

Labor News From Coast to Coast

Our Overseas Column

Australia.
According to the reports of 412 trade unions, with a total membership of 462,969, at the end of September 23,482, or 5.1% of their members were unemployed. The corresponding figures for the end of June, 1924, were 32,768 and 8.3%, and for the end of September, 1923, 28,122 and 7.4 per cent.

Austria.
The number of unemployed in receipt of benefit rose during the first half of December from 115,699 to 130,066. On November 25th 88,237 persons were in receipt of unemployment benefit, and at the end of November, 1923, 77,550.

Belgium.
According to the reports of 1,492 recognized Unemployment Fund Centres, with a total membership of 612,230, 18,444 members were either wholly unemployed or doing part-time work at the end of October, against 19,488 in the previous month and 12,691 at the end of October, 1923.

Canada.
According to information received from trade unions with a membership of about 155,000, at the end of October 4.8 per cent. of the members were unemployed, against 5.9 per cent. in the previous month and 6.2 at the end of October, 1923.

Czechoslovakia.
According to the official statistics the total number of unemployed at the end of September was 73,096, against 78,774 in the previous month. The number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit directly from the State was 7,418, against 8,491 in August, while those receiving benefit through the concerns numbered 15,599, against 17,714 in August.

Denmark.
According to the statistics of the trade unions and the public Labour Exchanges the percentage of unemployed at the end of November was 8.6 against 6.5 in the previous month and 11.4 at the end of November, 1923. In the middle of December there were 27,518 applicants for work in the whole country, against 25,892 in the previous week, and 32,900 in the middle of December, 1923.

Finland.
According to the statistics of the Labor Exchanges of the larger towns the number of unemployed registered at the Labor Exchanges on the 8th November was 1,893, against 1,289 in October, and 779 at the end of November, 1923.

France.
The number of persons registered at the Labor Exchanges was on November 29th 11,863 (7,750 men and 4,113 women) against 10,483 at the end of October and 9,703 at the end of November, 1923. The number of unemployed in receipt of benefit on December 4th was 479, against 415 at the end of November, 1923.

Great Britain.
Of the 979,734 members of the trade unions which sent in reports, 84,347, or 8.6 per cent. were unemployed at the end of November, against 84,859, or 8.7 per cent. in the previous month, and 110,743 or 9.9 per cent. at the end of November, 1923. Of about 11,500,000 persons insured against unemployment 11 per cent. were unemployed at the end of November against 11.1 per cent. in the previous month, and 11.5 per cent. at the end of November, 1923. The number of registered unemployed was on December 15th, 1,158,000.

Wants Public Policy for Unemployment

Deputation From Toronto and Hamilton Discuss Problem With Government

Ottawa, Ont.—Deputations from Hamilton and Toronto arrived in Ottawa January 31st and waited upon Premier King and members of the government pleading the cause of the unemployed in these two cities in particular. The joint deputation was in charge of Alderman Miller of Toronto, and consisted of the following: Major Shields, representing the G. W. V. A.; John MacDonald, representing the Trades and Labor Council, and A. E. Smith, president of the Unemployment Association of Canada, all of Toronto; Controller Davis, Alderman Lawrence, Alderman Burton and Geo. Stockdale, of Hamilton.

The deputation represents that unemployment in the two big centres is very serious and constitutes a heavy burden upon the municipalities. Major Shields of Toronto, claiming that unemployed in that city numbered 40,000, of whom sixty per cent. were ex-service men.

Strike Pickets Parade Before Palaces

Heating and Lighting, However, Are Kept Up—Public Buildings Feel Effect of Walk-out

London, Eng.—London witnessed the unusual spectacle recently of strike pickets parading in front of Buckingham Palace and St. James' Palace when the striking members of the engineering staff of the office of works fulfilled their threats to that effect made earlier in the day. While the King and Queen are at Buckingham, Prince George is residing in his rooms at Buckingham and the Prince of Wales is quartered at St. James. The King's sons, however, did not suffer from the drastic methods of the strikers, as so far the pickets have not interfered with the heating and lighting in the Royal residences.

8-Hour Day Before Supreme Court

Argument Before Supreme Court Begins Next Week

Ottawa, Ont.—The Federal Department of Justice is all set for an argument before the Supreme Court during the mid-winter term that starts next Tuesday on the eight-hour day question. It is uncertain, however, if the case will be argued this term, because each of the provinces is a party to it and all of them may not be ready so soon. In that event argument will be deferred until May.

The essential question for the court to determine is whether the right to legislate as to working hours is a prerogative of the Dominion or the provinces. The latter have always dealt with this subject, but for some years there have been efforts to secure a uniform Canadian law and the court will decide whether such would be intra vires of the Federal Parliament. There is no question of the right to prescribe such hours on Dominion works, but whether applicable to industry generally there could be such a law is not at all certain, and the case now before the court will have a clarifying influence.

Reds May Revolt in Dutch East Indies

Communist Propaganda Being Directed by Exiled Leader Resident in Shanghai

Amsterdam, Holland.—The communist activities in the Dutch East Indies is causing much anxiety in business circles. The Dutch East Indian government was urged recently in the people's council to take strong repressive measures against the increasing communist propaganda. The uneasiness has not been abated by the continual journeyings of the native communists to Shanghai and Hong Kong.

Semaden, one of the most fervent leaders of the Dutch Indian communist party, who was recently expelled from Java, is staying in Shanghai. It is believed that his young satellites are constantly going to China bringing instructions from the great man and are in readiness to put them into execution one day in the Dutch archipelago.

Strike Nearly Stopped War

Shanghai, China.—Refusing to risk their lives, transporting troops under fire, employees of the Shanghai-Nanking railroad struck, tying up the main lines and nearly stopping the war.



