Canada's HISTORY FOR KIDS
#68 | APR 2019
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Canada's History Magazine for Kids

Kayak

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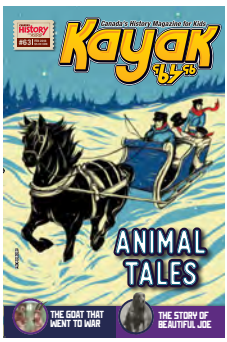

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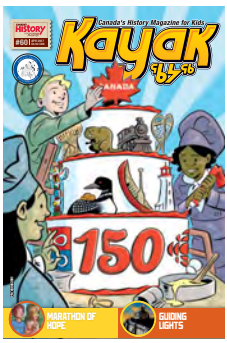

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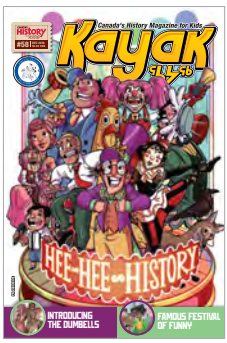

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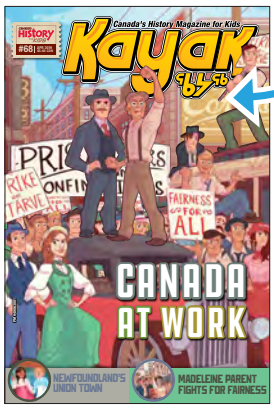

Cover Illustration: Alex Diochon

There's More!

FROM-THE-EDITOR

Throughout the story of Canada, people have had to work. There's work around the house, like cooking and cleaning and yardwork. There's work where you might be your own boss, like fishing or farming, shoeing horses or sewing clothes. And there's work where someone else hires you, as a maid, a factory worker, a store clerk or many other things. We all work, from small chores to big jobs. But the work we do, and how we do it, has changed a lot over our history. Sometimes people have to get together to make their work fairer, less dangerous or better paid. This year is the one hundredth anniversary of the Winnipeg General Strike, so we thought it was a good time to look at the stories of work and workers in Canada. And as you read this issue of *Kayak* you can be sure of one thing: It's good to be a kid now, with time to read for fun, instead of having to haul coal or shine shoes to make money for your family!

Nancy

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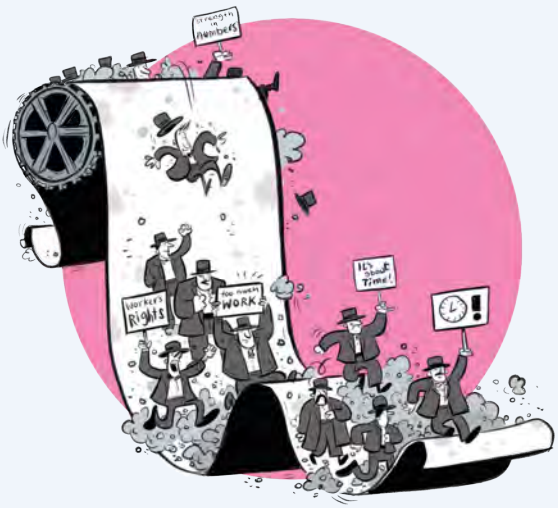
HUDSON'S BAY

Work It Out

Union, also known as a trade union: A group that defends workers' rights. Members come together to agree on their pay, hours and other things with the company they work for. Those talks are called collective bargaining and the result is a collective agreement. When workers and the company can't agree, the workers may refuse to work — that's called a strike. When the company refuses to let the workers work, it's a lockout.



April 14, 1872 a parade to support Toronto printers on strike is considered Canada's first Labour Day. It became a holiday in 1894 and was moved to September.

"Ideals, hope, ambitions tumble into ruins before the necessity of gaining daily bread." –*journalist* ***Kit Coleman****, first president of the Canadian Women's Press Club.*

Danesh Mohiuddin

Newfoundland set its first minimum wage — the lowest amount an employer could pay a worker per hour — at **50 cents** in 1953. (That's about $4.50 now.)

BEFORE MATERNITY LEAVE BECAME LAW IN 1971, WHEN A WOMAN WITH A PAID JOB HAD A BABY, SHE HAD TO QUIT OR GO RIGHT BACK TO WORK. NOW ANY PARENT CAN TAKE TIME OFF WORK WHEN THEY HAVE OR ADOPT A CHILD.

A CHINESE CANADIAN COULD NOT BECOME A LAWYER, DOCTOR OR ENGINEER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA UNTIL AFTER 1947.

DURING THE WORST OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION IN THE 1930S, NEARLY 1 IN 5 CANADIANS OVER 15 AND ABLE TO WORK COULDN'T FIND A JOB.

25,000

THE NUMBER OF WORKERS WHO COME TO ONTARIO FROM MEXICO, JAMAICA, TRINIDAD AND OTHER COUNTRIES EVERY YEAR TO PICK FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

First Nations people arriving to trade furs at Great Slave Lake.

Library and Archives Canada

LONG AND HARD

Since the earliest days of Canada's story, people have worked to make sure they and their families had what they needed.

For thousands of years, work and life were the same thing. Indigenous people hunted, fished and trapped animals for food, clothing and more. Depending on where they lived, they might have gathered nuts and berries to eat, leaves and roots for medicine, and grown crops such as beans and corn. Everyone in the family had a job to do, whether it was sewing clothes from animal skins, putting up a tipi or igloo, keeping the fire going or many other jobs. While people helped each other out, they didn't work for pay.

BIG CHANGE:

NEWCOMERS BRING NEW WAYS.

Starting in the 1500s, fishermen who worked for companies in Spain, England and France sailed to the waters off what is now Canada's east coast. Some of them stayed for a time on land, while some went back and forth to Europe. In the 1600s, the Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company started hiring French-Canadians and First Nations people to buy, sell, trade and transport furs.

More settlers came from France, Scotland, England, Ireland and other countries in Europe. They farmed or fished, working long hours every day, all year long. Their families grew or made most of what they needed.

Some newcomers started businesses or worked for others: shopkeepers, doctors, government workers, restaurant owners and teachers, for example. They often lived in towns and cities. Craftspeople made and sold things like saddles, barrels, boots, wheels, iron tools, bricks and more.

As some people grew wealthier, they paid others to build their houses and furniture. Richer people could hire servants to cook and clean, look after their horses, care for their gardens and do other tasks. For these hired people, the day started before the homeowners awoke and ended after they went to bed, with perhaps half a day per week off.

In the mid-1800s, people started moving to bigger towns and cities. New factories needed workers, and lots of them. People were also needed to work in mines, lay railway tracks, or put up ever-larger buildings.

BIG CHANGE:

WORK STARTS MOVING FROM THE FAMILY TO THE FACTORY.

Settlers from Ontario at what is now downtown Winnipeg, 1872

Glenbow Museum

NINE HOURS, PLEASE

In 1872, Toronto printers used to working 11 or 12 hours every day demanded change in what's known as the Nine Hours Movement. (The modern work day is usually 7.5 or 8 hours.) The strike lasted from late March to mid-May, and in June, the federal government made unions legal.

Once people left the country and moved to the city, they had to take whatever work they could get to earn money. And while many business owners treated their workers fairly, others paid workers badly, and did nothing about loud, dangerous workplaces that could be fiercely hot in summer and cruelly cold in winter. Anyone who complained was fired.

Around the world, workers were starting to realize that while on their own they were helpless, if they got together, they had the power to make changes. Starting in the late 1870s, workers created groups called unions.

