

WORK OF THE LABOR DEPARTMENT OF CANADA DURING 1920.

OTTAWA.—The annual report of the Department of Labor for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1920, has recently been issued. The report contains statements of proceedings under the Conciliation and Labor Act, the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, 1907, the Fair Wages Resolution, the Employment Offices Co-ordination Act, and the Technical Education Act. It also contains chapters dealing with the report of the Director of Coal Operations in Alberta and South Eastern British Columbia, prices and wages statistics, the Royal Commission on Industrial Relations, the National Industrial Conference, and the League of Nations International Labor Conference.

In the introductory summary a comparison is made between Canada and other countries with regard to the extent of industrial unrest, and the situation in Canada in this regard is shown to have been favorable. The number of persons affected by strikes and lockouts, and the number of days lost during the first six months of 1920 in the countries for which statistics are available are shown in the following table:

Country	Persons affected	Days lost	Population
Italy	1,781,259	21,455,260	36,740,000
France	1,186,478	13,533,459	39,991,399
Germany	1,564,358	18,201,463	63,051,979
Spain	724,700	11,450,100	30,719,598
United States	958,700	11,237,400	91,572,268
Australia	208,400	7,682,000	3,455,000
Great Britain	783,300	7,537,000	48,230,000
Sweden	180,070	4,779,170	3,812,850
Switzerland	72,380	2,752,140	3,937,000
Belgium	174,940	2,096,340	7,555,876
South Africa	41,000	109,900	1,000,000
Holland	63,000	795,300	8,778,699
Canada	35,005	523,526	7,206,643

The chapter on conciliation work shows that apart from the operations of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, 1907, the assistance of the Department was invoked in connection with many individual disputes. A list is given containing 83 of the more important cases in connection with which mediation was performed during the year.

The chapter on the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, 1907, gives particulars relating to 77 applications for boards during the fiscal year. In connection with these 77 boards were established 27 disputes. There were only three cases in which strikes were not averted or ended. A table covering the fiscal years since the passing of the act shows that up to March 31, 1920, there had been received 446 applications for boards, and there were granted boards in 222 cases, 419 disputes were averted or ended, and 28 cases were withdrawn. In this district 88 pit-head strikes occurred, affecting about 1,000 miners and causing a loss estimated at 1,302,405 working days and a loss in wages of \$2,500,000.

A brief account is given of the work of the statistical branch of the department. Statistics on prices and the cost of living were calculated in previous years since 1910. Certain sections of the field were further developed, the number of commodities in food and fuel for which quotations were secured having been increased from 35 in the original list to over 100. Reference is made to special inquiries into rentals of houses and retail prices of clothing. It is stated that information has been collected as to family consumption of certain commodities with a view to the establishment of a proper weighting for an index number of the cost of living. The statistical work on wages and hours of labor was continued, and the information has been compiled with a view to the calculation of an index number of wages. A special inquiry was held into the eight-hour day in the summer of 1919 with the object of furnishing information for the Industrial Conference which was held in September of that year. The results of the inquiry were published in the Labor Gazette for January, 1920.

clearing houses. By this means 19,119 workers were transferred from one province to another, and 23,263 from one point to another in the same province. A scheme of cooperation with the British Employment Exchange, suggested by the British authorities, was also put into effect, but it was not in operation long enough to make possible an estimate of its value.

The report of the Director of Technical Education for Canada contains an account of the progress made in the various provinces in industrial and technical education. It is noted that this work is carried on in all the provinces with the exception of Prince Edward Island. While an impetus was given by the passing of the Technical Education Act and the appointment of a Federal director, progress has been hampered by the increased cost of building and equipment and by the difficulty in securing properly qualified teachers. During the year the sum of \$273,783 was paid out of the provinces by the Dominion Government under the Technical Education Act out of an appropriation of \$708,000. During the year ended June 30, 1920, there were 129 technical schools in operation in the Dominion having 1,810 teachers and an enrollment of 60,546 pupils.