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Hydro Wks. Would Negotiate Wit Co'y.

Will Seek Interview When Judgment Received

The Canadian Electrical Trades Union, in session recently discussed at length the decision of the privy council, which it has acknowledged, had virtually killed the Lemieux act. An agreement committee of the union will seek an interview with the Hydro commission as soon as the written judgment is received and will endeavor to open negotiations for a board of arbitration whose personnel would be agreed upon by both parties to go into the long delayed settlement of the dispute. It was suggested the present Snyder board be accepted for this purpose.



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M'tl. Garment Workers Settle Strike

Cloak and Suit Organiser Announces That 27 Firms Have Met Terms

Montreal, Que.—Settlements have been effected with 27 cloak and suit firms in Montreal, covering 700 employees, or nearly half the number out on strike, according to a statement made by Jim Hochman, International Organizer of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, who is in charge of the cloak and suit workers' strike in the city.

The manufacturers settled with are the largest in the industry, Mr. Hochman declared.

Settlements had been effected on the lines of recognition of the union, the 44-hour week and wage adjustments, it was intimated.

C.L.P. Wins Seats

South Vancouver, Can.—Four out of eight candidates proposed by the Canadian Labor party were elected to office in the recent South Vancouver municipal elections. Labor elected two aldermen, a school trustee and the police commissioner.

Philadelphia Labor Is Organizing

Philadelphia.—The Central Labor union is campaigning among Philadelphia non-unionists to bring them into the ranks. Many locals are also stimulating union attendance by laying fines on absentees from local meetings.

Building Wages in Cincinnati

Cincinnati, O.—As a result of a 13-month wage contract signed by the Cincinnati building trades council and the Associated Building Industries, \$1.25 will be the hourly wage for carpenters, hoisting engineers, laborers, ornamental iron workers, plumbers, slate and tile roofers, steam-fitters and structural iron workers. Laborers will receive 35c. hod-carriers, 52-1-2c and other crafts wages between \$1 and \$1.25. The contract expires March 26, 1926.

Laborers Operate Norwegian Mine

Oslø, Norway.—An interesting experiment is being conducted by organized labor, which is taking over the extensive copper mines of Lyngse, the northernmost point of Norway, and acting in a double capacity of employers and workers. The mines are very rich but they have not been exploited in recent years.

Green Calls Gompers a Patriot

Boston.—Praise of Samuel Gompers as a patriot and loyal supporter of the government was sounded by President William Green, American Federation of Labor, at a Boston memorial meeting under the auspices of the Central Labor union.

KINGSTON LABOR MEN CONFERENCE WITH FEDERATION ORGANIZER

Kingston.—Local Labor men held a meeting with John A. Flett, Canadian organizer of the American Federation of Labor; John Noble, organizer of the electrical workers union; Hon. A. E. Ross, M.P., and Mayor Angrove. Mr. Noble said workers could suggest several cures for unemployment. One of these was the universal eight-hour day. Mr. Flett among other things said the workers lost little when the Lemieux Act was declared ultra vires.

Civic Employees Resume Work in Ldn.

London, Eng.—The strike of Public Works Office employees, which began several days ago, ended February 2nd when the men agreed to resume work forthwith. London witnessed during this strike the unusual spectacle of pickets parading in front of Buckingham Palace, and St. James' Palace, and voluntary labor had to be resorted to to keep the services running in the Royal residences.

No Unemployment in Building Trades

Toronto, Ont.—There is little likelihood of unemployment in the building trades in Toronto this winter, judging from reports of the steel workers' union and the builders' laborers' union, both of which state that not only is there no unemployment in the various organizations affiliated under their groups, but that there will probably be a shortage of good mechanics in this city before the end of this year.

Wants Miners to Have Uniform Wage

London, Eng.—Frank Hodges, former secretary to the British Miners' Federation, urges a five years' truce in the mining industry, and makes the startling suggestion that the Federation finance an investigation of mining conditions in Germany with a view to securing British, continental, European and American agreement for uniform wages and hours in that industry based on the conditions obtaining in the country where the miners receive the most favorable treatment.

APPRENTICES COMPETE TO PRACTICAL LABOR

Montreal, Que.—Apprentice bricklayers, plasterers and carpenters from Ontario and Quebec cities Jan. 30th received at the Montreal Technical School the silver cups donated as prizes in the practical work competitions staged in connection with the Convention of the Association of Canadian Building and Construction Industries. Prize winners from Ontario were: Hugh Amok, Toronto; Henry Bradshaw, Hamilton; D. Currie, Windsor; Gordon Maher, Ottawa; W. Crow and J. Allen, Toronto.

Compare these Accounts

Savings Bank Account No. 711		Savings Bank Account No. 712	
Dr.	Cr.	Dr.	Cr.
1924		1924	
Jan 1	50.00	Jan 1	50.00
Feb 1	1.00	Feb 1	1.00
Mar 1	1.00	Mar 1	1.00
Apr 1	1.00	Apr 1	1.00
May 1	1.00	May 1	1.00
Jun 1	1.00	Jun 1	1.00
Jul 1	1.00	Jul 1	1.00
Aug 1	1.00	Aug 1	1.00
Sep 1	1.00	Sep 1	1.00
Oct 1	1.00	Oct 1	1.00
Nov 1	1.00	Nov 1	1.00
Dec 1	1.00	Dec 1	1.00
BALANCE	37.91	BALANCE	37.91

The Royal Bank of Canada

Both started five years ago with \$50. One has remained dormant through neglect, the other shows a substantial balance gained by regular deposits of \$10 a month—a sum most people squander monthly on trifles.

Which is yours?

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