ci voulaient leur salaire chaque semaine. Certaines jeunes filles travaillaient dans une fabrique à Saint-Jérôme jusqu'à 9 heures p.m., et cela sans permis. Cette compagnie a été mise à l'amen pour 455. Notre but n'est pas la révolution comme le croient certains employeurs, mais, au contraire, l'évolution.

Plusieurs autres questions furent référées au comité exécutif pour action. Les délégués suivants furent admis à siéger: Ouvriers bijoutiers: A. Ducharme, Hamelin, Gagnon, T. Mathieu; Fraternité des charretiers: J. A. Laplante, W. Crépeau, W. Mathieu, D. Charrest, S. Bagnard; Tailleurs de pierres: P. Maisonneuve, S. Paradis, F. Charrette; Union Internationale des travailleurs en cuir: Ed. Vale; Union des Constables: A. Bonchard, J. A. Filiatreault, A. Tourangeau, E. Bellé, E. L. Heures, R. Childs, W. Laflamme, T. Pigeon, M. Meade.

AU MARCHÉ SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE

Suivant une décision du Conseil de Construction de commencer une campagne de propagande à travers Montréal et la banlieue, en faveur de l'Union Internationale, grande assemblée fut tenue, lundi dernier, dans la salle du marché Saint-Jean-Baptiste. Le camarade Narcisse Aréand, organisateur de la Fraternité Unie des charpentiers-menuisiers d'Amérique, dans un discours très vigoureux défendit le travail organisé et montra les succès obtenus par son organisation sous le drapeau de l'Internationale, et avec raison, se demandant qu'est-ce que certains personnes lui connaissant absolument rien du problème ouvrier — vu qu'ils n'appartiennent pas à cette classe — de vouloir, sans prétexte d'améliorer le moral des travailleurs, vouloir les diviser, ce qui aura pour résultat une guerre de race qui ne peut être profitable aux travailleurs et dangereuse pour la religion. L'organisation existante depuis de nombreuses années parmi les travailleurs est suffisante pour leur protection et aucune autre n'est nécessaire, à moins que l'on veuille diviser les ouvriers au profit des capitalistes. Ont également parlé à cette assemblée, A. Bastien, de la Fédération Américaine du Travail, Rivière, organisateur des ouvriers textiles d'Amérique, A. Boldart, du Monde Ouvrier, et le camarade John Noble, organisateur général des ouvriers électriciens.

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## CHRONIQUE OUVRIERE LOCALE

UNE NOUVELLE BOULANGERIE COOPERATIVE. Samedi soir, au No 417 rue Ontario Est, les ouvriers boulangers ont tenu une grande assemblée ouverte, pour discuter la nouvelle organisation de la boulangerie coopérative que veulent établir les ouvriers du Nord de la Ville. La charte d'incorporation de la boulangerie dévolue par le gouvernement de Québec est arrivée et d'intéressantes discussions furent faites au cours de cette assemblée.

CHEZ LES TRAVAILLEURS EN CAOUTCHOUC. Une assemblée de propagande a été tenue à la salle Ferras, samedi dernier, sous les auspices du local 16574 des travailleurs en caoutchouc dans le but de continuer, sous les soins de ses nouveaux officiers, le travail de propagande de l'équipe.

UN NOUVEAU CLUB OUVRIER. C'est le quartier Laurier-Ouironment qui vient de se doter d'un nouveau club ouvrier. Il y a quelques semaines, un groupe d'ouvriers décida d'établir un club ouvrier politique. Après quelque temps de réflexion, la création fut faite et les officiers choisis. Ont été élus: Président, W. Dickson; vice-président, S. Dolé; secrétaire, Emile Duguet; trésorier, M. Wilkinson. Une assemblée fut tenue lundi dernier, à la salle Normand, 13 rue Fairmount et des affaires bien conduites ont été traitées.

LE LOCAL 360 DES CHARRIERS. Comme le Conseil de Construction, le local 360 des charretiers, Union Internationale, a décidé de commencer une série d'assemblées de propagande. La première a eu lieu dimanche dernier, dans la salle du Transport, sous la présidence de H. Julien.

UN COMITÉ SPÉCIAL A ÉTÉ NOMMÉ POUR étudier la nouvelle échelle de salaires à présenter au printemps prochain. Après cette assemblée, 75 nouveaux membres se sont fait inscrire pour devenir membres de l'Union des charretiers.

CLUB OUVRIER SAINT-JACQUES. C'est un fait accompli, le club ouvrier Saint-Jacques est né, et nous lui souhaitons longue vie et succès. Après cette assemblée, est formé un comité directeur, dont les membres sont: président, H. Massé; vice-président, H. Paquet; 2e vice-président, J. S. Burproux; secrétaire, J. A. F. Quesset; trésorier, O. Phlipps; Bégold. On a également formé un comité d'organisation, qui se compose des camarades H. A. Pouchet, H. Deunneuf, J. A. Guinay, A. Hébert, et B. Drolet.

PROBABLEMENT, nous connaîtrons le programme des cercles et moyens du club, qui sera affilié au parti ouvrier de Québec, section de Montréal.

## CHAUSSURES POUR HOMMES

Une raison pour les annoncer. Quand notre rayon des chaussures nous demanda d'annoncer des bottines à 7.95 nous avons demandé sur quel point nous devions appuyer principalement. La réponse nous fut: prix bon marché. "Ce sont des chaussures bonnettes" nous a-t-on répondu. "Comment bonnettes", toutes les chaussures Goodwin ne sont-elles pas bonnettes? "Certainement, mais à 7.95 nous offrons une bottine en cuir solide que laquede ou peut comparer. C'est du cuir de France, mais c'est du bon cuir. Fini ton métal, trépoints Goodwin, à laers, bon cuir ou pointu". Grandeur pour hommes ou garçons, 5 1/2 à 11. Au rez-de-chaussée.

## CHAUSSETTES WOLSEY

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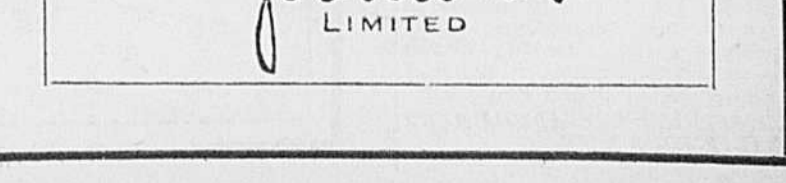
Le nom "Wolsey" est une garantie suffisante. C'est la meilleure qualité que nous ayons vue depuis plusieurs années. C'est un plaisir pour nous de vous conseiller d'en acheter plusieurs paires à ces prix. Laine, noir et mélanges de vert et brun.

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### LA LIBERTE POUR TOUS

Le 24 de janvier dernier je rappelais moi-même, aux lecteurs de ce journal, quels engagements le parti ouvrier d'Angleterre avait pris à la face du monde, pour l'application dans l'Empire britannique, du droit des peuples à disposer d'eux-mêmes.

J'ai cité un passage du message que ce parti adressa le 15 janvier 1918, c'est-à-dire un an environ avant la fin des hostilités, au peuple russe, dont les chefs négociaient à ce moment-là la paix avec l'Allemagne.

