The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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Labour Day

This is a good time to survey what labour and labour organization has done for the nation. Too much has been said about the disruption labour unions and labour men have caused by strikes and wage demands. But let us glance back a bit and see whether or not the labour union hasn't given as much as it has asked.

In South Africa they still use virtual slave labour in the mines days were outstanding. and factories and the pay is pitifully small. Yet despite the amounts of slave labour their production of gold is down. A re- be among those long remembered in cent junket to Canada and the United States by some South Afri- the Porcupine. One of them was Miss can mine managers was revealing to both the visitors and their Laura Hughes, of Toronto, who visithosts. They hadn't seen many of the machines used here and ed Timmins when the town was no they were surprised at the man-day figures. But what surprised to speak on behalf of the Porcupine from the speake to. Mrs. Frenter It may seem odd, but it's the fact, their hosts was their utter disregard for the human element. The Miners' Union. visitors seemed surprised that any mine would pay big wages just because they felt that the men couldn't live on less. The only it was definitely a distinction) of De- iteness, that she was not difficult to any of the women visitors mentioned: reason they could say why they were in Canada and the U.S. to look ing a daughter of Dr. James L. Hugh- listen to, cleverly, but with logic so far. But there were some other over machninery was that they wanted to increase production. Ask- es, Toronto's most outstanding public that kept tripping over its own reet, ladies visiting here who did make a ed if the union had put up the wages, they answered that they had school inspector, and a niece of Hon. the lady set mere man in his place, decided hit with the women of the unions for the workers, but they didn't interfere too much with Sir Sam Hughes, Canada's talented that place apparently, was none other Porcupine. Among them may be mich. wages and things like that.

This good feeling for the workers hasn't been something which a brilliant character in her own right, is the right word) was that, not only Parsons, of Cochrane. tories it is almost silly to what lengths management has gone to In her addresses here Miss Hugnes the election, but the war itself, was Mrs. Soames was the Diocesan presikeep the worker on the job. It is a direct change from the nine- did not, perhaps, paint as flattering a a battle between democracy and spe- dent of the Women's Auxiliary of the gun. No ciues have turned up in 120 days of careful scientific stalking-and teenth century labour practices.

It is only pay which the workers want but recognition as im- Article No. 65 in this series, but she she urged, again and again. The teresting reviews here of the work of the case. But they're up a blind alley, portant cogs in the job which requires a large part of their waking hours.

Today there has been increased emphasis on the paycheck be- laughed, but they liked her snappy majority. cause of the high cost of living. The high cost is because of high generalities. wages say some would-be economists, but the labour man looks at his pay check with all the markings on the attached tab and won- politicians, Miss Hugh poured vitriol and thoughtful Porcupine prospector, Miss Marsh was brought through ders what the government does with all the money. Many com- (parabolically) on all politicians. At chuckled, and said: "Women had ton- the efforts of a number of the good panies are not worried about the high costs of living because they can afford to do so because they just tab the cost on the cars as they all workingmen were pure as snow, visited the Porcupine in the early days did she delight adult audiences here, roll off the assembly line to the impatiently waiting citizens. But and clever as lightning. It was hard who had no harsh words for men in but she enthused the school children the great majority of the companies must keep their selling price within limitations and none more so than the mines. They must believe that she could class him out- workers and non-wirkers. She work- this part of the North, and loving the sell their gold to the Dominion government at a set price per ounce. side the working class, for no man ed them all. She had a clever line feathered beauties. After long dis-And, despite what the miners may think about ability to pay, the mines working on low grade ore, cannot possibly increase their pay- In any line of activity, he was the lightful dark brown. And could see distinct species of birds native to this roll. If the big mines increase the payroll then they put the small first to arrive in the morning, and roll them! Oh, boy! little cooperation from the government.

