

Wonderful Financial Showing of Order of Railway Trainmen

MEN DEMAND COST SHEETS FROM THE MINE OPERATORS

Stellarton, N.S.—A written demand by J. B. McLachlan, secretary of District No. 26, United Mine Workers of America, that the cost sheets of the British Empire Steel Corporation be submitted to the board and be made public, and the presentation of figures by Alex. MacNeill, representing the British Empire Steel Corporation, showing that certain Cape Breton mine employees had earned from \$1,500 to \$2,500 in 1921 featured the opening session here of the initial sitting of the Scott conciliation board on the mainland of Nova Scotia.

Mr. McLachlan, in making his demand, quoted Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King as saying in the House of Commons that a conciliation board appointed under the Industrial Disputes Act had the power of a Royal Commission to make a full investigation of the matters under enquiry. Mr. King was also quoted as saying that publicity was the best agency to right industrial wrongs. Mr. McLachlan's statement protested against the coal company producing cost sheets without these being available to the miners and public.

The corporation said Mr. McLachlan had published to the world that there was 20 per cent. more food in the pantries of the miners and 20 per cent better clothing on the backs of the children than in 1916. If the salaries of the miners were not ascertained, said Mr. McLachlan, then the salaries of the officials of the British Empire Steel Corporation should be produced. The mine secretary then read 14 questions asking what Mr. Roy M. Wolvin, D. H. McDougall, J. W. Norcross, Hector McInnes and others had received in 1921.

Chairman D'Arcy Scott said that the board was meeting to investigate the wage dispute between the miners and the company. There was no dispute between the officials and the company.

Isaac MacDougall, miners' representative on the board, said that a true settlement could not be made without production of cost sheets, and as overhead figured largely in these, individual salaries should be produced to tell if they were excessive. Mr. Scott said that the Industrial Disputes Act, while favoring publicity also provided for closed evidence, but he assured the miner representatives that no evidence would be considered by the board to which the miners would not be afforded the opportunity of replying.

In reply to a question by Isaac MacDougall, if the original cost sheets of the company would be produced. A. McColl said that D. H. MacDougall would give a definite reply when he arrived from Montreal. Mr. McColl said, however, that the company had never refused anything asked by a conciliation board.

Alex. McNeil read names of Cape Breton miners who had received from \$1,500 to \$2,500 in 1921 in reply to Cape Breton evidence that no miners had received such wages.

Mr. McLachlan countered that the company had not submitted this evidence when the board was sitting in Cape Breton, and when witnesses could be called to reply to it. He said that the names were those of only a few of thousands of miners.

Mr. MacDougall pointed out that 1921 salaries were earned under the Montreal agreement, and not under the present rate, which is under dispute.

SETTLEMENT MADE IN PAPER TRADES

New York.—Fourteen of the larger manufacturers of newsprint paper in Canada and the United States have arrived at settlements with workers in the paper trades at the close of a series of wage conferences with unionized employees.

Contracts generally have been signed with skilled workers without reductions of the scale and in some instances with slight increases. Most of the contracts fail to provide a universal scale for unskilled workers, leaving this to be fixed by localities.

Floyd Carlisle, spokesman for the "arbitration" group of manufacturers, asserted that practically all of the 30 newsprint paper companies in America will adjust their wage scales to conform to minimums and maximums, agreed upon by the concerns negotiating here.

Labor Refuses to Sign.

John P. Burke, president of the International Brotherhood of Pulp and Sulphite Workers, the largest division of unskilled men in the industry, prepared to leave New York at the close of an unsuccessful fight for an international scale for his men. He refused to sign any of the contracts providing payment of common labor by localities.

He signed with several independent companies, however, which expressed a willingness to negotiate with both skilled and unskilled crafts.

Companies signing contracts which fail to provide a universal scale for the unskilled men include Arbut Paper Company, The Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company, The Fort Frances Paper Company, The St. Croix Paper Company was expected to sign a similar contract at Boston today.

An agreement specifying wages for both skilled and unskilled men was signed late today by the De Grasse Paper Company. The Ontario Paper Company, announced it would enter a contract with skilled men tomorrow.

Separate Agreements.