La Russie avait présenté comme base des pourparlers, six principes dont les plus importants, pour ce qui me concerne dans cette discussion, comportaient le droit des peuples à choisir leur forme de gouvernement et l'autonomie des minorités. C'était le nouveau droit public sur la liberté des nationalités qui allait recevoir une universelle consécration. Les délégués allemands le repoussèrent.

C'est alors que le parti populaire anglais intervint et, le premier, engagea formellement son avenir et sa situation électorale en adressant à la Russie le message de janvier 1918, dont j'extraits à nouveau le passage suivant, afin que mes lecteurs se pénètrent de son importance:

"Le peuple anglais doit faire savoir à la Russie et aux puissances du Centre, que ses buts sont identiques à ceux de la Russie, et que nous aussi, nous ne voyons pas d'autre solution aux maux causés par le militarisme, que l'autonomie des peuples et la paix sans indemnités. En appliquant ce principe russe pour nous-mêmes, nous avons conscience des questions soulevées, mais nous ne nous en écarterons pas."

Appliquée à l'Angleterre, cette déclaration de principe indique qu'une fois arrivé au pouvoir, la liberté sera offerte au nom de la nation anglaise à tous les groupes nationaux qui la réclameront dans l'étendue de l'Empire britannique.

S'il était besoin d'une autre précision pour désiller les yeux encore fermés au jour, le programme du parti anglais, adopté le 28 décembre 1917, publié dans le "Vétéran" de mars 1918, nous la fournirait nette et définitive. Comment se prononce-t-il sur la question des colonies? Vous allez le voir:

"If we in Britain are not to escape from the decay of civilization itself, we must ensure that what is presently to be built is a new social order, based not on fighting, but on fraternity—not on an enforced dominion over subject nations, subject races, subject colonies, subject classes, but, in industry as well as in government, on that equal freedom, that equal consciousness of content, and that widest possible participation in power, both economic and political, which is characteristic of democracy."

J'ai tenu à transcrire le texte même du programme ouvrier anglais, afin qu'aucune fautive interprétation puisse être possible. En voici la traduction libre:

"Si la civilisation anglaise veut échapper à la décadence et à la ruine, il faut qu'elle crée aujourd'hui un nouvel ordre social fondé non sur la force mais sur la fraternité, non sur la domination imposée aux nations conquises, aux races subjuguées, aux colonies et aux classes exploitées, mais, tant dans l'industrie que dans le gouvernement, sur la liberté égale pour tous, sur le consentement général et délibéré et sur la plus complète participation à l'exercice du pouvoir pour le règlement des questions économiques et politiques qui est l'appanage de la vraie démocratie."

Ainsi, et ce qui donne encore plus de force à nos espérances patriotiques, c'est non seulement par un sentiment de justice et de générosité envers les peuples conquis, mais encore dans un but de préservation de la civilisation occidentale, que la doctrine du self-determination s'impose aux grandes nations modernes, et en particulier à l'Empire dont dépend le Canada-français.

Les Anglais n'ignorent point que les peuples étrangers de race et de religion que le sort des armes ou les décisions de la diplomatie ont courbés sous la domination britannique, supportent le joug avec impatience. Quand les Anglais mêmes, en Australie et en Canada, réclament l'égalité politique avec le Royaume-Uni pour ce qu'ils appellent les nations-soeurs du Commonwealth britannique, c'est que l'ancien état de choses et l'ancienne conception des rapports de métropole à dépendances subissent un changement profond. Les Anglais éclairés voudraient éviter à leur patrie, le sort des vieilles civilisations de Babylone, d'Égypte et de Carthage, fondées et maintenues sur la force des armes. Malheureusement, il y a encore un groupe puissant d'impérialistes aux colonies et en Grande-Bretagne qui s'efforcent de retarder l'heure des grands règlements. Mais, comme ils ont perdu tout appui dans le monde, couvert aujourd'hui de républiques démocratiques, leur importance va en diminuant.

tion. Tout remaniement de frontières jugé nécessaire, devra être exclusivement basé sur le désir du peuple que cela concerne.

Ce principe général posé, le congrès en fait l'application, avec les modalités jugées nécessaires, à la Belgique, aux Balkans, à l'Autriche, à la Pologne, à l'Italie, etc.

"Partout, décide-t-il, où des populations de même race et de même langue demandent d'être réunies, cela doit être fait."

Ce cas prévoit l'union hypothétique des Académies des Provinces Maritimes et des Canadiens de l'Ontario à ceux de la province de Québec, pour la constitution d'un état franco-américain indépendant.

"Dans chaque état souverain et indépendant et dans les limites de son territoire seront considérées l'autonomie locale et la sécurité nécessaire au développement de la civilisation particulière de chaque minorité;

"La liberté religieuse et l'égalité politique de toutes les races seront universellement garanties."

Le règlement de la question italienne dans l'Adriatique doit se faire d'après les mêmes principes:

"S'il se trouve des groupements appartenant à la race esclavonne dans les limites du royaume d'Italie telles qu'elles seront fixées par le nouveau traité, ou bien des groupements de race italienne en territoire esclavon, des garanties mutuelles devront être données pour assurer à tous et à chacun d'eux, d'un côté ou de l'autre, la pleine liberté d'établir un gouvernement local tiré d'eux-mêmes et le développement naturel de leurs activités respectives."

Des garanties semblables pourront être échangées pour la protection des groupes anglo-saxons demeurés dans la région laurentienne et celle des colo-

de langue française établies dans les provinces britanniques. "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander."

Tout indique que la fin des querelles de race et de religion en Canada comme ailleurs est proche, grâce à l'application large et loyale, sans arrière-pensée ni calcul, du principe des nationalités.

Ce pays du Québec fut et est resté au fond terre française. C'est un état de fait qui n'a besoin que d'être reconnu de bonne foi par tous pour ramener le bonheur sur cette moitié septentrionale du continent américain.

W. Gascon.

### ATTENTION POUR L'AVENIR

La division qu'on espère créer parmi notre mouvement ouvrier est un danger pour l'avenir, non seulement pour les travailleurs qui doivent résister à cette division, mais aussi pour la classe qui la provoque. Quand on manipule des matières explosives, c'est à ses risques et périls.

Les auteurs directs ou indirects de cette agitation peuvent s'attendre à être, tôt ou tard, atteints par ce mouvement provoqué par eux. Qui sème le vent récolte la tempête.

C'est pour avoir jeté, durant trente-cinq ans, la division parmi la classe ouvrière belge, par la création des soi-disant socialistes catholiques, que le gouvernement actuel doit subir les exigences de quatre ministres socialistes.

Nous n'en sommes pas encore rendus là en cette province, mais de la manière dont on veut conduire la classe ouvrière, le microbe du socialisme pourra se développer rapidement. Alors seront-ils plus heureux ceux qui veulent la destruction du mouvement trade-unioniste?

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Affiliée à la Fédération Américaine du Travail

Gou. FRANCO, Editor and Publisher  
Vice-President of the International Labor Press.