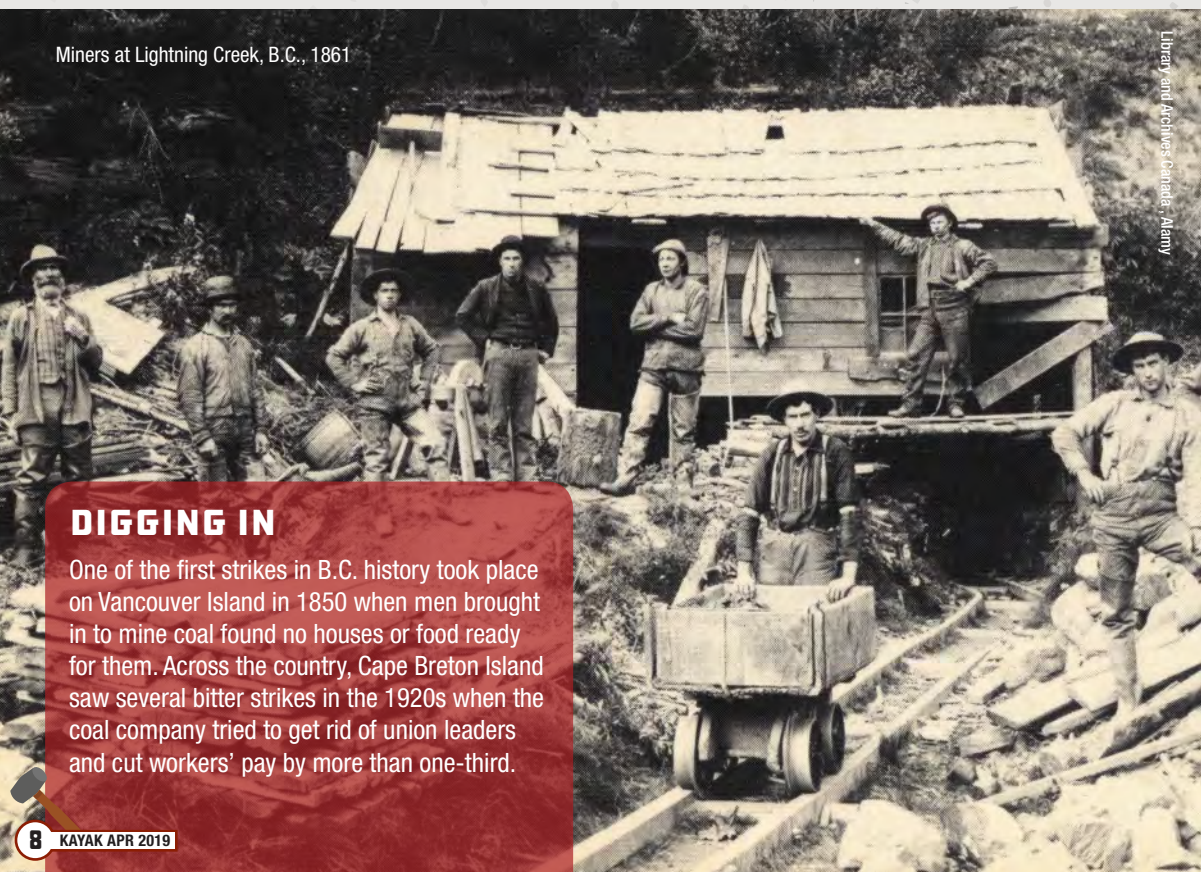
Workers at a textile factory in London, Ont., early 1900s

BIG CHANGE:

UNIONS FORM TO HELP WORKERS.

Unions helped win better pay and working conditions even for Canadians who weren't part of a union. Employers who didn't want to lose workers matched many of those improvements.

Federal government workers won the right to form unions in 1967. Some are not allowed to go on strike because what they do is so important — think of prison guards or airport security.



Miners at Lightning Creek, B.C., 1861

Library and Archives Canada, Alamy

DIGGING IN

One of the first strikes in B.C. history took place on Vancouver Island in 1850 when men brought in to mine coal found no houses or food ready for them. Across the country, Cape Breton Island saw several bitter strikes in the 1920s when the coal company tried to get rid of union leaders and cut workers' pay by more than one-third.

ONLY A WORKING GIRL

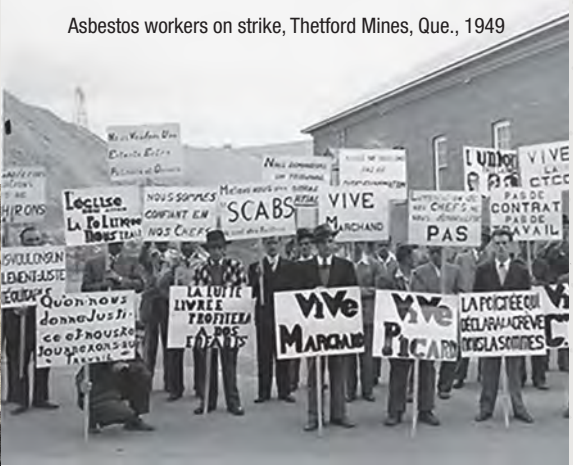
Marie Joussaye, originally from Belleville, Ont., moved to Toronto and by 1893 was president of the Working Girls' Union. She also helped create the Working Women's Protective Association for many female servants. She later moved to the Yukon and British Columbia, and wrote two books of poetry. Here is the first verse of her most famous poem, "Only a Working Girl."

I know I am only a working girl,
And I am not ashamed to say
I belong to the ranks of those who toil
For a living, day by day.
With willing feet I press along
In the paths that I must tread,
Proud that I have the strength and skill
To earn my daily bread.

NOT FOR EVERYONE

Early unions were formed almost entirely by white men. Very few allowed women, Indigenous workers or people of colour. Today, anyone can be a member of the union if their workplace has one.

Asbestos workers on strike, Thetford Mines, Que., 1949



MAKING HISTORY IN QUEBEC

Asbestos miners in Quebec walked off the job at three different sites on Feb. 14, 1949. The company owners had refused to increase their pay. The workers also wanted protection because so many of them were getting sick from breathing in tiny bits of cancer-causing asbestos. Even though the provincial government supported the companies, and there was violence on both sides, most Quebecers and many Roman Catholic priests supported the strikers. The strike dragged on for months, finally ending in July.

BIG CHANGE:

APPS, GIGS AND...?

In recent years, many companies have started giving workers contracts for a few months at a time instead of hiring them as employees. Other companies give people work now and then but don't guarantee anything. Food delivery, private drivers, web-based work from home and other new types of work are known as "gigs." The future of work in Canada already looks very different from its past.

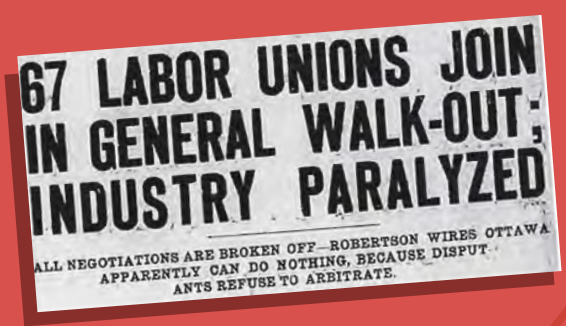
Library and Archives Canada, Istockphoto

WINNIPEG ON STRIKE!

WHEN WORKERS STOOD TOGETHER IN 1919, PEOPLE ACROSS THE COUNTRY SUPPORTED THEM. AND EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE BEATEN BACK, THEY CHANGED CANADA FOREVER.

MAY 1

After three months of asking employers for a 44-hour work week and a raise, about 1,400 metal and construction workers in Winnipeg go on strike.



67 LABOR UNIONS JOIN IN GENERAL WALK-OUT; INDUSTRY PARALYZED

ALL NEGOTIATIONS ARE BROKEN OFF—ROBERTSON WIRES OTTAWA APPARENTLY CAN DO NOTHING, BECAUSE DISPUTANTS REFUSE TO ARBITRATE.

