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ALPHONSE VERILLE, OTTAWA.

November 23, 1909.

Sir:

In reply to yours of Nov. 17th I may say that I am pleased to see that Massachusetts is on the verge of passing a law similar to ours.

As referred in your letter my opinion on that subject may not be very valuable although I have at that time strongly supported the same. There may be amendment brought about this year the fact is that there is before the House now a bill of amendments in such a respect my views as to amendments are that we should make it more expedient that the award of a board should be made in a limited time and also the work of said board should be completed in a specified time.

No change in conditions should be allowed pending investigation and in that respect the law should be very explicit. The fine of \$200.00 on the men in each case of violation should be applied to employers in each case, that is to every man they may suspend in violation of the law.

The Party who wished a change in condition should be the one to apply for a A copy of agreements entered in from both parties should be on file in the labor department.

As for No 3 as if it might be extended to all employments it is a delicate question if all branches were well organized it would probably work out better although it may be made to apply to some more industry but is it workable at present if it was so applied it would mean compulsory arbitration for while I am not favorable of course each county furnishes its one condition and thus to be left for consideration. I may say in conclusion that of any Act in the statutes it is the one that has done the most good. It has saved and prevented many strikes and lock outs.

Hoping this will prove satisfactory, I am,

W. L. Mackenzie King Papers

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