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LE PROBLEME DE L'HEURE

Appel aux anciens élèves de l'Université de Montréal

L'Université de Montréal est fondée. Le souffle vivifiant de l'esprit animerait cette oeuvre.

Nous sommes, au Canada, les représentants de la civilisation catholique et française de la culture latine. Ce lourd héritage, il le faut transmettre intact et accru aux générations futures. Ce sont les actes qui louent. L'heure décisive sonne.

La guerre est finie. Une autre lutte commence, plus longue, aussi acharnée: la lutte économique. La stratégie et l'économie ont gagné la première.

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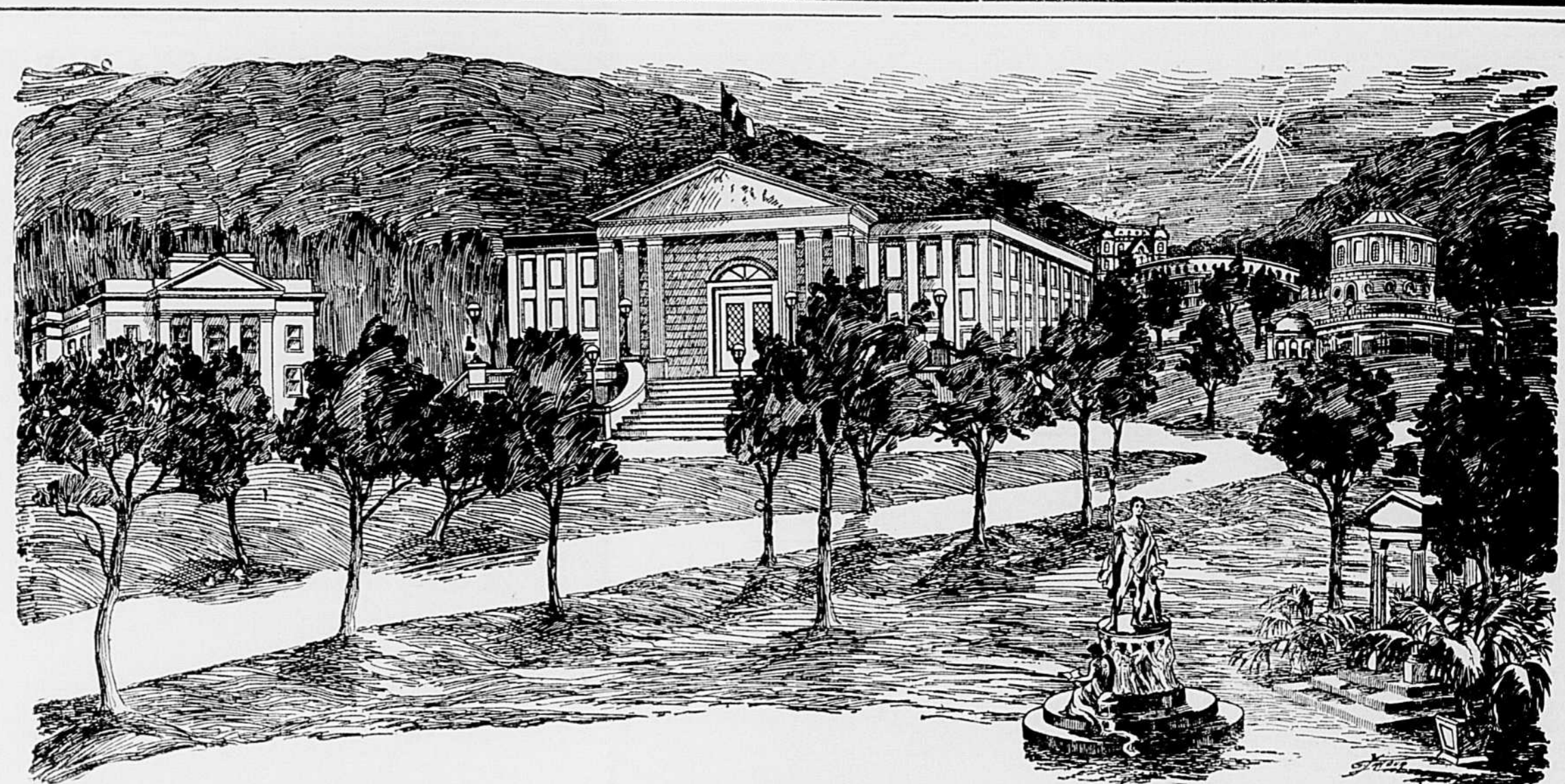
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Les souscriptions à l'Université de Montréal n'est pas un don. Elle constitue, bien au contraire, le meilleur des placements. C'est à la patrie canadienne-française que nous prêtons. Nous devenons des coopérateurs actifs de son développement, de son épanouissement. Nous aidons au maintien de ses clochers que surmonte toujours le fier coq gaulois. A la survivance de sa langue, claire comme de l'eau de roche, et à la défense de ses traditions, que cent cinquante ans d'épreuves n'ont fait qu'enrichir davantage dans nos coeurs; le rendement sera de cent pour cent.

SEVERIN LETOURNEAU, C.R.,  
Président du Comité des Anciens Elèves.



# PREPARONS L'AVENIR

*"Le plus riche n'est pas toujours celui qui possède le plus d'argent; une solide éducation est une fortune inépuisable."*

L'Université de Montréal sera ce que nous la ferons. Si nous la voulons humble, sans grandeur, ni influence, souscrivons chichement.

Si, au contraire, nous la voulons grande et belle, vaste et digne des aspirations de la race dont elle doit être le symbole, donnons-lui des assises inébranlables, un domaine illimité et les millions indispensables à son succès.

Préparons l'avenir. Armons nos enfants pour les luttes qui les attendent dans tous les domaines.

Que chaque industrie, chaque groupe, chaque famille, que chacun de nous pauvre ou riche, ouvrier, artisan, ou bourgeois, fasse son devoir comme canadien, son devoir comme mandataire du génie français en cette libre terre d'Amérique.

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5th Year — No. 10

SAMEDI, 6 MARS 1920 — MONTREAL — SATURDAY, MARCH 6th, 1920

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## STRONG ANSWER TO "GAZETTE"

Capable reader tells his views of the Catholic National Unions and the sympathy shown for them by Montreal's big capitalistic paper. — Too sad for tears is the plea.

An interesting letter addressed to the Editor in person is printed here, because of its wide judicial character and its sane avoidance of verbal counterfeiting, which could not be said of the editorial in the "Gazette" which is being attacked. Readers must bear in mind that the Roman Catholic Church is not being criticised, merely the editorial.

Dear Mr. Francey:

Has the staid old Gazette gone crazy? Do I believe my eyes? "Shiver my timbers!" as the seafarers say when the ocean surprises them and "Oh's and Ah's" galore were all occasioned by seeing an editorial in the Gazette on Thursday, February 26 last, headed "Where is the Minister of Labor?"

After reading it one could easily ask "Where is the Gazette?" for it had three thoughts only praising the Catholic National trade unions, attacking John Bruce of Toronto, an old time Labor leader of prominence and then the danger of a building strike was hung up on a lot of lies about International Labor and the Minister of Labor (Federal).