Separate agreements containing wage provisions for all classes of labor, with slight reductions in the scale, have been signed by the Spanish River Paper Company, the Great Northern Paper Company, the Consolidated Water, Power and Paper Company, and the Penobscot Paper Company.

Wage scales vary in each agreement, but in the main coincide with that adopted for the "arbitration group." They vary from a minimum of 37 cents an hour for unskilled to a maximum of \$1.00 for skilled, in some of the mills, to a minimum of 34 cents and a maximum of ninety cents, depending largely upon types of machinery in operation and grades and sizes of the product.

DEATH AND DISABILITY CLAIMS ARE PAID TOTALLING TEN MILLIONS MORE THAN FIFTY-TWO MILLIONS PAID SINCE FORMATION OF ORDER

Toronto.—In the last triennial period \$23,269,365 was received by the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, it was reported by G. A. King, general secretary and treasurer, at a session of the triennial convention. In the same period \$15,600,650 was expended. Funds on hand May 1st last, aggregated \$7,940,374. During the period covered by the report the organization paid 6,835 death and disability claims, amounting to \$10,233,845. Since the formation of the brotherhood it has paid 40,530 claims amounting to \$52,908,906.

The brotherhood also pays disabled members who do not come under the interpretation of death and disability claims. To this class, claims amounting to \$9,760,200 had been paid out since August, 1895. Because of war service, 344 death claims and 39 disability claims were paid.

The treasurer reported that 99 insurance claims had been paid to members who have reached the age of 70. The report showed that there are 4,124 members of the brotherhood who have held their membership continuously for twenty-five years. The sum of \$246,448,600 represents the amount of insurance in force in the organization, covering members in both Canada and the United States. During the past year the organization erected an office building at Mount Morris, Illinois, at a cost of \$775,000.

The treasurer's report was approved by the convention.

The reports of the executive board, the board of insurance, the board of directors, and board of trustees, and the management of the official publication of the organization were placed before the convention and approved. The profits of the official publication for the past two years amounted to \$281,483.

The executive report contained information to the effect that the brotherhood has \$5,153,509, invested in the United States, and \$1,327,097 in Canada. There are 113 lodges in the Dominion.

Mr. J. P. Wade, of Lodge 780, Wilmington, North Carolina, received the endorsement of the delegates of his candidacy for the legislature of his state.

Should Railway Wages Be Cut.

Cleveland.—The U.S. Railway Labor Board, now sitting in Chicago, is hearing the spokesmen for the railroads and the various railway labor organizations to determine whether or not working rules should be changed and the wages of these employees further reduced below the 12.2 per cent. cut which chopped over \$378,000,000 from the railway pay rolls last July.

The question is one of vital interest to the country. Not only the passenger and the shipper, but every citizen who consumes food, wears clothing or gets a letter through the mails has a personal concern in an efficient, dependable and economical transportation service.

The railroads contend that they will gladly reduce rates if they can take the dierence out of the wages of their employees. They do not promise that this will insure greater efficiency. On the contrary, most of them frankly admit that it will not, since railroad wages are already at a point where many of the best men are leaving the service. The lawyers for the railroads are not stressing the deflation of the section men and unskilled maintenance-of-way employees, whose wages are only about \$3 a day; but they assert that the higher paid railway employees, especial the engineers and train service men, should immediately suffer a substantial reduction in pay.

(Continued on Page 2.)

WILL IGNORE HIGH AND LOW SPOTS

Lethbridge, Alta.—Hypothetical figures introduced by the mine operators and miners, the high wage men of the mine industry on the one side, and the low wage men on the other, will not weigh with the Knowles conciliation board in arriving at their finding in the Alberta mine strike. Chairman W. E. Knowles told both sides of the controversy at the hearing here. "We will be governed wholly by what we find among the rank and file of the men," he declared.

Evidence submitted was a repetition of what has been put in evidence all along the line.

John Marsh, a miner for 40 years, who is now a civic employee here, said that the wages offered by the operators did not offer enough for a workman to go on from year to year laying aside a little so that at 60 he might retire from the pit. He told the board that wages had been raised three times in the civic service in Lethbridge and that recently a cut of ten per cent had been made.

Ten per cent was as great a cut as had been made in any industry he knew of in this part of the mining district.

