

ALIEN ENEMY SITUATION HERE FACED BY LABOR DIVISION

Workers are Not Agreed Upon Any One Course of Action—
Some are Opposed to Proposed Tax—Others Would Like to
See the Aliens Go, and Approve of G.W.V.A. Plan.

Article No. 3—Labor Leaders Differ.
There is a sharp divergence of opinion among the leaders of labor on the proper solution of the alien enemy problem, the present situation being regarded as intolerable by the Great War Veterans' Association and others.

Exempted from fighting by reason of his enemy nationality, the alien laborer, skilled or unskilled, is profiting through the conditions brought about by the Central European ambitions for world domination, and while the Canadians are compelled to serve their country in the cause of freedom for \$1.10 a day, the laborer who was born in Germany or Austria enjoys all the privileges of a citizenship in one of the most prosperous countries of the world without having to bear the burden of its defence in any other way than the general taxes, which are shared by all alike.

"We will fight any proposal by the Government to tax the alien enemy all his earnings over \$1.10 a day. It would be a bitter blow to organized labor if anything of this kind should be attempted," said Mr. T. A. Stevenson, secretary of the Toronto division of the Labor Council, in reference to the proposal of the G.W.V.A. that the employers pay to the Government all the monies earned by the alien enemy laborers over and above the minimum pay and allowances of the soldiers of the Canadian forces.

Mr. Stevenson declared himself unalterably opposed to any taxation of the alien laborers, and says that the conditions have been brought about by the Government and cannot be altered just because of the fact that there is a war on. In this view he is not unanimously supported by the representatives of Labor of the city. Controller W. D. Robbins considers that the present conditions are intolerable, and that the presence of the alien laborer in Canada is one of the sore spots of the working system which ought to be grappled with and settled in some way or other.

Mr. Stevenson states his views as follows: "I believe that if a man is good enough to be invited to come to Canada as an immigrant, and further, if he is considered safe enough to be at large and to walk about on our streets, he should be allowed to work in the same way as anyone else. If he is not safe enough for that then he should be interned. "I want it distinctly understood that any restrictions on alien labor would work out as a determined to all classes of labor in this country."

All Workers Would Suffer.

"To compel such a man to work for \$1.10 a day with no hope of any increase would withdraw from him any incentive to secure better wages and working conditions, and all workers would suffer by any such situation. In every case where these men are employed they will have no incentive to agitate for better conditions. The unions of the country will fight this thing to the last ditch." Continuing, Mr. Stevenson pointed out that 95 per cent. of the alien labor in Canada is what is known as rough labor but that makes no difference to the general principles on which the matter is regarded. The rights of the unskilled alien laborer must be protected as much as the skilled laborer.

"Take a concrete case which we have in the city just now," he said, "the freight handlers of the Grand Trunk Railway are out on strike. If the foreigners who are alien enemies there are only to be paid \$1.10 a day there is nothing for them to strike for and the others would suffer from that fact. They do not care whether the wage scale is high or low if they are only going to get \$1.10 a day anyway. That is how the scheme would work out."

"I cannot see why there should be any discrimination. We brought the people here. We actually invited them to come and spent money to get them here and those who were disfranchised at the last election have been in the country in some cases since 1902. They are not disloyal and they ought to be treated just the same as anyone else. At Ottawa we ourselves requested the Government to make the aliens in some way responsible for military service but we were told there that this was a matter of international law and that nothing could be done to make them serve in the army," he said.

Thousands Needed Then as Guards.

"I claim that any such scheme as that proposed by the G.W.V.A. is going to take thousands more men to guard the aliens. Before any such conscription comes here let the Government conscript the big interests. I can see where the returned soldiers have a grievance, and I have actually heard of a case where a returned man wearing his button was refused work at a factory because he was wearing his button. The employer was afraid that he would not be physically strong enough for the job and he did not get work until he took off his button and applied for it as an ordinary civilian.

"Of course the manufacturers are strongly in favor of the G.W.V.A. scheme. They would naturally support anything which is going to prevent the workmen demanding more wages and that is what this would amount to if everything over \$1.10 a day is to be taken from the laborer," he concluded.

Controller W. D. Robbins, secretary of the Toronto Street Railway Employees Union, differs from both the arguments and the conclusions which are explained by Mr. Stevenson.

"The sore spot in the labor situation of Canada is that the alien enemy cannot be made to take some part in the war," he said. "Our soldiers, who are labor men, are fighting for the foreigners who are walking about our streets in the highest prosperity and are dressed in the best of clothes on account of the wages which they are making. I think that some solution of this question is most urgent and that the Government must put an end to the conditions complained of by the G.W.V.A. and other people."