A clever thing was said in an American paper the other day in that some price fixers get their idea of "fair" from the weather, and this, I am sure, applies to the Gazette writer and the effort he made to rob laurels from the brow of Baron Muechhausen. The Oujia Board, Sir Oliver Lodge, Conan Doyle, have been styled the "Who's Who" of psychic liars, but the "Who's Who" of Labor liars is the Gazette.

The way they praise the Catholic National Unions of Quebec would make one think that His Holiness the Pope, who is in a sense the Gompers of the National Union which is purely the Catholic Church, had given some new honor to the Gazette President, the arch enemy of Organized Labor of the International brand.

Now the Gazette is essentially a Protestant paper; it is more. It is so intensely Anglican in its prejudices that its reporters and editors are warned especially to favor anything Anglican that comes to their notice. It is nearly Orange in its Protestantism and this cloak of favoring the National Unions and challenging the International to say if they were not trying to absorb the Nationals by adroit measures or otherwise, is deception purely.

To quote what was attributed to John W. Bruce, International Organizer for the Plumbers, gives us the milk in the coconut, for it sets the big capitalistic paper going. He said at a meeting in Montreal in connection with the Building Trades Council:

"We are out to show the workers of the province of Quebec the fallacy of the national union. The national union in the province of Quebec tends to produce only racial and religious strife between the workers on the industrial field when their economic interests are one."

One can see what a nice, sensible editorial could have been written about this very frank and kindly statement, one that would have done some good from an illuminating and constructive standpoint.

With an admirable gravity, the Gazette jumps from Mr. Bruce to the action of the National Industrial Conference in Ottawa when Tom Moore, President of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, and the Minister of Labor refused to recognize Catholic Unions in this Province. In telling one lie they call the Minister of Labor a liar, he having asked with laudable curiosity how many members the Catholic Unions had, and was told 3,000. The Gazette stated that at Three Rivers the Catholic Convention had delegates representing 30,000, which is pure rot.

There is a French expression that I cannot refrain from using which says: "Mentez! Mentez!" it en restera toujours quelque chose" and so the Gazette keeps on lying. Charge is laid that the Minister of Labor and his cohorts tried to absorb the Catholic Unions and failed. Then is left the unspoken consolation of "failing to absorb they set out to destroy". How, pray? By trying to make "their economic interests one", as suggested by Mr. Bruce?

Contrast is made between the two unions by stating that the ideals of the two are not the same. "That's why the absorption failed". "They are hopelessly in conflict", are the words used. Why then did Mr. Bruce state truthfully, and it is about the only true thing in the editorial, "that this Catholic union tends to produce racial and religious

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strife between workers on the industrial field, when their economic interests are one? The Gazette knows well which is true. They know well that Organized Labor in Canada does not pay large sums of money to the treasury of the American Federation of Labor, but on the other hand receives support from the big parent body,—Aye support and protection just as this Dominion of Canada is a part and parcel of the British Empire, but it costs the Motherland, millions to protect her colony.

I do not pretend that the Catholic Unions may not do good. I might as well say that the Catholic Church did not do good, and I as a Protestant, have nothing against that wonderful organization. But listen to audacious hope found in the Gazette's expression that the Catholic Union is all Canadian. It is, if it applies to Quebec Canadians, and that again in a logical sequence verifies what Mr. Bruce said. There should not be any such word as French Canadian, or Irish Canadian, but just Canadian, as good old Sir Wilfrid tried to impress when he pointed to the graves in the west and concluded that like Queen Mary said when she died they would find "Calais" written on her heart, Sir Wilfrid said at the end of a masterly speech "Canada" would be found written on his heart.

Where will this Catholic Union business end? If the Gazette had known all that Mr. Bruce said and had printed it there would not have been any racial jealousies excited against him. Bruce said he had nothing against organizations of trades unions having their individual religious liberties and so on but the end would be, there would be Protestant Unions and then there would be the regular whirlpool of strenuous activity to make a Presbyterian, a Baptist, a Methodist union and what not. Why the Salvation Army could make the finest union in the world, for with them they have no creeds or dogmas, but just Golden Rule to guide their spiritual growth to eternal rest.

The following resolution passed at the Three Rivers convention of the National Unions is worthy of note because the Gazette with childlike trust printed it in all its camouflage (this with no unkindness):

"Whereas certain rumors have circulated at large, alleging that the Catholic National Unions do not protect Protestant workmen on labor questions, the Convention protests against this false allegation, and enters the following protest: The National Union of the South Shore Workmen earnestly protests that it has protected, and still protects Protestant workmen on all labor questions, by giving them a joint member's card, which guarantees all necessary protection."

Protect the Protestant in what way? Is what I ask you, Mr. Francey. Protect nothing! The Protestant member has not even a vote, and the Gazette knows it but they know which side their political bread is buttered, and are taking a leaf out of Labor's book, that is International Labor — and argue for special privilege.

Supposing the Canadian Manufacturers' Association were to organize along religious lines. Or can such an absurdity be even imagined? Just to think of the innocence of the Gazette editors. One can picture them chuckling together over these lies, which no sane person who knows the conservative, well balanced editorial policies of the Gazette generally, could swallow in a thousand years.

I recall Kipling's remarkable delineation of just what the Gazette really thinks and it is this:  
"And when they labor to impress, I will  
Since I, myself, have done no less and  
sometimes pulled it off.  
Yes, as we are and we are not, and we  
pretend to be,  
The People Lord, Thy people, are good  
enough for me."

Then the Gazette insinuates "something" very bad of course that is known in the life of Mr. Bruce when he was in South Africa, Great Britain, and St. John, N.B. Oh! "the heat of his mind"! and if the Minister of Labor does not "show him up" in the House of Commons, then the Acting Prime Minister must see that the Catholic Unions get due protection.

Mr. Bruce can look well after himself, and if ever the Gazette dare send his editor to meet Mr. Bruce on the platform, he will get something that will cause him to forever keep silent in damning Organized Labor.

As a friend of Labor and a Protestant I hope you may find space in your very interesting paper for these somewhat discursive remarks, for which I am thanking you.

A Protestant Worker.  
—In Winnipeg, where the Firemen's Union was destroyed by the big strike, last May, a new body has been formed called the Firemen's Association, to take the place of the union. Their first official move is reported to have been to petition the city council for a raise of salary ranging from 15 to 40 per cent.

—It is interesting to see in all Provinces where there is no Labor Minister, eager interest in taking getting one as soon as possible. In New Brunswick, the St. John Trades & Labor Council have formally asked for a Minister of Labor in that Province. Hope they get a good one!

## PUBLIC OWNERSHIP DEFENDED

"Labor demands" as voiced by big capitalistic newspaper ably dealt with. — Facts and figures prove the wisdom of all public utilities being taken out of private hands.

After a brief breathing spell, the Gazette takes up the cudgels again in the good old reactionary way and has another fling at Labor. In the issue of February 18th, we are treated to a leader entitled "Demands of Labor", wherein many obsolete and antiquated ideas are set forth. It may be well to draw attention to some of these.