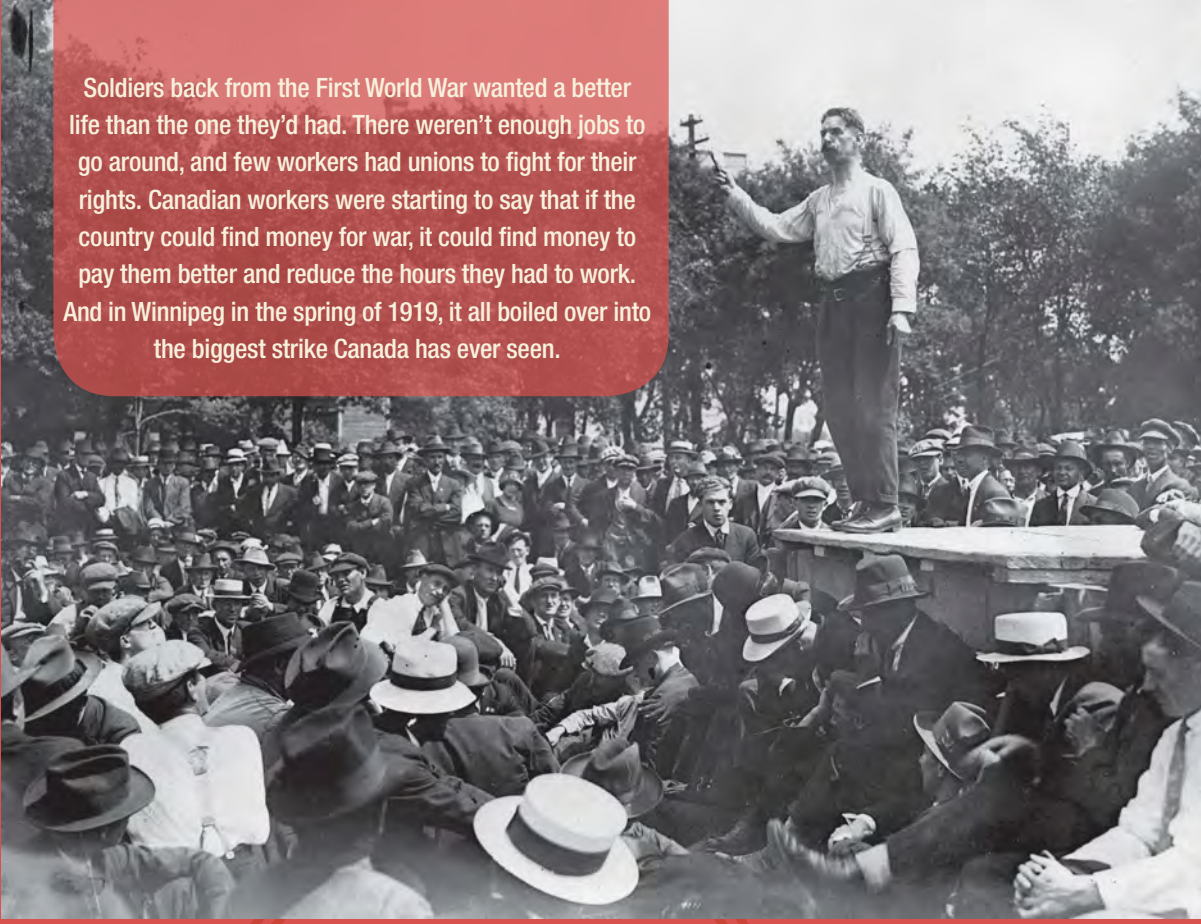
MAY 11

Members of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council (WTLC) start voting on whether to walk off their jobs in support of the striking workers. Eventually the total will be about 11,000 in favour of a strike and about 500 against it.

MAY 15

The general strike is supposed to start at 11:00 in the morning, but it gets underway earlier when 500 women who work as telephone operators don't show up for the 7:00 a.m. shift. There are no streetcars running, no mail being delivered, no phone calls getting through. Factories, offices and stores fall silent and shut down as employees join the strike.
More than 30,000 workers walk off the job, affecting more than half of the city's families. That's like everyone who lives in Lloydminster, Sask., Stratford, Ont., or Sydney, Nova Scotia being on strike. Winnipeg's mayor, Charles Gray, warns on the front page of the Winnipeg Free Press, "Citizens, go about your business quietly. Do not congregate in crowds."

Soldiers back from the First World War wanted a better life than the one they'd had. There weren't enough jobs to go around, and few workers had unions to fight for their rights. Canadian workers were starting to say that if the country could find money for war, it could find money to pay them better and reduce the hours they had to work. And in Winnipeg in the spring of 1919, it all boiled over into the biggest strike Canada has ever seen.



MAY 16

A group of the city's business leaders forms The Citizens' Committee of 1,000 to oppose the strike and to uphold "proper respect for the law." They work to keep some city services running.

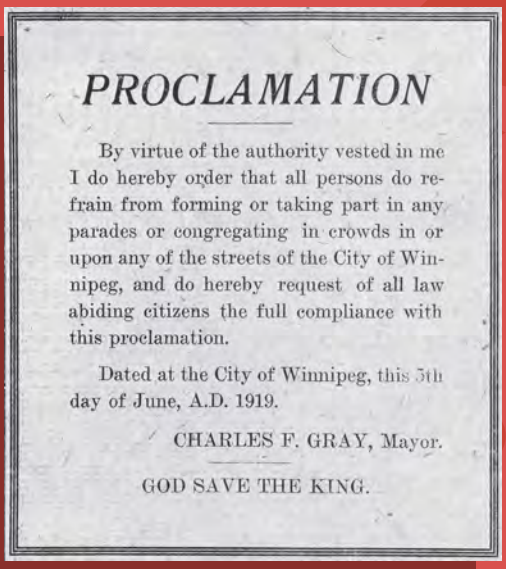
MAY 25

The federal minister of labour says he will fire postal workers if they don't return to work. Five thousand strikers rally in downtown Victoria Park saying they won't accept this or any other such order, such as the one given to the telephone operators.

Photos from the Manitoba Archives

MAY 29

The city's police officers are told they have until 1:00 the next afternoon to sign a statement saying they will not take part in the strike. They refuse but promise to uphold the law.



PROCLAMATION

By virtue of the authority vested in me I do hereby order that all persons do refrain from forming or taking part in any parades or congregating in crowds in or upon any of the streets of the City of Winnipeg, and do hereby request of all law abiding citizens the full compliance with this proclamation.

Dated at the City of Winnipeg, this 5th day of June, A.D. 1919.

CHARLES F. GRAY, Mayor.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

JUNE 1

Ten thousand men who served in the First World War march to the Manitoba government building in support of the strike.

JUNE 9

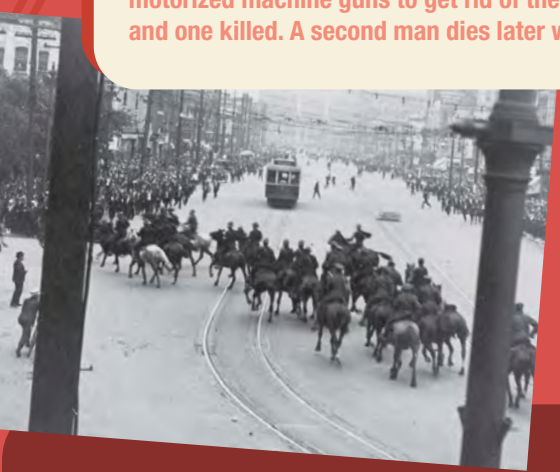
Nearly every member of the Winnipeg police force is fired. The Citizens' Committee starts hiring replacements known as "special police" or "specials."

JUNE 16-17

During the night the North West Mounted Police and specials arrest 10 men who are supposedly leaders of the strike and take them to Stony Mountain jail north of the city. Complaints about the arrests pour in from all across Canada.

JUNE 21 BLOODY SATURDAY

Marchers start gathering downtown around 1:30 in the afternoon for a silent parade to protest the arrests. A streetcar running through the crowd is pulled off its tracks and set on fire. Specials and the North West Mounted Police start to move in. At about 2:30, the mayor orders the crowd to go home within half an hour. A gunshot sounds, likely from one of the mounted police firing a warning. The crowd breaks loose. The specials and mounted police attack, beating marchers with clubs and firing shots. People in the crowd throw stones. Around 2:45, the mayor calls for the military to bring more mounted officers and motorized machine guns to get rid of the crowd. Dozens of marchers have been injured, and one killed. A second man dies later when gunshot wounds to his legs become infected.