The South African mine owners looked down their noses when quick in the busy hours of Col. Sam's concern that offered cut rates on any pine in its early days was Mrs. Par- first mass meeting speech since he was shot. . . . the Canadians admitted that they couldn't sell their product to other than the Canadian government. In South Africa, they chuckled, they sold only 80 per cent of their production to the United Kingdom and they could sell the 20 per cent where they remain the longest in memory will was only a question of how many Parsons made a specialty not only of wished and at any price they could get.

If the Canadian government would adopt a like policy they would suggestion that workingmen were not afford. One citizen subscribed for ten also of showing how it could be done probably increase production overnight. If 80 per cent of the gold about because the workers united themselves together to fight injustices, in wages nad working conditions. Today in many facat a hundreds of others. The manufacture managers and factory owners have been born with, but it came production had to be sold to the Canadian government at \$35 an big social function at Ottawa. In- In a few weeks, other towns from flour. ounce but the remaining 20 per cent of production could be sold stead, she found them very dull, an- North Bay to Hearst were howling. She also quoted the definition of anywhere then the mines would really tear the gold out of the deed. One member of parliament she their heads off, claiming the young "Oats," used by Dr. Samuel Johnson ground. India, South American countries and Mexico are paying met could not talk intelligently even lady had defrauded them - that the in his first English dictionary. high money for gold. Perhaps the government may do something

about it with an election coming on? Anyway its a nice thought for Labour Day in the Porcupine!

Help The Police

When anything happens, like a burglary or a murder, the police re expected to clear up the whole situation within a very short Babe Ruth No Sinner are expected to clear up the whole situation within a very short time. John Public is a hard task master. He doesn't consider that his help in the matter might assist the police in clearing up the No Saint - Says Ruark job faster.

The police left to their own devices without the aid of the public ... The million-word obituaries of Babe child-lover, idol of millions and nat- lar watch, a gaudy testimonial, freekcan do a fair job and often do a good job despite the criticism and Ruth, even as that shamefully slobber- ional symbol—Rice gave a rounded led with diamonds. Playing for the carping with which they are bombarded incessantly. It is a ous movie about him, generally man- picture of the man. He tells about the Yanks at the time was a ballplayer, strange paradox. The people who depend most on the police to age to offer an impression that the winter Ruth dropped \$100,000 playing a sterling athlete who had a deplorable protect their property and lives are the least likely to complain. By old Bam was a kind of thyroid Faun:- the nags in Havana. He tells how habit; he stole. He stole Ruth's that we mean that those in high places and those who have consid- of human kindness. It is an inaccur- cop. He tells how, in a fit of unbridled erable property to protect are the least likely to blow their top when ate presentation, and one which Ruth gaiety, Babe once dangled little Miller with his bare hands, and to prevent the police make a mistake.

It has become a habit of modern people to try and get away with and he often was purposefully kind also relates how he and the Babe drove still fumed. He wasn't nearly so sore as much as they can. This type of thinking leads them to treat the -when he thought about it. But like 60 miles to see a sick kid, with Ruth police as interlopers in their private lives. The average man should a frolicking puppy, he frequently chew- promising to belt him loose form his a footnote to the crime. feel that the policeman is there on the corner and riding around in hand that fed him. He was a great comes out is Ruth the man, not Ruth the squad car for his protection and to assist him with many dif- big kid, thoughtless as a child is and the manufactured mollycoddle. ficulties. The average citizen thinks otherwise. Unless he wants sometimes cruel as a child is. a cop to report a straying wife or vice versa, something lost or stolen The piece I've liked best about the Ruth which have not been written, and or the fact that someone is beating his brain out, they don't want Babe was written by old Granny Rice, which are fascinating keys to his skill the policeman to be even standing on the corner.

This beligerent attitude on the part of citizens has built up a like him well. In addition to the usual the fact that he always toted two beligerent attitude in policemen. Policemen begin to feel that their little acts of consideration are looked upon with a glassy stare and they hesitate to lend the helping hand again unless it is requested.