In Britain, we are told, Labor is so powerful that it boldly demands the nationalization of all Public Utilities entering into the life of the people. Nothing could be more admirable than such a demand, and it is to be hoped that Labor in Britain will be resolute enough to see it enforced. For all signs point to a Labor Government in Britain in the near future. And what Labor can do in Britain, Labor can do in Canada. In Britain (the Gazette goes on), Labor makes the claim that it would work more efficiently for the State than for Private Owners. Well Labor ought surely to know its own mind on this point. There is no reason to doubt that it means what it says.

The Gazette then proceeds to lay a new card on the table. It tells us that Mr. Lloyd George scornfully ridiculed such a claim. Let us hasten to assure the Gazette that Labor in Britain does not concern itself any longer either with the ridicule or the praise or the measure of anything whatever emanating from The Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George. Labor has so frequently failed in its endeavours (and they were many and earnest) to pin that astute and agile opportunist down to something definite, that it has now given up the task. The last job the Rt. Hon. Gentleman administered to British Labor to induce it to meet his wishes was the Sankey Commission, on the question of the nationalization of British Coal Mines. He promised faithfully to abide by the decision of this Commission. The Commission recommended Nationalization. But, by this time Mr. Lloyd George had changed his mind. Mine Owners or Coal Merchants, or somebody or other, had applied pressure. There was to be no Nationalization. And so British Labor became distrustful; it had been fooled once too often.

The argument of Labor, says the Gazette, is that it is working for the State, it is working for itself, and not swilling the profits of Private Individuals. An excellent argument, quite unanswerable. But when our leader writes continues: "There is no instance in which it can be shown that Labor works better for the State than the Individual. The contrary is the case!" we pause in some astonishment. Apparently, our worthy contemporary has not yet heard all the particulars of the Great War in which the British Empire was recently engaged. He will find as the result of a little study that the British people (and the Canadian people) did tremendous things for their Governments during that War — to say nothing of the efforts of French, Belgians, and people of other nationalities. These efforts were for the State — for the Nation — for the whole people. A very large percentage of the shops in Britain were controlled by the Government during that period. Those that were not controlled were working for the same cause. To suggest that the same tremendous exertions would have been made for nothing more than the profit of Capitalists and other greedy persons, is to suggest something quite ridiculous. Nothing like the Industrial efforts of the Allied Nations was ever seen before. It was the greatest instance on record of the undoubted fact that Labor will work better for the State than for the Individual.

However, to drag in the War is perhaps unfair. Times were abnormal then. We can assure the Gazette, however, that in Britain, at any rate, Municipal ownership was practised very successfully long before the War. The Tramway Service of the City of Glasgow, for example, improved out of all knowledge when taken out of the hands of Private Individuals — although it was far from being a failure as a private enterprise. The service was extended when the city took charge, fares were reduced, and the men better paid. The Gazette says that to work for the State "eliminates the sense of personal responsibility; and one that is removed apathy and indifference ensue. That is the experience in every instance in which Public Ownership has been set up."

Might we state politely that it is nothing of the kind? It is necessary to be emphatic in making down so mischievous a falsehood. What about the Canadian Civil Service? Can none of its members be found to say a word in their own defence? Or has the Post Office no voice? The insinuation that to transfer them from Government control and put them under the heel of Big Bosses is the only way to ensure that they will not be "apathetic and indifferent" ought surely make them sit up and take notice.

Then comes the trump card about the mismanagement of the U. S. Railways during the War. This business, we venture to think, has been slightly overdone. If the American Railways were not well managed by the State during the War (and that has not been too well established), the British Railways were. They were managed and handled in a way that astonished even the Private Owners. The Gazette does not upset the case for nationalization of Railways by merely citing the experience of the United States. State ownership of Railways is an established success in many European countries. And War Time, as we have already stated, is perhaps not the safest period in which to make such a test. That is doubtless why the Brotherhoods are anxious that the State should keep control of the Railways for another two years.

"Public ownership always makes for favouritism, kills ambition, robs the individual of initiative, produces a fatal laissez-faire, a species of

## THE FAIRNESS OF LABOR

U. S. railway men to give the new law a fair trial. — Unions to name representatives on wage tribunal.

A marked tribute to the fairness of Organized Labor is reported from Washington, D.C. to the effect that two million union workers of the railways will co-operate with the Government in settling a wage controversy which has been pending since away last August. The union men agreed with the Administration that they would give the new transportation act a fair test. This includes all its arbitration clauses, etc. President Wilson, in letters to both the Association of Railway Executives and Heads of the fifteen workers' organizations, requested that they select representatives on the bi-partisan wage board. The President urged promptness.

The one group which refused to join up where the Union of the Maintenance of Way Employees and Shop Laborers. It is hoped that at the meeting of this Board in Chicago scheduled for Thursday p.m., they will decide to meet the wishes of the President, as the others have done.

The Labor leaders are reported to have said that their attitude of patience was based on their loyalty as American citizens first, and primarily in the interests of railroad labor, adding:

"Notwithstanding the fact that labor in general, and railroad labor in particular, with the full co-operation and support of other bodies representing American citizens, urged the Congress not to pass the railroad bill and the President to veto it and return it to Congress," the union statement said, "we are now officially advised that the President has signed the bill and that it is the law.

"Labor criticisms and protests against this legislation are a matter of record and were presented to the Congress, the President and the public. We have not changed our views in regard to this explanation and, therefore, do not endorse the law; however, as American citizens we feel that in the interest of railroad labor there is nothing left for us to do at present except to co-operate in the prompt creation of the machinery provided for in law.

## A GENEROUS EMPLOYER

Loyalty and service generally bring their reward and it is very pleasant to record the action of E. W. Beatty, President of the C.P.R. who has recognized more fully than usual the work and long service of certain of the employees of the "World's Greatest Highway", as Lord Shaughnessy styled the C.P.R. system.

He has ordered that annual passes be granted to officers and employees and their wives under certain classifications as follows:

Employee on a general superintendent's district, who has had continuous service for a period of not less than ten years, will be granted an annual pass good over district on which employed.

Such employee, who has had continuous service for twenty years and over, will be allowed annual pass good over eastern or western lines upon which employed. Employee of any other department of the service will enjoy the same privilege as above, stating the territory over which pass is desired.

Head office employees who have had fifteen years' service will receive annual pass over eastern or western lines where employed. Women employees are to be treated the same as men in this connection. This action expresses the policy of the C.P.R. to aim at the contentment and loyalty of the employees of whom there is an army of 50,000 at present, including all classes.

The Pension Fund, a free gift of the company, was the thought of Lord Shaughnessy. The employees contribute nothing. Already the operation of the fund has wrought great benefit. The effect of it had been to increase the contentment and loyalty of the employees to give the sense of mutual co-operation, and to stimulate the general purpose and interest of the company.

There are many all over the system on the Pension Fund, which offers protection in declining years. Millions of dollars are involved in the operation of the fund since its institution.

benumbment which affects the Management of the utility whatever it be, the sort of torpor which the least caterer feels," and so on in the usual highly figurative vein, with little or no regard for the actual facts. Having seen much excellent and efficient State and Municipal Management in Britain, one can only smile and assume that our leader writer is affected with parochial prejudice. However, if he moves around a little, he may get his eyes opened.