JUNE 26

At 11:00 a.m., the Winnipeg General Strike is over. More than one hundred people will be arrested in the days to come.

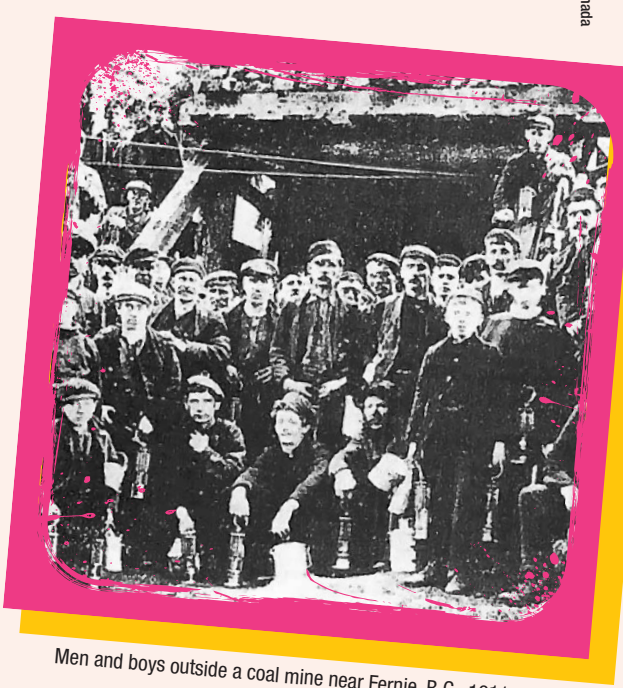
The strike may not have been seen as a clear success at the time, but it brought change that shapes Canada to this day. Canadian workers and those who had come from Britain stood beside those from other countries who had often been looked down on. Strikes took place all over the country in support of the Winnipeg workers, bringing their ideas and demands more respect. When the men who had been arrested went on trial, most were convicted, their fates decided by juries who had been chosen ahead of time to ensure they were not sympathetic to the strikers. But the convictions backfired when several of the men were voted into office in provincial, federal and city elections, even while some were still in jail. Many leaders of the strike helped form the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, which eventually became the New Democratic Party of today.

NO FUN

Kids have always been expected to help with chores, or to do small jobs on the farm, in the fishing boat or in the family store or business. But it wasn't that long ago that many children your age and younger had actual jobs.

FORCED TO WORK

Before Canada passed laws saying kids were not to work, many children took jobs. They didn't have much choice — even if both parents were working for money, their families were still terribly poor. These jobs were often hard and dangerous. Kids worked up to 12 hours a day, six days a week. Boys as young as eight worked in coal mines as "trappers." They sat in complete blackness, ready to open a door for loads of coal. When the Springhill mine exploded in 1891, 21 boys were killed alongside 104 men. City children were often hired because they could be paid less, and because their small hands were useful for some jobs. Children working in a Quebec factory in 1889 were paid a dollar a week, while adults doing the same job earned that much in a day. In many factories, child labourers would have money taken away from them if they talked too much, came in late or didn't do good enough work, according to their bosses. Girls might work at home with their mothers, doing laundry or sewing for other people. Kids also earned money by polishing shoes or selling fruit in the streets.



Library and Archives Canada

Men and boys outside a coal mine near Fernie, B.C., 1911

IN 1891, MORE THAN ONE IN 10 KIDS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 10 AND 14 WORKED OUTSIDE THEIR HOME.

First Nations children plant seeds in the garden at the Red Deer Industrial Institute, an Alberta residential school, in 1910

United Church of Canada

FROM BAD TO WORSE

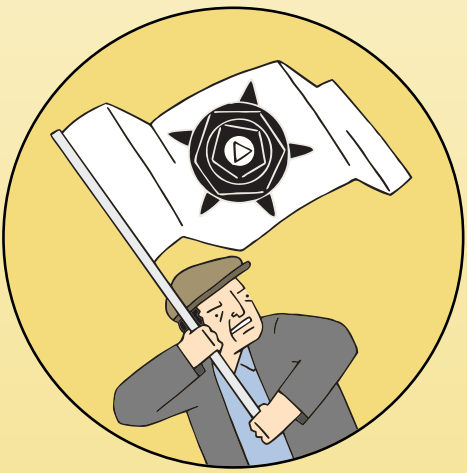
Imagine you were taken away from your family and had to live at your school. You only spend a bit of the day in a classroom learning, and almost no time relaxing or playing. Instead, you work, often from early morning until the evening: washing and ironing laundry, hoeing and weeding fields, repairing and cleaning the school buildings, washing dishes, making shoes, cooking and baking, or sewing clothes for your schoolmates. That was what happened to Indigenous children at residential schools, which, despite their name, didn't provide much education. One principal in Saskatchewan wrote in 1886, "the pupils are here to learn how to work as well as to read and write." The government didn't give the churches that ran the schools enough money, so kids were put to work to keep things running. Sometimes they were seriously hurt or even killed while working at jobs that adults would normally do. The injuries were blamed on their carelessness. An RCMP officer visited the Mount Elgin residential school in Ontario in 1943, where students worked on a farm. He reported, "Discipline is too severe, (the students) are over-worked and have little or no recreation." In some schools, Indigenous children made things or harvested crops to be sold to outsiders. This is called forced labour because they had no choice and were not paid.

RESCUED BY LAW

THE FIRST RULES LIMITING KIDS' WORK WERE PASSED IN THE LATE 1880S. IN THE 1920S, LAWS STARTED REQUIRING CHILDREN TO GO TO SCHOOL. BY 1929, IT WAS ILLEGAL TO HIRE CHILDREN IN MINES AND FACTORIES IN MOST OF THE COUNTRY. KIDS COULD FINALLY JUST BE KIDS, LEARNING AND HAVING FUN INSTEAD OF WORKING LONG HOURS.

COLLECTIVE POWER

Over the past 150 years or so, workers have formed lots of different unions and associations to represent them when bargaining with their employers. Which of these do you think are real and which might be made-up?



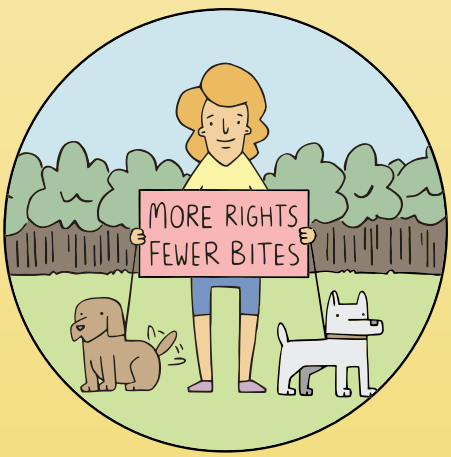
« KNIGHTS OF LABOR

This American group spread to Canada, starting in Hamilton, Ont., in 1881 and on to British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. It set up a French-language section in Montreal in 1882. While the Knights also included women and some Black members, the group saw Asian workers as their enemies.

Ryan Harby

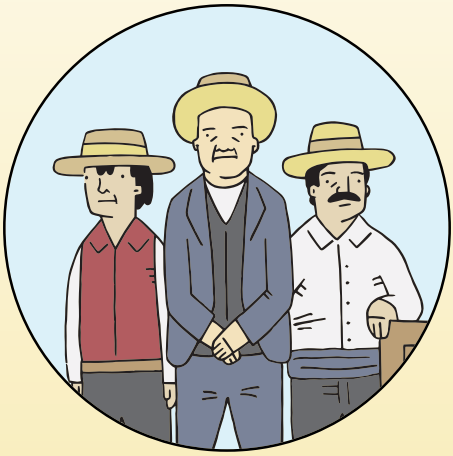
DOG-WALKERS UNITED »

A group of friends who walked dogs for a living were having coffee one day in 2004 when they realized they all had the same complaints: low pay, dog bites and scratches, and physical problems such as sore arms from holding on to as many as six dogs at once. They formed a union but when they tried to make it official, the government turned them down.