"When the soldier comes back he is entitled to the first consideration and I would even go so far as to say that the foreigner who is employed in a position for which a soldier is eligible should be discharged and the work given to the soldier. He is entitled to it as a matter of right," continued Controller Robbins.

Means Driving Aliens Out.

"I am fully in accord with the War Veterans, and I think that if we only

pay \$1.10 a day over to the aliens they will soon find a way of getting out, whether or not they are drafted. I think that we would be better without them, anyway, and if the G.W.V.A. scheme is carried into effect I think we shall soon see that they will get out of the way altogether. "I do not think that there is any great labor shortage now. There are plenty of men walking the streets without work at the present time who come in to see me about it."

The views of a number of the labor leaders expressed to-day are that there is not very much skilled labor among the alien enemies, who are for the most part engaged in rough work. Not more than five per cent. of all the alien enemies in Canada are in the position to command the high wages which are particularly complained of by the Veterans, according to the Labor men.

The position of the alien enemy laborer in Canada is considerably strengthened by his being a full member of such of the Labor unions as he may be qualified to join, and the leaders are prepared to stand by him as a Labor man, as well as on the general grounds that conscription of labor would be detrimental to the interests of the unions.

Mr. W. C. Hagen, local representative of the International Association of Machinists, does not think that the time has come for labor to express its views on the situation.

"The Union Government has taken some of the leaders of labor into its confidence, and it is a matter for the Government to deal with. If more representation from labor is required to enable the Government to settle the question, then let us be asked to send more men to Ottawa, that is all," he said.

Mr. Hagen agreed that the present situation is an intolerable one for all concerned, but said that he thought the Government, being a Union Government, ought to be allowed to deal with the situation.

\$1,200 FOR "BEAUTY MAID"

Remarkable Price is Paid for Canada's Champion Jersey Cow at Woodstock Sale.

Woodstock, March 12.—"Beauty Maid," Canada's champion Jersey cow, was sold here yesterday to Bull and Son, of Brampton, for \$1,200. This valuable animal holds the Canadian record for both milk and fat as a four-year-old. Her record performance is 43,852 pounds of milk, equivalent to 872 pounds of butter fat.

At the dispersal sale of the Jersey herd, the property of David Boyle, twenty-six head were disposed of for the sum of \$6,330.

20,000 UNFIT RETURNING

Weeding Out Process Sends Men Back From England Long-Termers Return.

Ottawa, March 12.—Between now and June 1 nearly 20,000 returned soldiers will arrive in Canada, medically or physically unfit for active service. About 7,000 will arrive during the next three weeks. The increased influx of returned men follows the weeding-out process which has been going on for some months overseas, following radical reorganization of the medical and other services over there. Long-term cases which can be moved to Canada are being brought here for treatment until ready for discharge.

Grandma Never Let Her Hair Get Gray

She Kept Her Locks Dark and
Glossy, with Sage Tea
and Sulphur.

When you darken your hair with Sage Tea and Sulphur, no one can tell, because it's done so naturally, so evenly. Preparing this mixture, though, at home is messy and troublesome. At little cost you can buy at any drug store the ready-to-use preparation, improved by the addition of other ingredients called "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound." You just dampen a sponge or soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. By morning all grey hair disappears, and, after another application or two, your hair becomes beautifully darkened, glossy and luxuriant.

Grey, faded hair, though no disgrace, is a sign of old age, and as we all desire a youthful and attractive appearance, get busy at once with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound, and look years younger. This ready-to-use preparation is a delightful toilet requisite and not a medicine. It is not intended for the cure, mitigation or prevention of disease.

Advertisement.

An Easy Way to Get Fat and Be Strong

The trouble with most thin folks who wish to gain weight is that they insist on drugging their stomach or stuffing it with greasy foods, rubbing on useless "flesh creams," or following some foolish physical culture stunt, while the real cause of thinness goes untouched. You cannot get fat unless your digestive tract assimilates the food you eat.

There is a preparation known to reliable druggists almost everywhere which seemingly embodies the missing elements needed by the digestive organs to help them convert food into rich, fat-laden blood. This modern treatment is called Extract of Native-Roots, and has been termed one of the greatest medicines of its kind. Native-Roots aims through regenerative, reconstructive power to coax the stomach and intestines to literally soak up the fattening elements of the food and pass them into the blood, where they are carried to the starved, broken-down cells and tissues of the body. You can readily picture what result this amazing transformation should produce, as with increased weight the cheeks fill out, hollows about neck, shoulders, and arms disappear, and pounds of solid, healthy flesh are added to the body. Native-Roots is inexpensive, and leading druggists have it and recommend it. Start the treatment to-day.