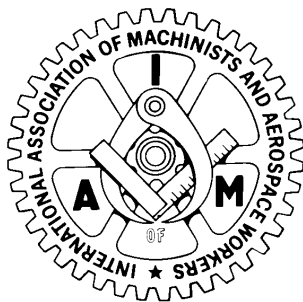


**ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING**Monday April 11th, 4:15 PM

At the Ajax Legion Hall • 111 Hunt St. Ajax

LOCAL 905 EXECUTIVE

| | |
|---------------------|--|
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| Vice President | Dan Robertson |
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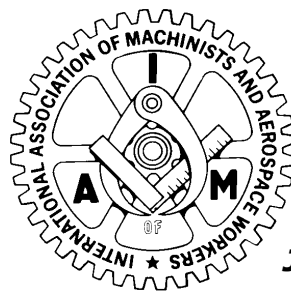
The "905"

Published by the
International Association of Machinists
and Aerospace Workers
Local Lodge 905
P. O. Box 14567
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L1S 7K7
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Editor
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MAR 2011

**JUSTICE ON THE JOB,
SECURITY FOR THE FAMILY
AND
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

Federal Election

In a few weeks the Canadian Federal Election will be over.

As your candidates and their federal election teams come knocking, make sure you understand where they stand on the issues that concern you and your family.

Do not ask open-ended questions. Ask them about specific issues that concern the working class and make sure you get acknowledgement. If the team can't answer your question and the candidate doesn't call you back, drop him/her from the selection list. They will care even less after the election.

Pick the candidate that satisfied the issues you care about, not the party. If you ever have to contact Ottawa it is the MP who ultimately has to deal with the issue and not the party.

It is the most vulnerable time in their political career and they tend to listen. We don't want to elect officials to Ottawa who will make our lives miserable.

To look up how each candidate, who is seeking re-election had voted, you can type in the MP name or search under 'members of parliament' on-line, click on the MP and see how the MP voted on each bill.

Editor

**OVERWORKED
Underpaid**

905 attends the Workers of Colour Assembly 2011

During the March 25-26, 2011 weekend, I had an opportunity with Leonard Yeung, to attend the Workers of Colour Assembly conference sponsored by the Ontario Federation of Labour with the Asian Canadian Labour Alliance, the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and the Latin American Trade Unionists Coalition. There were brothers and sisters from all sorts of different industries and unions.

I was quite impressed by the event, and that flushed out memories almost 30 years ago when I first came to Canada. I had difficulties communicating with others although I have learned English from school. I accepted the fact that having communication problem prevented me from achieving my aspiration.

When I entered the conference room I thought I attended the wrong gathering. They spoke perfect English, without any accent and well educated. Some are school teachers, college professors and why did they still come to this conference? Because they didn't get an equal opportunity to get promotion! Why? Because they are all racialized employees. The purpose of this conference is to share the experience of unfair treatment, discrimination and fight for fairness and equal job opportunity.

My sincere hope and the conference vision is to eliminate all barriers based on age, gender, race, colour, sexual orientation and religious belief in our society.

A warm thank you to our Local Lodge 905, together we will continue to fight for a better future.

In Solidarity!

Mike Fung LL905

CELEBRATING YEARS OF SERVICE IN 905 DURING MARCH

30 Years John Grylicki
30 Years Peter Serjeant
25 Years Ernest (Rick) Surman
22 Years Patrick Hau
22 Years Robin Keough
19 Years Bobby Rayner
16 Years Mike Fung
16 Years David Hampson
16 Years John Hudson
16 Years Charles Millsom
16 Years Rodolfo Vizcarra
15 Years Allen Lien Chiu
14 Years Ken Cousineau
14 Years Barbara Joyce
13 Years Gerry Kyle
12 Years Doug Boyd
11 Years Martin Price
10 Years Bissoondial Ramoutar

10 Years Guangcai (Gary) You
7 Years Alan Symss
6 Years Janice Mckenzie
6 Years Shawn Rose
4 Years Matthew Mitchell
4 Years Jason Shaw
4 Years Nathan Stephenson
4 Years Dave Shaw Jr.
3 Years Gord Pearson



Get Well Soon

Mike Bennie

Derek Bond

Angela D'angelo

Jamie Farr

Delfin Flores

Robert Marlowe

Brent Newbatt

Martin Price

Pauline Reilly

Douglas Teske



"But if we trim the fat won't we both be out of jobs?"