The only point the Gazette may be said to make is that there is in Canada there is not sufficient civic spirit, or pride of citizenship, to impel a man to give his best efforts to the State. There may be a grain of truth in this, for acute observers have noticed that in new countries, individualism is apt to run riot for a time. 'State sense' takes time to develop. A prominent Montrealese (of the 'better class' stated quite boldly not long ago that he would not work so well for the State as for a private individual — although as far as we remember he did not say why. It is not a very lofty confession to make. But it is evidence that such a spirit exists in our midst.

We submit, however, that the collective national effort made during the War has quickened the spirit of true citizenship and given an impetus to the development of this 'State sense'. The number of Returned Soldiers applying for positions in the Civil Service is proof enough were there no other. There is nothing to hinder our having Public ownership of utilities on a much more extensive scale in Canada, right here and now. A man should work for his City or Province, or Country, with just as much heartiness and good-will and ambition as for Private Individuals — the Gazette's nonsense about lots of others notwithstanding. And we have sufficient confidence in our fellow citizens to believe that they would.

George W. E. Daniels.

## LABOR THE WORLD OVER

More production and industrial peace. — New schedule for teachers. — Montreal Civic Employees find salary too low.

In the turmoil of mentalities in both the capital and labor class all over the world, reports seem optimistic for Labor at any rate. Then it is so simple to see that what benefits one will help the other, as all now seem to be working towards one end — "More production and industrial peace".

These are our slogans and Labor is certainly buckling down to a solid day's work, and naturally wants a solid day's pay. The corrective processes of associations, and unions, for in many cases their aims are kindred and united, seem to tell that the so called world wide social disease of unrest, is nothing more than growing paucity and the solvent is based in decency and common sense.

So to all doubters — for doubts are just like red flags of radicalism, we say work and exercise normal activities and don't be like the strange young man at the funeral "who just went along for the ride".

—It is interesting to see that Premier Drury, the Farmer politician in Ontario, favors the minimum wage law. He is reported to have said: "The principle of the minimum wage for women and girls appears to me to be eminently sound"; continuing: "For these reasons, the Government will give it support."

This was said in reply to a deputation from the Social Service Council who waited upon him, asking for the enactment of such legislation. "Further," he said, "I do not believe in price fixing generally, but in this issue, we are dealing with a human life factor, and not with an economic factor. Some action will be taken by the Government this session. We may not get a perfect law at first, but we will make an honest attempt". Brave, Drury! Now, Sir Lomer!

—Quebec has certainly done itself proud in giving the increase to school teachers. A new schedule has been adopted by the Catholic School Board of the Province of Quebec, taking effect July 1920. Bonuses were also granted to lay teachers and the additional expenditure which will be necessary will reach a total of between \$25,000 and \$27,000. It will be remembered when the first advocacy for more pay was made, Judge Lafontaine stated that "the Board had no money, even though the teachers were deserving". The schedule so granted to lay teachers, and the additional expenditure which will be necessitated will reach a total of between \$25,000 and \$27,000.

The report of the special committee on salaries recommended the increases and bonuses which were carried as follows:

That a bonus of \$100 be given to all male and female lay teachers on the first of July, 1920.

That the minimum salary of lay male teachers be increased from \$600 to \$800 with an annual increase of \$100, and that all teachers with seven years of service be entitled to the maximum salary of \$1,500.

That the minimum salary of lay female teachers be increased from \$300 to \$400 a year, with an annual increase of \$50 a year until the maximum of \$600 is reached.

That male religious teachers be increased as follows: Directors from \$500 to \$600, and teachers from \$400 to \$500.

That female religious teachers be increased as follows: Directresses, from \$250 to \$300, and teachers, from \$200 to \$250.

That in view of the long term of service of Elsie Gauvreau and Achille Goulet, teachers, they be paid a bonus of \$300 each.

That all the said increases and bonuses take effect from the first of July, 1920.

The salary of Mr. Antoine C. Taschereau, secretary-treasurer of the commission, was increased from \$2,000 to \$2,500.

—From Three Rivers comes the news that the Board of Trade is in receipt of letters from two large corporations enquiring into the accommodation and facilities offered new industries in this thriving city. The labor conditions were also mentioned, and it may be added that owing to same conditions existing there, as in the whole Province, no less than seven large industries have located there and have developed in prosperous properties. Good business!

—In Montreal, civic employees think their salary classification is too low. They have appointed a delegation to wait upon the Civic Administration Commission, to have their grievances settled. There is another trouble brewing and that is that the Civil Service Commission has failed to receive these employees as promised. There is no use of delaying these unrest rumbings, because look at what happened in the water works case.

—Building Trades workers in Toronto are doing much the same thing as Montrealese, they are asking for a wage increase. In Toronto, the request is for increases averaging twenty seven per cent. The Building Trades Council are negotiating with the Builder's Exchange. In Montreal, because the Building Trades Council want better pay and better conditions, the Gazette claims, unjustly, that they are taking advantage of a housing shortage and should be punished. How gracious is this opinion may be noted by a letter printed elsewhere in this issue.

—In St. Catharines, Ont., H. V. Clare Fisher, of Niagara Township, a clever farmer, stated that he would run as independent Labor-Farmer candidate for Lincoln County, in the Federal bye-election against Wm. Scull, the candidate chosen by the U. F. O. Mr. Fisher claims that Mr. Scull did not invite the independent Labor Party to his convention and declares that he cannot carry the riding without the aid of Labor. It looks as if very few constituencies could be carried to day without the aid of Labor. That is why the Government at Ottawa does not care for a general election.

## Don't Cough at Night

Don't let that irritating tickling in the throat keep you coughing most of the night. Don't let it annoy you during the day. Stop it—cure it completely with



**NADRUCO**  
**Syrup of Tar**  
with Cod Liver Oil Compound

Sold by all good  
Druggists

It breaks up the cold; heals the inflamed membranes of the throat; relieves, soothes, cures.  
It's wonderful how much better even a few doses will make you feel. Very pleasant to the taste; even children like it. Keep a bottle always in the house. None genuine except in a Red Package bearing the trade-mark Na-Dru-Co.

Manufactured by National Drug and Chemical Company of Canada, Limited

## FIVE ROSES FLOUR for Breads Cakes-Puddings-Pastries

YOUR puddings are palatable, why use Five Roses? Simply because you want them more daintily porous, more digestible. Five Roses puddings digest unconsciously—every spoonful is a tasty source of vitality.



## VOTE AGAINST PROHIBITION!



DEMAND  
Personal Liberty  
IN CHOOSING WHAT YOU  
WANT TO DRINK  
Ask for this Label when  
purchasing Beer, Ale  
or Porter,  
As a guarantee that it is  
Union Made



We are Showing  
no less than Nine Models in

## GEORGETTE BLOUSES

at \$8.50  
Many styles in Crepe de Chine at  
\$4.98

Fifteen Models in Lingerie blouses, embroidered, lace Trimmed and Tailored at  
\$1.98

STREET FLOOR  
**ALMY'S**  
MONTREALS LARGEST STORE

# CHARTER COMMISSION DELEGATES

### Large meeting of Montreal Trades and Labor Council selects delegates, J. T. Foster and Gus. Franco being chosen. — Lively controversies, and many opinions. — Delegate Bruce speaks.