The fast work of the police last week when two men tried to blast their way into the Caisse Populaire was commendable. But what impressed the police was the unhesitating cooperation of the bank manager and they remarked on his coolness in the situation. Instead of running the men off the place by calling the police from the bank or going out to see what was going on, the manager ran across the road to the Taxi office to make the call.

Although citizens heard the blast and wondered about it none of them were interested enough to investigate. "People mind their own business around this town," one citzen stated. Fine, but then they shouldn't complain when there is no cooperation. The same thing happened during the murder of Frank DeLuca. Several neighbors heard Frank's screams for help and some saw him being assailed yet they didn't call the police or even yell at the assailants.

"The screams kept up for some time," one witness said in court. Yet this witness didn't feel a twinge of conscience at the fact that she didn't call the police but watched a man being murdered.

It is only through citizens cooperating with the police in a democratic way that we will keep this country from becoming ruled by the police state, with cynical heavy-handed cops.

Higher rents -- Government thinking generally has been that controls should

in the form of some slight increase in

present ceiling, by way of pacifying owners who base their case on the remain as long as housing shortage re- fact that whereas rental ceilings have mains acute, reports The Financial advanced but 20% over 1939, general Post's Ottawa correspondent. The costs are up 60%. So far no decision date generally in mind for relaxing has been taken although the whole control has so far been the fall of 1949: question is under sludy with the pro-Any immediate move likely will be perty owners.

In The Days When The Porcupine Was Young

No. 66. Some Other Women in the Porcupine

it was intended to suggest that women with him." superlative breed of humankind.

ports such a theory! It is not necessary to prove it; it will be admitted by every pioneering Porcupine man who isn't an old woman,

Why, even the women who came to the Porcupine as visitors in the early

Several of these women visitors will

the same time, she was careful to gues before they had the vote!" self always well in the lead.

longest answer of the evening.

spoke in the interests of A. W. Roeb ck the extent of four simpleon; and then the editor of a newspaper at five smiles) would go no further than New Liskeard, and who was referred the mayor. to by another newspaper in the North. It is true that no one here ever as "the Liberal-Laurier-Lab ur-Con- received any magazines. But scription - anything - to - win - a had already had the smiles! - vote cand date." The meeting at what. The only fault of the men of which she spoke was certainly a rousing porcupine was their gullibility in ocrally. It aroused a little enthusiaem lieving that young lady had to work

Miss Laura had the distinction (and humour, and a small coating of pol- were not particularly delighted with Minister of Militia during World War than the long-famous doghouse. The tioned Mrs. Soames, of Chapleau, Miss No. 1. In addition, Miss Hughes was burden of her thought (if "thought" Marsh, of near Collingwood, and Mrs. did expose mere man as so stupid people did, though not as she expected, the Auxiliary, explaining that it supand backward that women appeared for the Union Government candidate ported missionaries in China and wonderful in comparison. The men in this riding had a very comfortable Japan, conducted a large hospital in

Though closely related to several addresses, Neh Faulkenham, a shrewd fields.

emphasize the fact that she thought There was one young lady who life's hobby - bird life. Not only HEARD ON THIS BEAT IN WASHINGTON: for those who knew her uncle to general, nor did she divide them into into learning more about the birds of in Canada was more of an active and of patter, but her chief asset was a cussions with the youngsters, she elunsparing worker than Col. Sam Hughs. glamorous smile. Her eyes were a de- icited the information that there were tic panty.

thing had to move on the double explain that she represented a large ular lady speaker to visit the Porculabours, with the gallant colonel him- magazine or newspaper published any- sons. She was conscripted more than where on the continent. There was once for return visits here during Perhaps, the part of Miss Hughes no argument. The young lady just World War No. 1. Wit and humour address in 1917 in Timmins that will turned on that gorgeous smile. It lightened all her addresses. Mrs. be her scorching reply to the supposed magazines the man thought he could advocating conversation of food, but intelligent enough to sit in parliamen: magazines. He received twelve deva- without lowering the standard of liv-She said that after the election of stating smiles. That was all he ever ing. In urging more use of oatmeal, 1911 she had expected to be comp- got for his money. It was the same, to save flour for use overseas, Mrs. letely overawed by the brilliance of in more or less degree, with literally Parsons gave recipes for delicious