What is really shocking is that the billionaires and the media they control have succeeded in getting a lot of working people mad at other working people – union members, people working in public sector jobs – who, like them, are just trying to scrape by. Somehow, it is not fair for teachers or nurses to have a decent income and pension, but it's all right for bank presidents to take home \$10 million + a year after having nearly destroyed the world economy.

Of course, their answer is that none of it was their fault, and what we need to do is cut their taxes some more, while the rest of us pay more and tighten our belts – and sign more "trade" deals that make corporations more powerful. That's their idea of fairness.

IAM



Earth Hour

The reduction of power usage on March 26, 2011 between 8:30-9:30pm was only 5 per cent in the GTA area.

Editor

Waterous Workers See the Light and Join the Machinists!

Edmonton, AB - There are 16 additional happy faces at Waterous Power Systems and they belong to the newest members of IAMAW Local Lodge 1722.

Parts and service office personnel have joined the existing collective agreement, which previously covered only mechanics, welders, labourers, electricians and unlicensed employees. "I think these workers finally realized what they had been missing by not being a member of the IAM, they hadn't seen a wage increase in over three years" said IAMAW District 14 Business Representative Kevin Clark.

The new members received raises of 14.58 per cent over three years retroactive to September 2010. Additionally they received job descriptions, defined seniority and lay off parameters.

IAM



Prime number

Of 190 countries studied in a Human Rights Watch report on parental leave policy, only three offer no legal guarantee of paid maternity leave—Papua New Guinea, Swaziland and the United States.

Internet/CALM

Worker's death leads to second C-45 conviction

For the second time in Canada an employer has been convicted of criminal negligence stemming from a workplace incident leading to the death of a worker.

Pasquale Scrocca, owner of a Quebec landscape company, was operating a backhoe on June 12, 2006, when it rolled down a slope pinning his employee against a wall. The worker, Aniello Boccanfuso, suffered fatal injuries.

The front brakes and the emergency brake on the backhoe were found to be completely non-functional. It also came to light that the backhoe, bought in 1976, had not undergone any regular maintenance.

Consequently, the court found there was a breach of the "legal duty to take reasonable steps to prevent bodily harm to a person" imposed on an employer by the Criminal Code of Canada. Scrocca will serve a conditional sentence of imprisonment of two years less a day. The sentence will be served in the community with conditions, including a curfew.

The legal duty was added to the Criminal Code in March, 2004, the result of a dedicated lobbying campaign by the United Steelworkers Union and the labour movement in response to the 1992 Westray mine explosion, when 26 men were killed.

WHSC/CALM

Comments made in the year 1955

'I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$10.00.

The Real Opposition

Back in the 1980s, Conservative Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said it was all about "jobs, jobs, jobs". If we just provide the right kind of "climate" for business, they'd crank out so many good jobs that Canadian workers will be able to pick their job and name their price.

So first we got the free trade deal with the U.S., then NAFTA, then tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy -- and after a few decades of making the rich richer and corporations more powerful, did we get the payoff?

Well, it worked for rich people. Their incomes have grown dramatically. The share of total national income going to the richest 1% of Canadians has almost doubled since the late 1970s, while the rest of us have had to run harder to break even.

And a succession of tax cuts benefiting mainly corporations (mainly the banks and oil companies) and the wealthy means that the rest of us are paying a greater share and getting less.

Our manufacturing sector, and its good unionized jobs, already shrank dramatically before the 2008 financial meltdown. As for all of those great jobs that good business climate was going to bring, we have seen our job market shift increasingly to shaky, low-paid, contingent and part-time work, particularly for young workers.

Two years into our "economic recovery", there are still close to a million and a half Canadians officially unemployed and hundreds of thousands more who have given up looking for work or are working fewer hours than they want and need. The official unemployment rate for young workers is close to 15%.

No wonder most Canadians don't think that the recession is over -- except for the banks and the oil companies.

That's because there is a cozy connection between the oil lobby and the Conservative government. Many board members come straight from the energy sector, and for the past several years the board has said yes to every major export pipeline project put before it.

The Keystone XL project is stalled because the State Department and the Environmental Protection Agency in the U.S. seem to be listening to the environmental argument. U.S. regulators have asked for a delay while they take a closer look at the project. And they are asking exactly the right questions about whether the Keystone XL pipeline is in the best interests of the U.S.

But is anyone other than the labour movement raising the issues of jobs and energy security for Canadians? The Keystone XL pipeline is not in our best interests either.

It's time for Canadian political leaders to get some backbone.