SORWUC »

In the 1970s, some women in Vancouver, B.C., wanted change. They saw how women were treated unfairly and paid less than men, so they formed the Service, Office and Retail Workers' Union of Canada or SORWUC. The union worked to change society through things like better child care in hopes of making Canada a fairer place.



« BOWS & ARROWS

Dock workers in what is now Vancouver were extremely good at loading and unloading lumber for ships in Burrard Inlet, but because the longshoremen were mostly members of the Squamish First Nation, they were looked down on and treated unfairly. So in 1906 they formed their own organization, the Bows and Arrows, local 526 of the Industrial Workers of the World.

ONE BIG UNION »

The people at a big labour conference in Calgary in March of 1919 voted to create the One Big Union. Not only would the OBU represent as many Canadian workers as possible, organizers hoped it would help give those workers more power in society. At one point it had 50,000 members, but that number dropped over the years and in 1953 it became part of the Canadian Labour Congress.

« CANADIAN AUTO WORKERS

By the early 1980s, Canadian members were unhappy with how their American union, the United Auto Workers, was doing things. So after a tough battle, they broke away to create their own union, the Canadian Auto Workers or CAW. In 2013 the CAW joined with the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada to become Unifor.

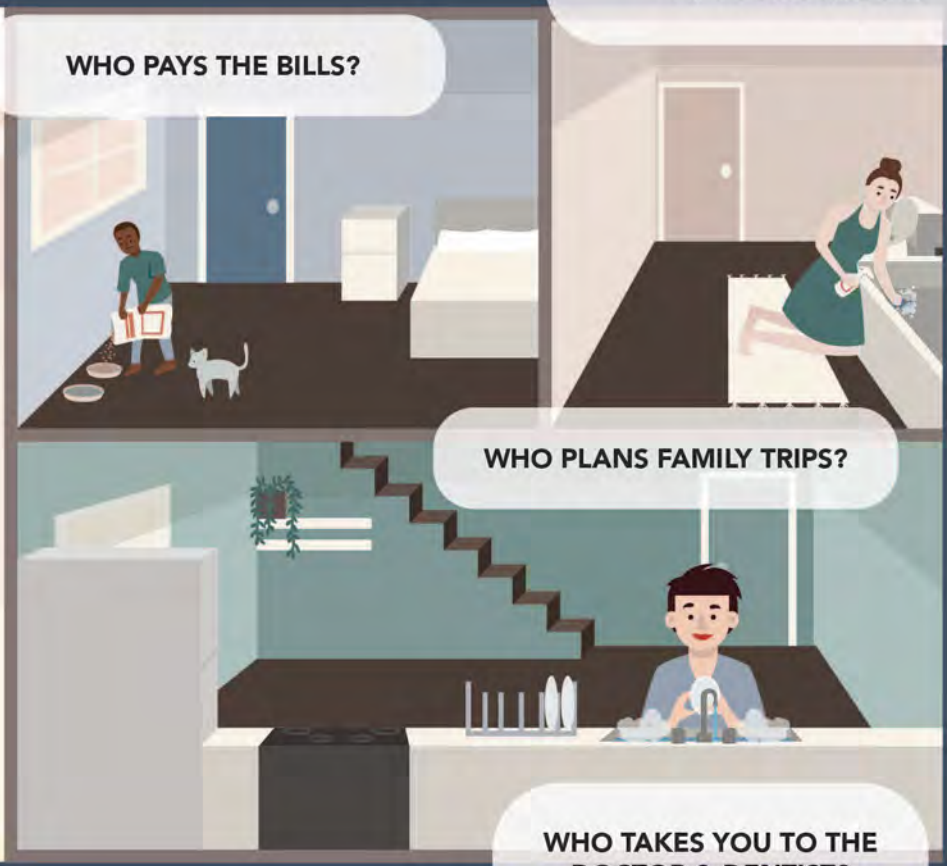
Answers on page 34.

WORK WITHOUT PAY

There's a lot of stuff that has to be done around a home to keep a family going. Who does these jobs around your home? Do they do it after a day of work? Do they get paid?

WHO GOES TO MEETINGS AT YOUR SCHOOL?

WHO PAYS THE BILLS?



WHO PLANS FAMILY TRIPS?

WHO TAKES YOU TO THE DOCTOR & DENTIST?

WHO BUYS YOUR CLOTHES?

WHO KEEPS THE CAR IN GOOD SHAPE?


F·P·U

UNION TOWN

Illustrated by Alice RL • Written by Allison Gulliver

Port Union, Trinity Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador, 1920

The crowd was silent as the brand new elevator whirred and banged its way up to the second floor of the big red wooden building. Everyone was holding their breath. Everyone was leaning forward just a little. And then with a final sliding clank, the door opened and out stepped William Coaker. The crowd exhaled into one big cheer.

"Ladies and gentlemen of Port Union, I give you Newfoundland's only elevators outside of the fair city of St. John's!" Jane Roberts and her cousin Eliza were jostled around as the crowd moved to greet the man who had made their town possible.

Jane's brother, George, had been chosen to operate the elevator for the big occasion. He'd told Jane she and Eliza would get the first ride after Mr. Coaker, but now that the time had come, Jane's feet felt like they were stuck to the floor. She couldn't get into that big metal box — what if she never got out? What if the cables broke and they went crashing to the ground?

"Come on," Eliza said, exasperated. "If we don't get on now we'll lose our turn!" She grabbed Jane's arm and pulled her into the compartment. "Okay, George," Eliza said. "Let's go down!"

"Yes, ma'am!" George said with a grin. He pulled a lever and the elevator door slid noisily shut. Even Eliza looked a little pale as the elevator jerked into motion and slowly started to drop.

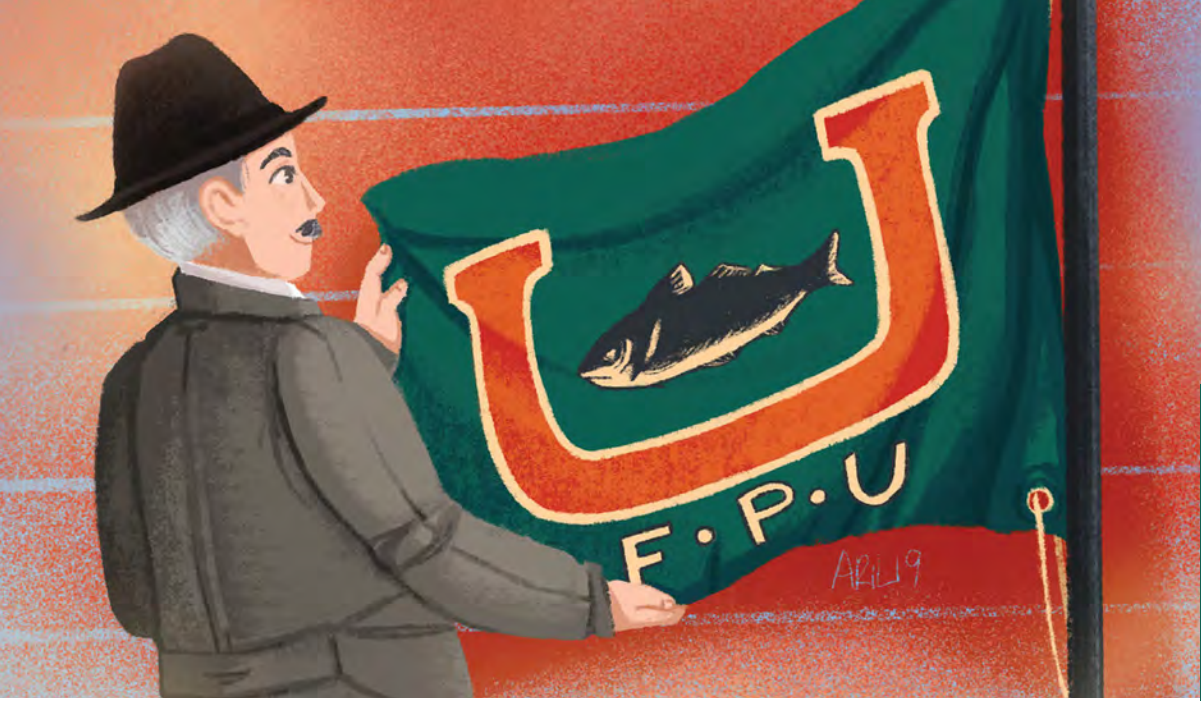
"My tummy just jumped into my throat!" Jane gasped. Now too nervous even to agree, Eliza just nodded her head hard in agreement.