about his own province. Eventually, company she claimed to represent was "Oats - the food of horses in Engshe attempted to sympathize with non-existent - that even her smile land, and of men in Scotland." him because he lived in such a small was a false one. They set the poice "There is an answer to that! "com- the more doubtful state of Michigan. . . . town when he was at home. Then, on her trail. But they received no mented Mrs. Parsons. "Where under

Readers of No. 65 in this series' "Well," he said, "a man can live zi- the time, with a solemn face, questmight well be tempted to believe that most anywhere, if he has his woman ioned the Provincial Police as to whether or not it was the same young are a superior brand of humanity, and Another woman speaker who made lady. When pressed for a discription that the pioneer women of Porculate the fur fly in an address here was of the young lady who visited here, were a super-special selection of that Mrs. Harriet Prenter, of Hamilton, all he could say was: "Well, she had where tradition says there is a small beautiful, big, brown eyes!" Even the That was the idea! The record sup- hill visible to the naked eye. Die chief of police (another subscriber -)

> for the candidate, and it roused a her way through college, as she claimlot of fury in those in favour of ed. Their common sense should have Union Government. "Crooks," "reto- told them that that young lady could ers," "shysters," were some of the smile her way into a Rhodes Schotar-

> cloaked her references with so much that the women of the Foreupine

China, and also looked after the child.

women of Timmins to lecture on her North.

dishes that used calmeal instead of

Porcupine. The mayor of Timmins at SUCH horses, and SUCH men?'

and when he dropped the nickel, Base got up the extra 20 cents.

Once Rutth received a thousand-dol-

would resent. Ruth was never mean Huggins from a speeding train. He bloodshed, the thief was traded. Ruth about the theft as he was irked about

"The stupld so-and-so hocked it for a lousy hunnert bucket" the Babe roared. "He could of just as easy got five Cs for it. How do you like a cheap guy like that?"

It was the Babe who, when a young the Yanks were leading the league in everything from homers to storen bases, pointed to his light-fingered

teammate. "Yeah," said the Babe, And thisis also leading the league in stolen watches."

eyesight. Ballplayers have told me dicted on charges of plotting against the stability of the Republic. swears to this story:

Larry and Ruth were playing golf Larry hit a 150-yard shot to the green, and Babe squinted at it. He said: "There's a speck of something on your ball, kid. I hope it's mud, because it il louse up your putt." Larry says that when they approached the bail, the died the other day a member of the transport union. speck got off and flew away. It was a fly.

Ruth wound up with a guaranteed income that ranged from \$18,000 to \$28,000 a year, due largely to the rac that some friends got him loaded and he signed over everthing to Christy Walsh, who husbanded his vast income as jealously as a Puritan wife.

I offer these little stories in no azzempt to disparage the Babe, Ruth was all man, with a heavy share of man's foibles, and he himself never made an effort to hide his shortcomings. It is unfair now the Babe is gone, to present him as a saint, because saint he never was.

Inside Labour

by Victor Riesel

Plunder not politics paid off for the imported professional killers, whose sho gun slugs nearly tore Walter Reuther apart four months ago. That's the theory of the F.B.I.'s most scientific crime chasers here.

That plunder came from mobsters controlling Detroit's muli-million dollar number racket which reaches into every big plant. In one Ford factory one the take is reportedly \$20,000 a day.

Knowing little about union politics and caring less, the mysterious racketeers wanted Walter Reuther out of the way because he was known to hate the numbers game-not because he had set himself up as a holier-than-hou crusader against gambling but because he had found out that the mobsters. were corrupting the plant stewards, lowest echelon of union officials.