Dave Coles/The Activist/CEP/CALM

Zen and the art of the job interview

Glassdoor.com has compiled a list of the top 25 oddball interview questions of 2010 after sifting through thousands of questions shared by job seekers around the world.

Goldman Sachs: "If you were shrunk to the size of a pencil and put in a blender, how would you get out?"

Capital One Investment: "Rate yourself on a scale of one to 10 how weird you are."

Epic Systems: "An apple costs 20 cents, an orange costs 40 cents and a grapefruit costs 60 cents. How much is a pear?"

New York Life: "Why do you think only a small percentage of the population makes more than \$150K?"

Internet/CALM

'Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$1,000.00 will only buy a used one.'

'If cigarettes keep going up in price, I'm going to quit; 20 cents a pack is ridiculous.'

'If they raise the minimum wage to \$1.00, nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store.'

'When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 25 cents a gallon. Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage.'

'I'm afraid to send my kids to the movies any more. Ever since they let Clark Gable get by with saying DAMN in 'GONE WITH THE WIND', it seems every new movie has either HELL or DAMN in it.'

'I read the other day where some scientist thinks it's possible to put a man on the moon by the end of the century. They even have some fellows they call astronauts preparing for it down in Texas.'

'Did you see where some baseball player just signed a contract for \$50,000 a year just to play ball? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they'll be making more than the President.'

'It's too bad things are so tough nowadays. I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet.'

'It won't be long before young couples are going to have to hire someone to watch their kids so they can both work.'

'There is no sense going on short trips anymore for a weekend. It costs nearly \$2.00 a night to stay in a hotel.'

'If they think I'll pay 30 cents for a hair cut, forget it.'

Internet

Canada must rethink the value of shipping oil south

The new Keystone XL pipeline project threatens our environment, job opportunities, and energy security, so why isn't Canada taking the issue seriously?

The 9,600-kilometre pipeline is designed to take black bitumen from the Canadian bitumen sands (oilsands) and ship it to planned refineries on the Gulf of Mexico.

So far, as more Canadians and Americans wake up to the environmental challenges of our oil economy, the bitumen sands' carbon footprint is making most of the headlines. Canada will not be able to meet its 2020 greenhouse gas emission targets unless we control the growth of bitumen sands. If the Keystone XL pipeline is approved and starts transporting one million barrels of black bitumen per day, it will no longer be possible for us to control that growth.

Many Canadians remain unaware that, despite having plenty of oil right now, our country could experience real shortages if it were to ship huge quantities to the U.S. Taking raw, unprocessed bitumen from Canada and sending it to spanking new oil refineries in the U.S. is the equivalent of shipping millions of raw logs to a place where others can cut the two-by-fours and create the wood furniture. As like in forestry, the best jobs are in processing. If we ship our raw bitumen off to the U.S., the Americans will get the good jobs and we will be left with the massive mess.

The first Keystone, built by TransCanada Corp., cost Canada thousands of jobs. An analysis by the Informetrica think tank demonstrated that besides exporting 400,000 barrels of heavy crude per day, the Keystone also shipped out 18,000 high-paying Canadian jobs.

The new project, Keystone XL, is twice the size of Tran-

sCanada's first Keystone. The proposed pipeline will shoot out 900,000 barrels of heavy crude in a one-way ride to the U.S. Canada is expected to lose more than double the 18,000 jobs that are already gone.

The Conservative government has ignored our argument that the export of raw bitumen also exports thousands of jobs to the U.S. However, when seeking support for the project last December, Natural Resources Minister Christian Paradis told a conference of American businessmen that the pipeline would create 342,000 jobs in the U.S.

In our appeal of the National Energy Board decision to greenlight the project, the Canadian Energy and Paperworks union (CEP) argued that it is in Canada's best interest to stop Keystone XL, keep the good jobs at home, and safeguard our energy needs.

To do that we need to process the oil in Canada, using various upgrader and refinery projects in both Alberta and Ontario. This requires that we develop an infrastructure to connect eastern Canada to the supply of oil in the west.

Creating a pipeline located entirely in Canada would also restructure the way oil and gas are being delivered. Right now, oil travels thousands of kilometres south of the border before it re-enters our country around Sarnia. This means that most of Canada remains vulnerable to off-shore oil supply disruptions. It's worth noting, too, that we are virtually alone among oil-producing nations in not having the means to supply our own needs.

Canada is locked into a staggeringly lopsided deal with the U.S. under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Canada can never cut back on the volume of oil that it ships south.

The board rubber-stamped the construction of Keystone XL.