The report also contains a summary of the report of the Royal Commission on Industrial Relations, which met at Ottawa in September, 1919. An account is given of the action taken on the resolutions passed at this conference. The resolution proposing a conference with the Provincial Governments and with representative employers and workmen on the subject of uniformity of labor laws was accepted by the Federal authorities. The Minister of Labor invited the Provincial Governments to appoint three members in the case of each province selected on the basis recommended by the National Industrial Conference. A Royal Commission was later appointed for the purpose of investigating the question of uniformity of labor legislation, and the commission met shortly after the close of the fiscal year. During the interval between the holding of the National Industrial



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Conference and the meeting of the Royal Commission of Inquiry, memoranda were prepared in the Department of Labor on the subjects of workmen's compensation, minimum wages, factories and shops acts and mining laws, and were communicated to the employer representatives and to the employer and labor members of the Royal Commission. Following the adoption of the resolution of the conference on the subject of proportional representation, inquiries into this plan were made by public authorities in various parts of the Dominion, including the Provincial Governments

against unemployment, sickness, invalidity and old age, was not acted upon, but these questions were instead made the subjects of study in the Department of Labor. The subject of minimum wage laws was dealt with by the Royal Commission on Uniformity of Labor Laws, already referred to. The recommendation of the conference in favor of equal opportunities in education was referred to the Provincial Governments for attention. With reference to the conference resolutions on the subject of freedom of speech and the press, an order-in-council was adopted on Oct. 6, 1919, bearing on this matter. Consideration was also given to the resolutions of the conference on the subject of housing and employment by the authorities respectively concerned. The subject of hours of labor was on the agenda of the International Labor Conference which assembled at Washington in the month of October, 1919. In connection therewith, the Canadian representatives at the International Labor Conference were duly apprised of the discussions which had taken place on the question of hours of labor at the Ottawa conference. The report concludes with a brief summary of the proceedings of the League of Nations International Labor Conference which met at Washington in October, 1919.

LABOR MEN

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Fibreware Wash Tub and Wash Board
Made of wood pulp fibres that are moulded into shape under tremendous pressure and baked by terrific heat to the hardness of granite. Light as wood and strong as steel, easy to lift and easy to carry. No seams or crevices to collect taints or odors. A tub and a board that are practically everlasting.
The double sided washboard has a special design that loosens dirt quickly without injury to the clothes.
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Two Great Canadian Achievements

IN the spring of 1898 the first United Cigar Store was started in Toronto, Canada. The originator, founder and President of the present Canadian company, W. B. REID, a Scotchman by birth, had a tremendously keen insight into the future of Canada's Tobacco industry.

He it was who 25 years ago, in spite of expert opinion to the contrary, predicted that Canada could and would grow tobacco—and grow it successfully. He it was who ten years ago predicted that his Company would operate stores from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Both predictions are today a reality and big Canadian enterprises.

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"Why I have these headaches is more than I can understand"

"I THINK it is a touch of indigestion," perhaps you say, not realizing that headaches and indigestion are among the first indications of an exhausted nervous system.

Women are the greatest sufferers from headaches, because their nervous systems are more highly strung and their conditions of life are more conducive to exhaustion of the nervous system.

Worry, anxiety, shock from accident or bad news, extreme grief—such are frequent sources of nervous trouble—as are also too little exercise and too much indoor life.

When the nerves are exhausted almost any unusual exertion brings on nervous headache. There is such a shortage of nervous energy in the system that any unusual demand starves the brain and produces pain.

The most natural and rational way to overcome this condition is by increasing the amount of nervous energy in the system by using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

The use of powerful drugs to stop headaches is a most harmful and dangerous practice, because the temporary relief is obtained at enormous expense to the nerves, and the evil day of nervous collapse is brought nearer.

The object of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is to remove the cause of trouble by building up the system and increasing the nervous energy in the body.

Mrs. R. Hicks, Napanee, Ont., writes:
"About five years ago I suffered continually from nervous headache, and was almost a complete wreck, weighing only ninety-five pounds. I could neither sleep nor eat, and could gain no relief in any way. A friend told me she thought Dr. Chase's Nerve Food would help me, so I dubiously began a treatment of this medicine. To my surprise I very soon found that it was helping me, so I continued using it until I was quite recovered and felt like my former self. In two months my weight increased ten pounds, my headaches were relieved, my appetite improved, and I could rest well at night. I think Dr. Chase's Nerve Food an excellent medicine, as are also any of his other medicines that I have used."

The persistent use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food enriches the blood, builds up the nervous system and increases the vigor and vitality of the human body. 50 cents a box, 6 for \$2.75, all dealers, or Edman-son, Bates & Co., Ltd., Toronto. To protect you against imitations the portrait and signature of A. W. Chase, M.D., are on every box.