There are scores of thousands of these stewards who operate right on the plant floor and deal directly with the 500,000 auto workers in and around Detroi. Some stewards without consciously wanting to aid the mobs, make an easy buck handling the dough in the factories.

They then turn the money over to the higher-ups, and it disappears in the complex darkened maze of well-organized rackets, the leaders of which are unknown. But in the factories, in past years, much of the syndicate's take depended on good organiztion among the shop stewards.

Reuther wasn't crusading against the gamblers when he was shot down. But they knew his reputation well enough to be sure he'd buck them if the snowdown came. He had already crippled their loot-taking in the factories when his lieutenants and followers had swept all elections in January and

ams sweep meant that from the highest local union president to the lowest shop steward, the old crowd had been pushed out by Reuther's newly power-

It meant, too, that whoever was running the mobs had to set up a new ground floor organization, Opposition from Reuther, the theory here is, would have cost the torpedoes millions of dollars a week so vast is the racket. The FBI reckons that it was then decided to get Reuther out of the

meuther had condemned the rackets in the past. And when any suwaru was caugh, handling numbers money and fired, the union, under Reutner's orders, refused to light it as a grievance.

neutner was their enemy-and the mobs handled him in traditional style. or all this the FBI and the Detroit Police Dept. are certain after rour montas of thorough investigation. They're positive they could have caught the killers if it were a poil ical assassination attempt. FBI contacts are unbenevany wide. The Detroit police specialists at intricate politics for the past 30 years, feel the same way.

Both agencies have little hope of ever catching the goon who handled the picture of the ladies as implied by cial privilege. "Vote for your class:" Anglican Church, and gave most in- no clues are expected. The Detroit police officially still have two men on

Meanwhile Reuther's home is well protected and he now has two bodyguards. For the most part, the country has forgotten the shooting-but Reuther's pain still is intense. And every day the doctors work at his Years after, in commenting on these ren of parents serving in the mission knuckles and muscles, inflicting gruesome pain for two hours in every 24 to keep his arm and hand from stiffening.

So now you can close the dosier on the case of The Little Red Head Whose Number was Almost Up.

When Walter Reuther launches his fourth party--as he will late this winter according to present plans--he'll be in a position to spend millions on it if

Leaders of the mammoth auto union are overwhelmingly for such political action and it would not surprise the experts if nearly a million dollars eventually is earmarked from the union treasury to get a militant mid-west party going. But first efforts will be made to take over chunks of the Democra-

Reutner has few other problems, wages are set, there'll be no strikes; contracts are signed up to about 1950 so he's set to devote himself to politics. operators out of business. All we can hope for in this area is a the last to retire at night, and every- Rapidly, but charmingly, she would It is probably that the most pop- His first move will be joining President Truman, whom he dislikes on the Labour Day platform in Detroit's Cadillac Square. This will be Reuther's

> Gov. Dewey has succeeded in lining up some labor support from active campaigning--and the first to announce for him probably will be the building service union whose people can do some unique electioneering in apartment houses and loft buildings in big cities.

> Bitter criticism of Feuther's political plans was blurte dout by one of CIO's most powerful leaders at the closed strategy session here Thursday morning. FB1 chiefs are worried lest the current spy hearings tip off the carefully-built network they allegedly have inside the Communist Party, details of which are known only to Gman director J. Edgar Hoover himself, now mysteriously on some special mission out of Washington

> President Truman really has convinced himself the labor vote will win for him--and the top Labor Dept. officials will be out slumping the country on Labor Day. The New Labor Secretary Maurice Tobin will be talking to rubber workers in Akron, Ohio; the lanky, handsome young assit, secretary John Gibson will be in and about Duluth speech making to iron ore miners among others while the President tackles the auto centers. Mr. Truman originally considered talking in Pittsburgh but passed the steel center up for

This campaign labor will be using radio more than ever--the AFL's political said Miss Hughes, he gave her the help in this from Timmins or the Heaven's blue canopy will you find league, which may be spending some \$2,000,000, has asked George Heller's American Federation of Radio Artists to make a series of spot radio political announcements to be broadcast nationally.

