

Vote 'Yes' On Referendum For Canadian Autonomy Within International May 16



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Full Employment is Needed, Not Bosses' Threadbare Propaganda

EDITORIAL

A New Significance To July 1

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Millions of dollars are now being spent by big industry in a propaganda campaign to convince working people that it is impossible to guarantee employment to working people under our present system. Business Week, the big employers' magazine, has a whole section devoted to discussion on the guaranteed annual wage, or guaranteed employment at 40 hours a week with full wages, either way. A guaranteed working week, of course, will not solve unemployment.

Latest government reports on this point out that last month there were over 600,000 Canadians looking for a job. Nevertheless the fact that major unions are putting this demand in the forefront shows the true feeling of insecurity that is felt by working men. We have to live 52 weeks a year. The fact that we are such good producers now that hundreds and thousands in the country like Canada are unemployed, is the

real problem.

So what good is the propaganda of big business when the demand is for some security of employment? Mr. David Croll Liberal member for Toronto asks the House of Commons to study this question, and states, "The workers are not fighting automation but they want to cushion its effects and they want to share in its fruits." He said, "The guaranteed annual wage is the workers' concept of wiping out the insecurity of layoffs and loss of wages."

Wasn't it Mr. Croll's leader, the Honorable Louis St. Laurent, who campaigned in elections several years ago with a program of full employment? That same government's Department of Labor now announces over 600,000 Canadian unemployed.

Every industry today is busy finding ways and means of eliminating labor. The establishment of the 40-hour week has not had the support of the governments. It has been labor's fight. It is the shorter working week that will alleviate the massive layoffs that are taking place. It is a real question.

The companies that we bargain with, particularly the CM&S, is laying off workers during big parts of the year while production is growing. Another method we propose is pensioning workers at an earlier

LORADO CERTIFIED FOR LOCAL 913

URANIUM CITY, SASK. — The spring organization drive of Local 913, Mine Mill, in this large and important uranium mining area, got off to a good start with the announcement by the Labor Relations Board of Saskatchewan, that the union had been certified as bargaining agents for the Lorado Uranium Mines Limited near here.

The application for bargaining rights submitted by International Representative Dave McGhee showed overwhelming support for Mine Mill, and the board granted the certification without a vote. Brother McGhee announced that further applications are pending for other properties in the area, including one for the Meta Uranium Mines, which was submitted too late for the recent board hearings.

age. Why should working men have to wait until they are 65 or 70 when young men are unemployed?

This is the importance of one of the proposals we made to managements this year in the two most profitable companies in Canada, International Nickel and the CM&S, to lower the retirement age to 60, with the amount of pension they could have received if working to 65. The mining industry is one of the industries noted for hazard conditions and it is an industry that requires heavy labor, working underground, and around furnaces. While they are busy trying to prove that industry

Canada Day, July 1, is significantly the date set for the new constitution of the International Union to come into effect. On that day the membership of the International Union in Canada will establish the autonomous rights of all union locals in Canada to elect a Canadian executive board and to establish a constitution. In other words to manage completely their own affairs.

The unanimous convention action in Spokane recommending the changes in the constitution will be voted on by all members in the International Union on May 16. It is up to the rank and file in Canada and the United States to get out a maximum vote expressing their confidence in the principle of equality of all workers in our organization. The vote on the referendum is not a vote to weaken the fraternity and brotherhood in our great Union, it is a vote to put Canadian and U.S. sections of our Union on an equal basis.

Our union was never as well united as it is today, and great credit is due to the officers who have led this union through these difficult days and maintained the unity of the organization despite the attacks against our union. The policy of the International Executive Board was enthusiastically approved by the convention, and the convention, which was largely attended by delegates from the rank and file of the local unions in the United States, in their action in backing up the Executive Board to the hilt, gave a vote of confidence in the integrity and the ability of the Canadian membership.

Every member should vote on this important and historic referendum that establishes for the first time on this continent by the united action of U.S. and Canadian members, the full rights of Canadians.

Brothers Clark, Larson, Howard, Pezzati, as well as our Board Member Brother Powers, and the other members of the Executive Board are deserving of the confidence that they have earned from the membership.

Let us get out the biggest vote possible on May 16 so that on July 1 we will celebrate Canada Day in a truly fitting way.

cannot provide steady employment the year round to workers, automation is being stepped up and its application means the additional elimination of workers from industry. A shorter working week, earlier retirement with pen-

sions for older workers, the fight for greater security for a worker cannot be set aside by fancy propaganda about free enterprise to a man who has to maintain his living and that of his dependents for a whole year.



Paul Robeson

Preparation for the 4th Annual Robeson Peace Arch Concert, under Mine Mill Canadian Council auspices, are now underway.