George laughed. "It does feel a bit funny at first, but you get used to it. And see?" The elevator stopped with a gentle bump. "We're already downstairs!" He slid the door open, bowed and swept his arm forward. "Thank you for riding the Port Union elevator, young ladies. We hope to serve you again soon."

The girls spilled out onto the ground floor of the Fishermen's Protective Union factory, not far from the big machines where the FPU newspaper, the *Fishermen's Advocate*, was printed every week. Nerves overcome and the elevator conquered, they ran out into the street, breathless with giggles.

The warm sunshine made the row of painted houses glow and the water in the harbour sparkle. Fishermen were joking as they mended their nets, and women in their Sunday dresses were walking along the waterside in twos and threes, excitedly discussing the elevator.

Mr. Coaker himself was just leaving the Advocate building as the girls skipped by.



He tipped his hat. "Hello, young ladies," he said with a smile.

It was Eliza's turn to be shy, but Jane jumped right in. "The elevator is very exciting, Mr. Coaker! This is Eliza Briggs. She's my cousin. Her village doesn't even have electricity. This is her first time in Port Union."

"Well then," Mr. Coaker said. "We'll have to take her to the temperance beverage factory." The trio started walking toward another building. "Soft drinks are much preferable to alcohol, I believe, so we make our own beverages right here for all to enjoy."

Eliza's eyes widened when she saw the drink bottles arranged on shelves just inside the door. Mr. Coaker opened two lemony-looking ones and handed them to the cousins.

Eliza took a sip, then sputtered and coughed. "I didn't know it would be all bubbles! They're going up my nose!" she said, her eyes watering. "But don't worry," she said hurriedly. "I like it!"

"Thank you, Mr. Coaker!" Jane blurted. "Thank you for everything — the pop and the elevator and the houses and the school and the church and . . . everything!"

"Enjoy your drinks, girls," Mr. Coaker said with a wave.

Back in the sunshine, they ran down to join George by the docks. The words tumbled over each other as the girls told him about their adventures. "Mr. Coaker is awfully nice," Eliza said.

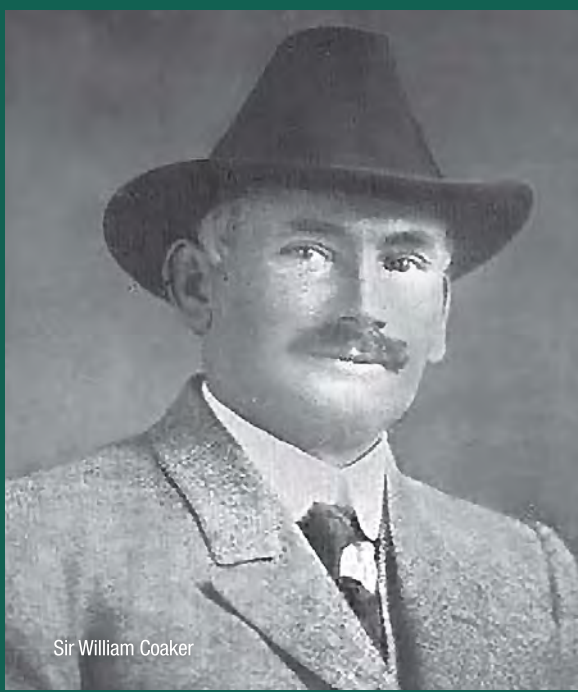
"We wouldn't be here without Mr. Coaker," George said. "Nobody would. He bought this land four years ago and now we have all this. The FPU means fair prices for fish and work in the factories. They say we even had electricity before New York City, thanks to him!"

He took a deep breath and started singing. "*We are coming, Mr. Coaker, from the east, west, north and south; you have called us and we're coming, for to put our foes to rout.*" First one, then several fishermen's voices floated up from the boats to join with George's. "*By*

merchants and by governments, too long we've been misruled; we're determined now in future, and no longer we'll be fooled." Jane and Eliza danced around and clapped their hands as more voices from women and teenagers joined the chorus. "*We'll be brothers all and free men, and we'll rightify each wrong; we are coming, Mr Coaker, and we're forty thousand strong.*"

Eliza sighed with happiness. "You sure are lucky to live in Port Union, Jane." **K**

When William Coaker was just 13 years old and working on the docks in St. John's, he led a strike of other young workers. After two days, they got everything they had asked for, including a raise. Over the years, Coaker was a farmer, a telegraph operator, a postmaster and a clerk. As he travelled among outport fishing communities, he saw how hard people's lives were. Everywhere he went, fishing families were at the mercy of big companies, known as merchants, which set prices for fish and usually ran the local store, too. In 1908 Coaker started the Fishermen's Protective Union of Newfoundland, the FPU, which quickly grew to more than 20,000 members. He also started the *Fishermen's Advocate* newspaper, which published from 1910 until 1980. In 1916, he bought land on the south part of Trinity Bay that became Port Union, the first union-built town in North America. It had things you wouldn't expect to find outside bigger towns or cities, such as a movie theatre, a hotel, plants to process seal meat and fish, housing for workers, a woodworking factory, its own power plant and yes, a soft drink factory and elevators. Because the FPU guaranteed fair prices and honest treatment, the people of Port Union weren't hurt by ups and downs like the Great Depression of the 1930s. By the 1990s the town was in bad shape, but the Sir William Coaker Heritage Foundation has rebuilt much of Port Union. Today you can visit the factory, see the workers' housing and the printing presses of the *Advocate*, tour Coaker's house, the Bungalow, and imagine the harbour a century ago bustling with FPU-owned boats. A monument to Coaker stands on a hill overlooking the town that he, and the union, built.