Evidence was submitted as to the living conditions at the Coalhurst and Commerce camps here. The board leaves tonight for Fernie, where it will sit two days, after which sitting will be held on Friday and Saturday in the Blairmore and Coleman camps. This will complete the taking of evidence.

Starting Discovery Made.

Lethbridge, Alta.—Some startling revelations touching a disregard of the Mines act in the Galt coal mines of this city were made at the session of the Knowles' conciliation board, probing the miners' dispute. The 8-hour day clause was not observed. Machine men worked Sunday and every other day, and some men worked two shifts, both cutting and loading, which, it was held by the miners, accounted for the large average wages submitted by the operators at Monday's session. Much attention was paid to "dead work," pay for which would be eliminated entirely under the proposal of the operators. They were paid for part of this now. The proposed cut, witnesses said, would lower the standard of living of the miners. The cost of living, as set forth in the Labor Gazette, and revealed in actual prices quoted at the stores here, did not tally, it was shown, the Gazette figures being lower in practically every instance.

The college graduate usually imagines he has the world "put away on ice," but the June commencement is followed by a hot summer.

In a small town a man is known by the things he tries to conceal.

TABLOID OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR NEWS FROM MANY COUNTRIES

Spain.—The strike of the coal miners at Coronal and Lota has been ended by a new agreement between the mine owners and the miners. It is said that the miners accepted the terms which were virtually the same as those which were offered by the companies on January 1, 1922.

Denmark.

Lockout Ended.—Following an agreement concluded between the Employers' Association and the Co-operative Trade Unions, and accepted by the government mediators, the lockout of employees of the Associated Unions terminated formally in April, 1922. It can be said, though, that the dispute between employers and employees has been generally settled, inasmuch as some of the trade unions are endeavoring to decide independently whether or not their members shall be bound by the terms of the new agreement.

England.

Unemployment.—According to unofficial figures, unemployment is decreasing at the rate of about one thousand a week.

Germany.

Rental Law.—A federal rental law, to become effective on July 1, 1922, and to remain in force for four years, was recently passed by the Reichstag. Among the principal provisions of the law is the one relating to the computation of legal rents, which are to be based upon pre-war figures.

Nova Scotia.

Steel Commission.—That the provincial government appoint a commission to make an early and thorough investigation of the Cape Breton steel industry, with a view to remedying prevailing unemployment and distress, is the demand embodied in a lengthy resolution unanimously adopted at a recent mass meeting of citizens at Sydney.

Portugal.

Lisbon.—Although the strike of tram employees of the Lisbon street railway company has been ended, there are still apparent indications of unrest which point to a not very distant reopening of the question. Already, a delegation of former employees has asked for an interview with the Prime Minister in order that they may explain more clearly their causes for complaint.

Scotland.

Dundee.—According to the Dundee Press, a proposal is to be submitted to the Jute Trade Board to reduce the basic wage of jute workers by 25 per cent. Employers claim that the state of the trade necessitates such a reduction. Representatives of the workers are to contest the proposed reduction.

Wages.—Following a five weeks' dispute a settlement has been reached between the Aberdeen Master Builders' Association and the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives' District Council, whereby the rate of wages of masons, joiners and plasterers are to be reduced to 29 cents per hour, from April 20, 1922, to March 7, 1923. The whole agreement, however, is contingent upon the acceptance of its terms by the plumbers and plasterers on or before May 4, 1922.

Switzerland.

Unemployment.—The latest figures on unemployment in Switzerland showed a decrease, for the month, of 10,422 in the number of unemployed persons.

COMBATting WAR IS AIM OF LABOR

The All-Australian Trades Union Congress which was held in Melbourne from June 20th-24th, 1921, had appointed a Council of Action which was to assume the leadership of the proposed Australian Workers' Union and conduct the affairs of that organization during the periods between the various congresses.

This Council of Action held a meeting at Sydney in the middle of December, 1921, which was attended by 13 delegates representing all the various Australian states. It was decided to convene a pan-Pacific Congress to be attended by delegates from the labour organizations of the whole world, with a view to arriving at a common understanding for the purpose of combatting war.