A lively and largely attended meeting of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council was held Thursday evening. President J. T. Foster in the chair.

The subject which dominated the meeting was the selection of the delegates to represent the Council on the Charter Commission and the opposition of the Council doing this, was so pronounced by some of the delegates that a real spirited controversy took place.

The two delegates chosen were J. T. Foster and Gustave Franco.

One side urged the Council to ignore the request of the Legislature to select delegates at once; the other wanted to make sure that proper delegates were chosen, and not have it left to the Lieutenant-Governor to make a hand-picked selection to suit the Government.

This was all occasioned by a letter received from Commissioner E. B. Decary advising the Council of the law, and warning them that unless they appointed their representatives, one month after the enactment of the law, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council had the power to do so. He added that the time limit was rapidly expiring.

The champion of the side that wished to ignore the Legislature in its request, was delegate Alfred Mathieu, and he moved an amendment that the matter should be left on the table. He argued that if the Council named delegates for the Commission to revise the City Charter, it would be tacitly admitting its approval of all that the Legislature had done in regard to Montreal's affairs.

Secretary Alphéus Mathieu cleared things up a little by explaining that the object of this Charter Commission was to revise the City Charter, and it was

highly improper that the 32,000 union workers of the city should not be correctly represented at such important work. He caused a laugh when he added that even the aldermen had disapproved of what the Legislature had done having even had their pictures in the newspapers to prove it, but none of them had resigned.

Delegate Vallourette supported delegate Alphéus Mathieu's amendment.

Delegate Joe Wall urged that the Council should select the right men and not leave it to any Governor.

Delegate Tardif spoke also in favor of the Council selecting delegates and made a strong point by stating that if the Council had not been asked to choose their own delegates, those who were now opposing it would have been very angry indeed.

Following delegate Lespérance who wanted delegates chosen, delegate Gus. Franco made a vigorous speech making it as clear as daylight as to the duty of the Council to select its own delegates. He pointed out that the naming of the delegates by the Council, committed them to nothing and it was a wild imagination that could make him believe that it would mean the approval of the Legislature's plans, in regard to Montreal. It was a plain open and shut story that if the Council failed to put up their own delegates, the Government would do so. Then what would be the result? Why then what would be the result? Why then what would be the result? Why then what would be the result? Why then what would be the result?

A vote was taken on the amendment and it was defeated. Nominations were then made for the candidates. Over a dozen were named but all dropped out except J. T. Foster, Gus. Franco, delegate Thompson of the Machinists' Association and J. L. Bourbonniere of the Tramways Union. The vote resulted in 72 for delegate Franco; 66 for President Foster; 19 for Bourbonniere and 26 for Thompson.

In introducing John A. Bruce, general organizer of the International Plumbers, President Foster took the opportunity of mentioning that the famous false in terpreter of Labor in the City of Montreal, namely the Montreal Gazette, had seen fit to make dirty insinuations about Mr. Bruce and nothing was so mean as an insinuation without any definite charge or fact attached. He denounced the policy of the Gazette to the detriment of the building trades by strikes during the past year. The proposed campaign had for its aim to try by peaceful negotiations to arrive at some agreement with employers to better the conditions of the building trades industries. Later national unions had established better working conditions and higher wages, with shorter hours. He referred to the Gazette's attacks on him personally as well as its unfair attacks on Organized Labor. This paper had for a long time been a traducer of decent labor leaders and its statements were so strange to truth that many of them were not worth nothing.

It is notable that in the Gazette report of the Council not one word was said of Mr. Bruce being at the meeting, illustrating the unfairness of this paper. He required no praise from the Gazette. His record spoke for him in the Labor movement.

He believed that the first duty of a Civic Administration or the Government was to make sure that the conditions of labor generally was the permanent issue. It was the aim of this campaign to try to get some medium of social justice for the workers. The announcement of a monster meeting to be held next Monday night in the St. Louis Town Hall, in this connection, is made elsewhere in this issue as well as other meetings.

Mr. Bruce was warmly received and applauded during his very clever address. Secretary Alphéus Mathieu read the report of the Executive Committee in which it was stated that delegate J. F. Girard was elected president and A. Mathieu, secretary. In this report it was mentioned that in the Montreal Harbor, a great number of men were discharged, and moral support was given them in their case before the Department of Labor at Ottawa. It was stated that the men were discharged without due notice by the Harbor Commission, and an application has been made for a Board of Arbitration.

It was further urged that the officers of the Trades Council should co-operate with the International organizers in their work. The report was adopted.

President Foster referred to the search of workers in munition work during the war, when the Federal Government was glad to ask the International Unions to help them carry on, so as to help win the war.

Organizer Riviero, of the Textile Workers' Union, announced that at the next meeting of the Council a full delegation of the Textile Workers' Union No. 2063, would be affiliated with the Council. He reported that recently 22 employees of a certain mill joined the union, and shortly afterwards 15 members of the union were discharged, the cause being simply that they belonged to the union. The matter had been brought before the Labor Department of Ottawa. It was claimed that propaganda work on behalf of the union in the mills had been carried on. When the Peace Treaty was made, the right of the workers to organize was recognized, but still some employers refused the right. Mr. Riviero said some firms were paying their help monthly and they desired weekly pay. Some girls worked in the mills without any form of insurance, and without any form of sick pay. His hope was for evolution, not revolution, but some big employers were inviting the latter.

The Council approved the activities of the Tenant's Protective Association.

Several resolutions referring to the proposed milk by-law, the condition of the streets, were referred to the Executive Committee.

The following delegates were admitted to seat:

International Jewellery Workers: A. Ducharme, Hamelin, Gagnon, T. Macdonald.

Brotherhood of Teamsters: J. A. Laplante, W. Crépain, W. Mathieu, D. Charret, N. Dagenais.

Journeyman Stone Carriers' Union: T. Maisonneuve, S. Paradis, F. Charrette.

Leather Workers' International Union: Ed. Yale.

Polishmen's Union: A. Bouchard, J. A. Filiatrault, A. Tourangeau, E. Bell, E. L. Hogue, R. Chabot, W. Larriague, T. Pigeon, D. Meade.

AT THE PRINCESS  
The policy of the Princess management of bringing on condensed musical comedies from time to time has been popular. Next week the comedy line act will be another of this type. It is by W. R. Friedlander, which includes some good music, and is free from exclusiveness and the result is that her programme is always free from any of the "boring" and "boring" of Bert Leno, co-authors of many a popular song. Will be another feature of the new bill. The "Night of the Night" Leonard and Willard will present a new skit outside the line of musical comedies. The four Ortons, humorous entertainers upon the black wire, and other acts complete the bill.

AT LOEW'S THEATRE  
An attractive bill of high class vaudeville and pictures will be given next week at Loew's. Genero and Gold will offer a musical comedy, comedy playlet "Wanted a Model." The Royal Lyona Japs will be another feature of the new bill. The "Night of the Night" Leonard and Willard will present a new skit outside the line of musical comedies. The four Ortons, humorous entertainers upon the black wire, and other acts complete the bill.