> Incidentally, it is the Socialist Party which has the real union-label presicarried expressly to supplement the dential ticket. Its candidate, tall, genial, white-haired Norman Thomas, is a nickel tip Lou Gehrig invariably left. CIO newspaper guildsman, and its v.p. nominee, Tucker Smith, is president of A nice gent, Lou was shy with a buck the AFL's Techers' Local 1000. . . Detroil's street cars and buses are being equipped with FM radio receiving equipment, and the auto union educational people hope to reach the city's millions daily as they go to worn this fall. The union is building a powerful 50,000-watt FM station. . . .

Two weeks ago, shortly after Joe Curran cleaned the Communists out of the ClO sailors union, leftist Harry Bridges dropped in to visit him and try to butter up Big Jot. Curran gave him the cold treatment and Bridges left disappointed. The next morning Curran got a telegram from Bridges' west coast headquarters threatening to expose Curran's alleged "ties with the FBI". in other words calling him a stool pigeon. Curran laughed and told the Ruth threatened to disembowel him Bridges outfit to do its worst. Nothing happened.

> The split in the Wallace party is spreading. Rosy-cheeked Albert Fitzgerald, the only pro-Wallace CIO vice-president, reported to the CIO strategy meeting here that he had told Progressive Party Leaders that he was opposed to nominating candidates against such people as Helen Gahagan Douglas.

> John Lewis, now travelling by himself out west, will return to learn that the Progressive Party has invaded the mine workers union and is calling a national conference of Coaldiggers for Wallace in Pittsburgh Sept 19. . An Emeryville, Calif., employer has signed a contract giving working mo hers a day oil each week to care for their children. Mothers who don't take the time will get a bonus instead. . . .

Radio's Cisco Kid (Jackson Beck) will be riding herd on a new kind of reporter bounced in to announce that round up -- a union covention. He was hired to do the commen ary on the first actual recording of a union convention. Emil Rieve's textile workers transcribed their recent national parley, edited it down to 30 minutes, tied it together with Becks narration, and when it is finished recordings of the final transcription will be shipped to local unions to be played over radio stations so the public will learn what happens at a union convention. . . .

Over 3,000,000 working people (more than five times the number in 1945) now are covered by health and welfare contracts. The first payments of Although he drank prodiglously, 12 John Lewis' \$100-a-month coal miners' pensions went into the mail this weeknever seemed to affect his vulture's end. . Thirty two of Cuba's leading Communist Party officials have been in-

that at least half of Ruth's batting Canadian Communists, oddly enough highly influential in the AFL there. skill was due to a pair of eyes which are turning to violence to drive the non-Communists (of the CIO) out of faccould perceive the nit on the neck or fories there. They're using lead pipes, brass knuckes and the other paraphera gnat at 100 yards. Our Larry Roo- nalia of the goons. The people of four states--Maine, Mass. Arizona and New inson who knew Ruth for years. Mexico--will vote on proposals to ban even the union shop. The Taft-Hartley law forbids the closed shop. Maine ballots on Sept. 13: the others vote on Nov. 2. The union shop is one of the most powerful weapons labor has and if Maine bans it, so may the nation go: . . .

> Oldtimers will be saddened to know that when the famed original Toonerville Trolley lost its conductor not long ago, the CIO subway union lost a duespayer at the same time. Eddie Glaser, for 37 years "Skipper" of the little Pelham Bay, N. trolley that was the original of the cartoon Toonervilla

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leroy, perpetually a-sweat mith milk Ruth cursed and how he slugged a watch and pawned it.

IN OUR TIME

There are dozens of ancedotes about who knew him for 30 years and loved and personality. One I like concerns

By Howie Hunt

eulogies - you know, master athlete, dimes in his pocket when he was an



"You're on the verge of a nervous breakdown, Mrs. Foof-You'll have to listen to just the COMMERCIALS 'till the heroes get out of trouble."