The following resolution was adopted:—

"We do not believe that the Washington Conference is likely to evolve any scheme of value for the prevention of any future wars. Further we believe that the best way to prevent wars will be for the Australian Workers to arrive at a common understanding with Labor organizations in other countries. Therefore we are of the opinion that an endeavor should be made to bring about a Pacific Conference as early as practicable."

Time, place and composition of the proposed conference were not decided upon.

Already on a previous occasion the All-Australian Trades Union Congress had decided to get into communication with Labor organizations generally, and particularly with those of the Pacific, for the purpose of preventing future wars.

The Interstate Labor Congress at Brisbane, 10th-15th October, 1921, endorsed this decision and furthermore called upon the Australian Government and the Australian Parliament to refuse to commit Australia to any military alliance secret or otherwise.

There is little chance of successful combatting war unless the actual possibilities of war are taken fully into account. It is possible that the dangers of war which may arise out of the existing conflicting interests of the various "Pacific powers" can be effectively resisted by the trade union organizations of those countries bordering on the Pacific. A necessary condition of success, however, would be that at least in the most important countries in question the trade unions should already possess sufficient influence with their respective governments, and could be brought together, for the purpose of jointly carrying out actions of this kind. If therefore the trade unions of those countries bordering on the

COMPENSATION FOR WORKMEN IN ALBERTA

Edmonton.—A thousand dollars a day in compensation for accidents and half as much more for medical fees is being paid out under the Alberta Workmen's Compensation Act. Notwithstanding the common supposition that this province is almost wholly a farming country, with its industrial life only slightly developed, the figures of the Compensation board show that there is a payroll in the Alberta industries of around \$60,000,000 per year, not including, at that, the agricultural workers nor store and office hands.

About 50,000 workmen come within scope of the act, and 2,500 employers are paying assessments. Last year 7,069 accidents were reported in the various industries represented, from which resulted a compensation and medical attendance bill for the year of more than half a million dollars.

LEADER TALKS OVER RADIO

Toronto.—President W. G. Lee, of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, in session in Toronto, addressed an audience of radio enthusiasts in Toronto and nearby towns dealing with the trainmen's organizations and its objects. After delivering his message into radio wireless apparatus, Mr. Lee proceeded to a ball given in honor of the trainmen and the ladies' auxiliaries to the brotherhood, and with Mrs. Clara Bradley, president of the women's grand lodge, he led the grand march.

The proceedings at the convention today were of a routine character. The Grand Lodge of the Women's Auxiliary today was addressed by Barton Griffith, of Columbus, Ohio, legal counsel for the organization. W. J. Rowan, Harrisburg, Penna., and John FitzGibbons, Oswego.

TREVOR MAGUIRE COMMITTED

Toronto.—Charged with sedition, Trevor Maguire, publisher of The Worker, was committed for trial by Magistrate Jones in the police court. Maguire was arrested following a speech made in Queen's Park on Labor Day.

The ambition to die poor isn't confined to the aged. A lot of young fellows of our acquaintance appear to have it.

LABOR MANAGEMENT IS CRITICIZED

Pontypridd.—The tactics of the Cambrian Colliery Co. in suspending work at its Nos. 1 and 3 pits on February 13 was dealt with by the Stipendiary, Mr. D. Llewellyn Thomas, at Pontypridd Police Court.

The company prosecuted five underground haulage engine-drivers for a breach of contract, by causing a stoppage of the pits, when between 600 and 700 men were working. The men claimed \$25 damages from each.

It appeared that an engine-driver named Hughes was dismissed because he left out the clutch of the engine, thereby rendering it out of control, with the consequence that a journey of trams ran wild.

The Stipendiary found that the five defendants had worked in concert with a clear determination that Hughes should be reinstated, failing which no one else should catch hold of his engine. On this point there must be judgment for the prosecution but in the matter of damages, however, it was clear that only 63 men were working in the district affected by this particular engine.

It was, said the Stipendiary, inexcusable that with the shrewd management of those mines they could not carry on work in the other districts. He was not at all satisfied that it was necessary to render 600 or 700 men idle, when only 63 were affected; and to mark his ciew of this unjustifiable

ALL TRAINS STOP

St. John's, Nfld.—No trains were operated on the Newfoundland Railway System for a day. As a result of the Reid-Newfoundland Company's notice to its employees yesterday that failure of the Colonial government to pay the company sums which it claimed were due under its contract had left it without funds to pay wages to the train crews reported for work today.