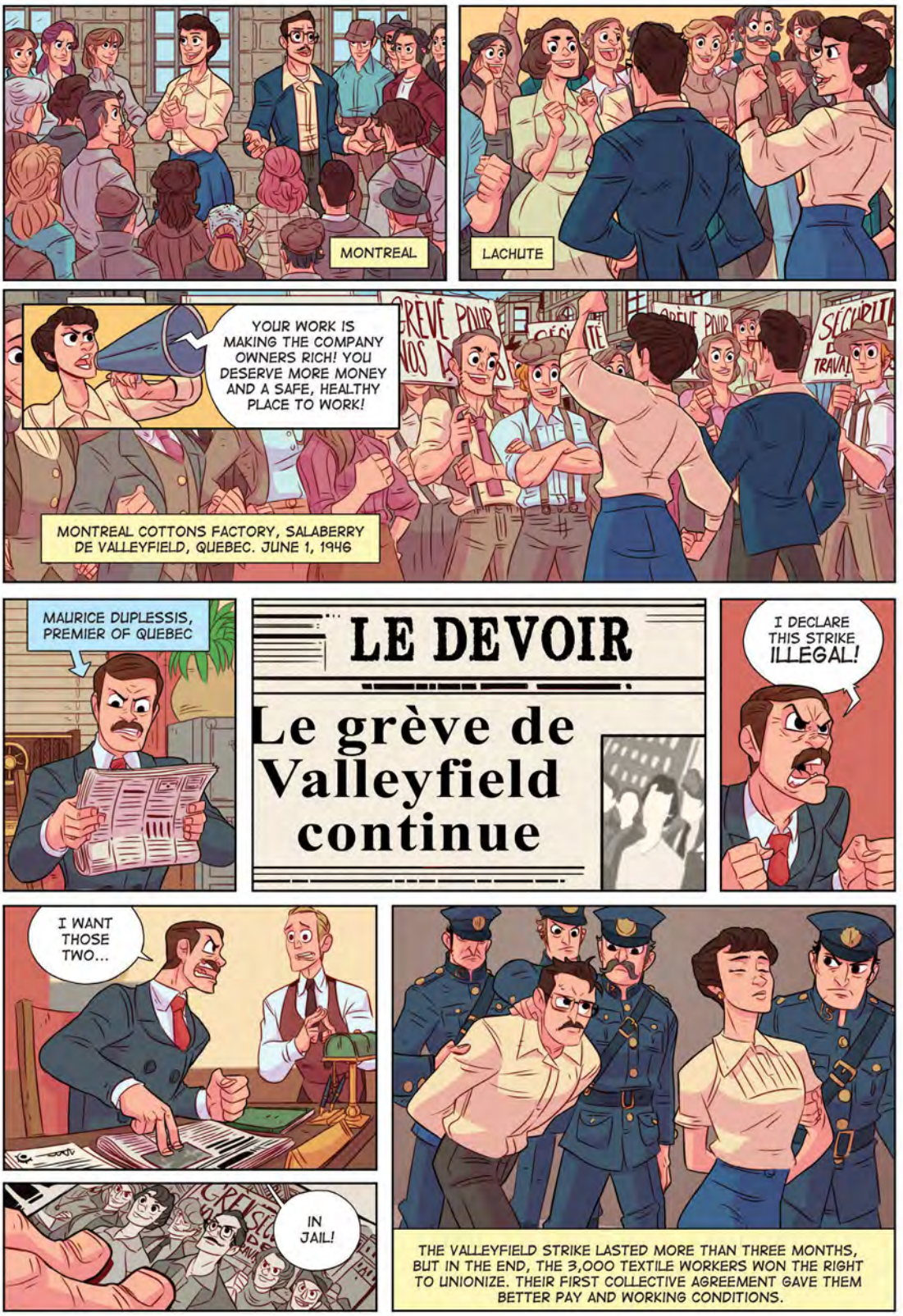
Sir William Coaker

Public Domain

ALEX DIOCHON

FIGHTING FOR FAIRNESS


MCGILL UNIVERSITY, 1938
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AFTER WE GRADUATE?
I WANT TO HELP PEOPLE.
WE ALL WANT THAT!
WORKING PEOPLE NEED FRIENDS LIKE US.
IN THE 1930S AND 1940S, THOUSANDS OF QUEBEC WOMEN WORKED IN FACTORIES THAT MADE TEXTILES.
THESE WORKERS PUT UP WITH 10-HOUR DAYS IN UNPLEASANT AND DANGEROUS WORKPLACES, MAKING THINGS LIKE YARN, FABRIC AND KNITTED ITEMS, OFTEN FOR VERY LOW PAY.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS! YOU DESERVE BETTER.
KENT ROWLEY, OF THE UNITED TEXTILE WORKERS OF AMERICA

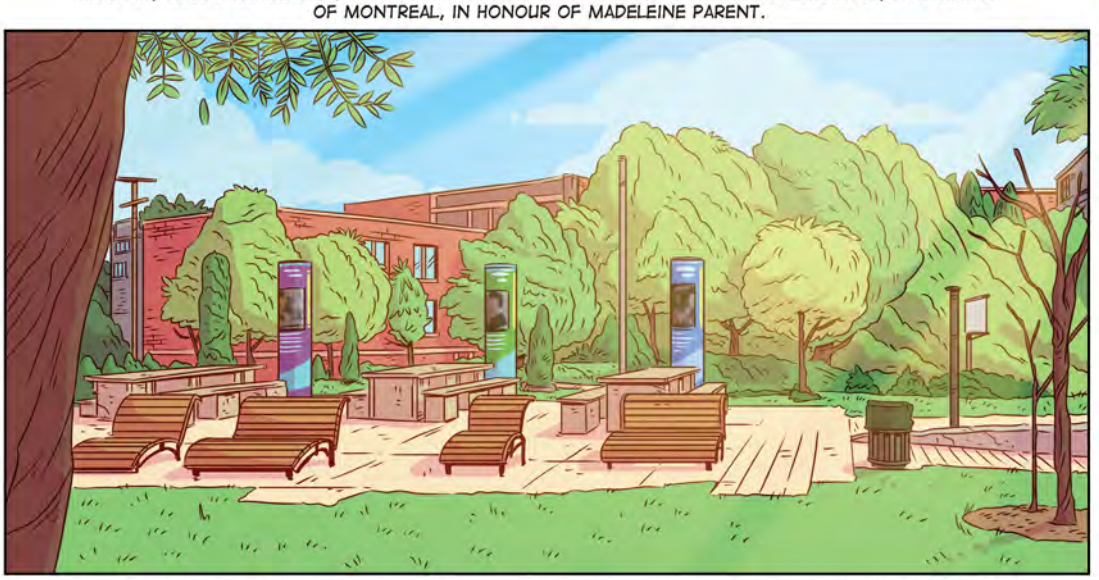

MONTREAL
LACHUTE
YOUR WORK IS MAKING THE COMPANY OWNERS RICH! YOU DESERVE MORE MONEY AND A SAFE, HEALTHY PLACE TO WORK!
MONTREAL COTTONS FACTORY, SALABERRY DE VALLEYFIELD, QUEBEC. JUNE 1, 1946
MAURICE DUPLESSIS, PREMIER OF QUEBEC
LE DEVOIR
Le grève de Valleyfield continue
I DECLARE THIS STRIKE ILLEGAL!
I WANT THOSE TWO...
IN JAIL!
THE VALLEYFIELD STRIKE LASTED MORE THAN THREE MONTHS, BUT IN THE END, THE 3,000 TEXTILE WORKERS WON THE RIGHT TO UNIONIZE. THEIR FIRST COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT GAVE THEM BETTER PAY AND WORKING CONDITIONS.

*PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT ALL PROPERTY AND BUSINESSES SHOULD BE OWNED BY THE WORKERS.

KENT AND MADELEINE WORKED TO GIVE CANADIANS THEIR OWN UNIONS INSTEAD OF BEING PART OF AMERICAN ONES. AFTER KENT DIED IN 1978, MADELEINE DIDN'T STOP.

MADELEINE NEVER STOPPED HELPING OTHERS, AND NEVER STOPPED WORKING FOR WHAT SHE BELIEVED IN. SHE HELPED START THE NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN. SHE FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN SUCH AS MARY TWO-AXE EARLEY, WHO WAS NO LONGER CONSIDERED FIRST NATIONS BY THE LAW WHEN SHE MARRIED A NON-INDIGENOUS MAN. UNTIL THE END OF HER LIFE, MADELEINE WORKED FOR EQUALITY AND PEACE. SHE MARCHED IN PROTESTS AGAINST WAR AND TO SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS UNTIL THE END OF HER LIFE IN 2012.

IN 2013, THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC NAMED A BRIDGE ON HIGHWAY 30 NEAR BEAUHARNOIS, SOUTHWEST OF MONTREAL, IN HONOUR OF MADELEINE PARENT.

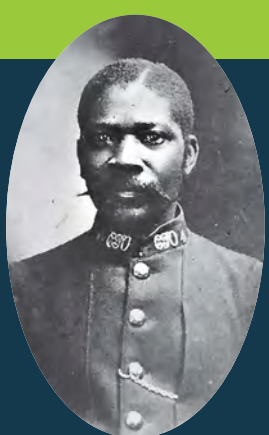


AND IN 2016, A PARK NAMED FOR HER OPENED IN THE MONTREAL NEIGHBOURHOOD OF POINT-SAINT-CHARLES. VISITORS CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT MADELEINE'S LIFE FROM THE INFORMATION ON THE PILLARS, OR JUST SIT AND RELAX AS THEY THINK ABOUT THE PASSION AND DEDICATION OF A WOMAN WHO DID SO MUCH TO HELP OTHERS.