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mobilized, which caused the whole thing. Employers should take note of this, even though it is far away. Much worse things have been reported during the steel strike in United States recently.

—In New York the leather workers have gone on strike. This one includes 2,000 workers, members of the Suitcase and Bag makers' Union. They demand a minimum salary of \$50 a week for first class mechanics and 25 per cent increase for all others. The employers naturally wish a piece work scale.

HIS MAJESTY'S  
Commencing Mar. 8th  
A. H. WOODS presents  
TOO MANY HUSBANDS  
By W. Somerset Maugham with the Original N. Y. Cast  
Prices: Even and Sat. Mat. 50c to \$2.00. Sat. Eve. 50c, \$2.50. Wed. Mat. 25c to \$1.50.

IMPERIAL THEATRE  
SUNDAY — MONDAY — TUESDAY  
ELECTRIC JAZZ  
"A REGULAR GIRL"  
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ELECTRIC JAZZ  
"COURTSHIP"

ST. DENIS THEATRE  
St. Denis Street  
ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW  
Best pictures and finest vaudeville  
Comfort and Safety the Watchwords  
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at  
LOEW'S  
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GAYETY THEATRE  
The Home of Great Shows  
Daily Matinee—Ladies, 10c  
EVERY NIGHT AT 8.15  
Always the Best Show in Town  
Matinee, 10, 25 and 50  
Nights, 15, 25, 50 and 75

Princess Theatre  
Open for the season. High Class vaudeville. Twice daily.  
Always a good show, changed every week.  
Prices Daily matinee: 15c, 25c, 35c.  
Evenings: 15c, 25c, 50c, 75c.

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STEEL CASTINGS  
OF ALL KINDS  
RAILWAY TRACKWORK.  
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NORTHERN ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED  
121 Shearers Street — Montreal  
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# Twice Born Men

ONCE he was a professional man. Drink, induced by trouble, paralyzed him. He dropped to drink — a wretched man — a man who had been twice born. His wife and children were forced to leave him.

AND then—

ONE night at an open-air meeting God got hold of him.

HE came to the Hall after the meeting — penitent, confessing. Next day he started packing — worked conscientiously, and began to regain his self-respect. Very soon a good position was found for him.

TODAY he and his family are happily reunited, and he is office manager of a large firm.

HIS testimony is — "God got hold of me and with the help of the Salvation Army He has kept hold of me."

308 Service Posts in this Territory. Use them!

# Canada Steamship Lines Reports Record Expansion

Total Revenue Crossed \$15,000,000 Mark. — In First Year Under Peace Conditions Company Exceeds All War Records. — Directors Announce 7% Dividend On Common Stock For Year 1920.

Canada Steamship Lines, Limited, in its first year under peace conditions far exceeded all records made in any period during the war.

This will come as an agreeable surprise to the shareholders as it was always felt that to a considerable extent the prosperity of Canada Steamship Lines was due to war conditions. The company has now completed its first full year under peace conditions, and on this account it is able to give shareholders some idea of just what the prospects are for the future.

The operating account shows a total revenue for the year 1919 of \$15,240,414, as compared with \$14,094,203 in the previous year, a gain of approximately \$1,200,000. Of this amount, revenue from vessels amounted to \$14,495,657, as compared with \$13,481,238 in 1918. Docks and wharves, \$238,426, against \$222,310, and miscellaneous \$305,192 against \$174,674. Other revenue this year amounted to \$201,137, against \$210,169.

Total expenses reflected the higher costs of operation, due to increased wages and insurance, and totalled \$10,660,141, up from \$9,756,313, leaving net earnings for the year of \$4,580,272, as compared with \$4,338,079 in 1918, and \$1,732,957 in 1915. Out of the net earnings the amount required for bond interest, depreciation and reserve for Government taxes, etc., totalled \$2,245,593, leaving a net profit for the year of \$2,334,679, which compares with \$2,324,098 a year ago.

The surplus account also indicates how the company has been able to strengthen its position in the past few years. At the end of 1918 the total surplus stood at \$5,009,620 and added to it, as per operating account of Dec. 31st, 1919, was the total of \$2,334,679

and net profits on sales of fixed assets, etc., amounting to \$775,601—a total of \$3,110,289—making a total amount available for distribution of \$8,119,910. Of this amount, preference stock dividend at the rate of 7%, required \$875,000 and common stock dividend, at the rate of 4%, called for \$480,000, a total of \$1,355,000 leaving a balance to be carried forward into the new year of \$6,764,910. This amount is close to the total funded debt of the company.

Features of Statement.  
The general statement of assets and liabilities shows total assets of \$14,557,179, up from \$8,919,677 at the end of the previous year. Among the fixed assets are vessels as at December 31st, 1918, \$20,979,575; net additions for year (excess of additions to fleet over vessels lost and sold), \$5,619,247, making the total value of the company's vessels \$25,597,823. Real estate holdings, docks, wharves, etc., now stand at \$6,351,017, compared with \$6,054,144, while total value of fixed assets, after allowing for depreciation reserve of \$1,561,291, now stands at \$28,916,512, against \$23,661,179 the previous year.

J. W. Norcross, the President, in his report to shareholders, on behalf of the directors, mentions particularly that both freight and passenger earnings of the system have been eminently satisfactory, and that, considering that this is the first year the company has operated its enlarged system under peace conditions, these results must be regarded as gratifying and on this account there is every justification for looking to the future with confidence.

Another report of the directors announces that it has been decided to place the common shares of the company on a 7% dividend basis.

# STRIKES ON AND OFF

"Theory is not what we know about God, but what we do not know about God." So spoke E. E. Hubbard and this is quoted to illustrate further, what we said last week regarding the mentality of Labor. Strikes are caused by the lack of knowledge of the mentality of Organized Labor, on the part of Capital. Remember that if you give kindness, courtesy, patience and good will, you'll get them back. Workers in class A do not chew the line, fume, and belittle about such matters of life. You cannot afford to roll your soul with small scraps, so Labor fights on a big scale or not at all. You know the chronic kicker who is always looking for trouble with street ear conductors, ushers, waiters, etc., and always finds it. So any employer who prefers the applause of the mediocre to truthfully facing his help in time of trouble, is strictly in class B and industrial history will so label him. He'll be labeled a fool.

In an editorial headed "Quebec's Hour" the Gazette on Thursday morning threw some rare bouquets at Organized Labor, but they did not know it. It dealt with some traducers of this Province who had been told something in the House of Commons. They had told him that Quebec could have its "HOIR". It was not, the editorial said, "through nursing a spite that is either silly or revengeful." Then adding: "In every other Province in the Dominion, there are evidences of steadily increasing social and political distemper, giving rise to industrial unrest."

Labor was not mentioned at all, just its handmaiden "unrest" but went on to state that these "erratic manifestations" weakened production power in the whole country and "lowered the economic efficiency." Then with all the knocks it gives Labor locally and otherwise it concludes: "No Province has suffered less from these disturbing influences than Quebec. The same solid conservatism of this Province, has withstood them largely, if not wholly, up to now."

Whatever unrest there is has been largely caused by the miserable case of conscientious creatives