WHERE CHANGE HAPPENED

Sometimes they're big monuments. Sometimes they're little plaques. But all over Canada, there are places that remember and celebrate workers.

On real and virtual tours offered by the **BC Labour Heritage Centre** in Victoria and Vancouver, you'll learn about Songhees First Nation fishers and loggers, Chinese store-owners, the first teachers' strike and more. The Vancouver tour takes in a series of historic plaques honouring workers, located around and inside the city's convention centre.



A plaque in downtown Toronto honours **Albert Jackson.** Born into slavery in the United States, he became Canada's first Black letter carrier in 1882.

BC Labour Heritage Centre, Public Domain

The **On-to-Ottawa Trek** is a national historic event. Hundreds of frustrated men in the Great Depression took over freight cars, hoping to ride the train all the way to Ottawa to demand work and wages. The trek started in B.C. but as more and more men joined, the federal government vowed to break it up. The train stopped in Regina and on July 1, 1935 police arrested the leaders. The men fought back — a police officer was killed and hundreds of protesters arrested. The trek was ended and the men returned home.

Explore life in a fishing town at the **Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic** in Lunenburg, N.S., or the **Provincial Seamen's Museum** in Grand Bank, Newfoundland and Labrador. The **Beaubears Island Shipbuilding** site near Miramichi, N.B., celebrates the province's history of building ships. The Gaspé cod fishery is the focus of the **Banc de Pêche de Paspébiac National Historic Site** near Paspébiac, Quebec.

Library and Archives Canada, Public Domain, Miners Museum of Cape Breton

The **Finnish Labour Temple** in Thunder Bay, Ont., shown above, was the meeting place for the many who came to northern Ontario from Finland for work. The **Hoito** cafeteria in the building's basement was started in 1918 when 59 people contributed five dollars each to create a restaurant where workers could afford to eat.

The **Miners Museum of Cape Breton**, N.S., shown below, highlights the work of mining and the people who have done it. Travel underground to learn the story of nickel mining and rescue of miners at **Dynamic Earth** in Sudbury, Ontario. Near Bonanza Creek, the **Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site** explains the story of gold mining in the Yukon.

Older readers can learn more about the Winnipeg General Strike in the brand new graphic novel *1919* published by Between the Lines.

KIDS AT WORK

It's great that children in Canada are supposed to go to school, play, hang out and help around the house. Of course, kids also like to have a bit of their own cash. This crossword puzzle is all about small jobs kids do to earn their spending money.

ACROSS

1. Look after little ones
6. Drink you sell at a summer stand
7. How you clear snow
8. Creative things you make

DOWN

2. An event to sell homemade goodies
3. Pages of print you deliver
4. A pet you walk
5. Get dirt off a car

BUBBLEDIGY

ENTER ONLINE
TO WIN!
at **Kayakmag.ca**

K CLUB PRIZE PACK

#68

What were these women thinking?

WINNER:

Charlotte, 11 and Brodie, 8
Toronto, Ont.

RUNNERS-UP:

"I want to give my mom grey hair!"
Tobias, 8
Camrose, Alta

"Wait…I forgot my backpack at the other side!"
Peyton, 11
Ottawa, Ont.

"I'll make it, I'll make it, I'll make it…maybe not."
Hunter, 8
Lake Country, B.C.

#67

What was this boy thinking?

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ILLUSTRATED HISTORY CHALLENGE

YOU COULD WIN A $1000 RESP AND A TRIP FOR TWO TO OTTAWA

CANADASHISTORY.CA/KAYAKAWARD

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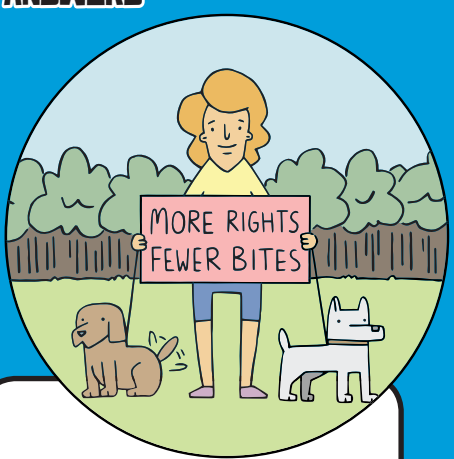
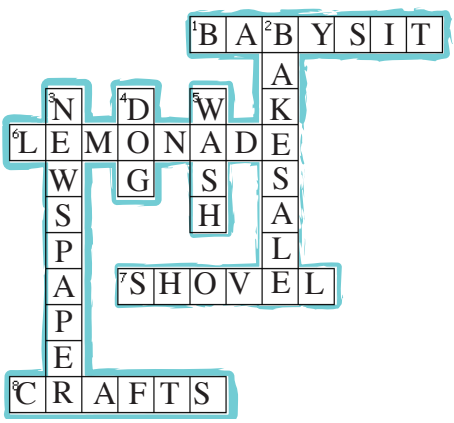
ANSWERS



COLLECTIVE POWER P. 16

Dog-Walkers United is not a real union or labour group. All the rest are genuine.

KIDS AT WORK P. 32



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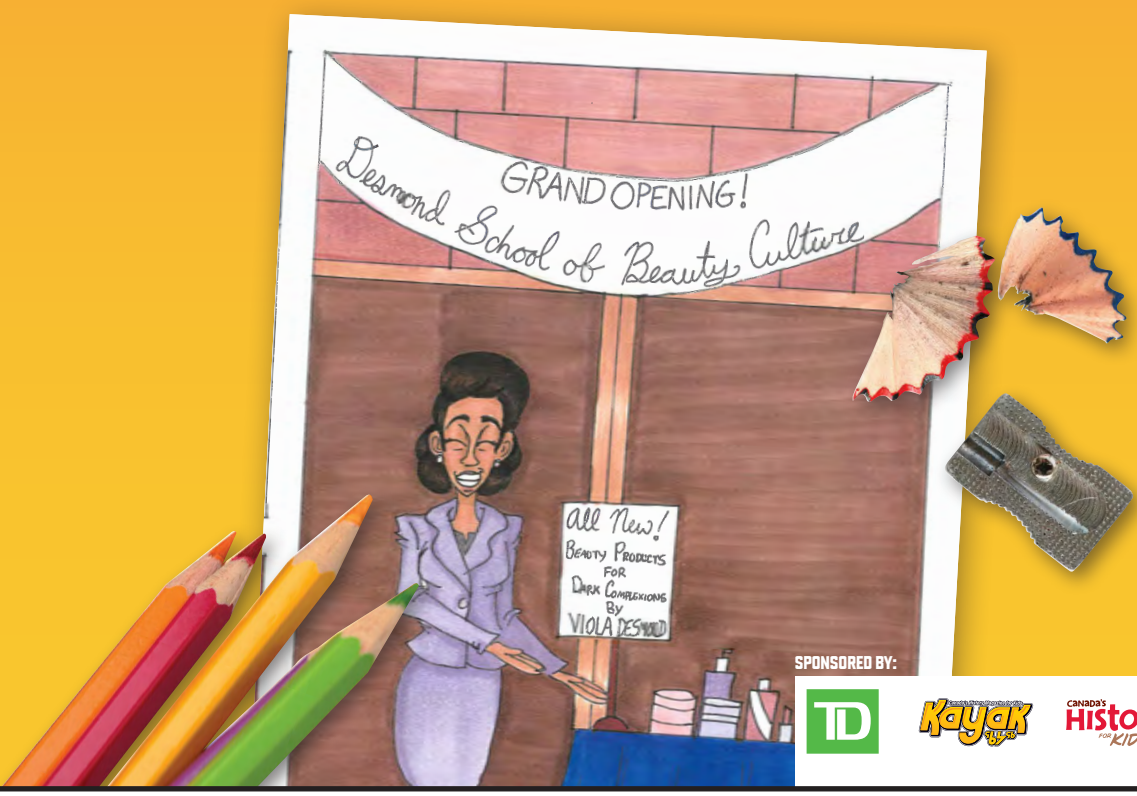

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