Along the trains cancelled was the Tri-Weekly express, connecting with mail and passenger steamers for United States and Canada ports.

The government considered the situation at an all-day meeting. It is expected that after further debate on the disputed contract in the legislature, some definite action will be taken to bring about resumption of traffic.

POINT IS GAINED FOR WORKERS UNDER ACT

London.—The Labor Party obtained from the Government a promise to take steps which should lead to amending legislation on Workmen's Compensation being passed this session.

This is precisely what was demanded in a resolution moved by Walter Smith and seconded by T. W. Grundy. Mr. Shortt, according to the resolution, said he believed that not a single

MEMBER OF THE HOUSE WOULD LIKE THE WAR ADDITIONS ACT TO EXPIRE AT THE END OF THE YEAR, AS IT WOULD, WITHOUT ANYTHING BEING PUT IN ITS PLACE.

He would arrange for a committee representing employers and workers to thrash out proposals which, he hoped, would be passed into law this session.

He would say nothing of the details which such a Bill should contain, except that it was generally agreed that £1 a week was too small a compensation for disablement, and that the maximum payment of £300 per week should be maintained.

He would not promise to accept everything the committee might recommend.

Walter Smith, in moving the resolution, said the question was one on which legislation was long overdue.

The claim of a widow for larger compensation than £300 was unanswerable.

Harshness and injustice suffered under the present law were expressed, and suggestions for amending it were made by Colonel Watts-Morgan, Tom Shaw, James Sexton, and James Wigfall.

Some of these advocated that insurance against compensation claims should be compulsory on employers, and that the State should undertake the insurance business.

These suggestions did not find favour with the employers who spoke, though they agreed that the law needed some amendment.

TROUBLE IN COTTON TRADE

Ehfield, Eng.—Unemployed workmen, led by extremists who are said to have been intimidating willing workers during the past few weeks, staged a determined attack upon the Jessop Company's plant. Mounted police were stoned by the demonstrators and were obliged to retreat. The mob smashed a number of office windows after which the police, being reinforced, charged repeatedly and finally dispersed the crowd.

WORKERS TAKING OVER CREAMERIES

Belfast.—The movement of the workers to take over creameries and factories, which began two weeks ago at various places in consequence of the failure of negotiations with employers regarding wages, is extending to Munster, where more branches of the Cleverly Creameries have been seized by the Transport Workers' Union.

The creamery at Bruce, which was seized last fall, again is in the possession of the workers. Red flags have been hoisted.

The branches of the concern at Dromin, Athasca, Tankardstown and Ballingary, County Limerick, also are being worked under similar conditions.

As a rule, a growth is just the triumph of a yellow streak over good nature.

SAYS COMPANY VIOLATED ACT

Yesterday, which was the official semi-monthly pay day for the employees of the O. E. R., every motorman and conductor received in his pay envelope an amount less, in varying sums, than the time he had worked called for.

The action of the company is in pursuance of a bulletin published in its offices Thursday, whereby it notified its employees that as the board of conciliation had not yet brought in its report, the company, not having any wage scale to work upon, would only pay the men different amounts in lump sums, to be considered as part payment on account of wages for the current month.

Allege Act Violated.

The officers of the union claim that the company's action is a direct violation of section 57 of the Industrial Disputes Act, which provides that neither employees nor employers, parties to a conciliation board, shall alter the conditions with regard to hours of work or wages, pending a final decision by the board.

Asked as to the exact meaning of this notice, Major F. D. Burpee said that the company not having a wage rate with which to prepare the payroll, through the delay in the report of the board of conciliation, had decided to pay each of its employees lump sums, instead of the money which would have been coming to them under the old scale of wages. When the rate was finally agreed upon, after the board of conciliation report had been considered, any adjustments made would be retroactive.

"It is not the company's fault that the board has not yet set in its report," said Major Burpee. "We posted our bulletin early in February, and the first reply was received from the board on May 1st. The company cannot be blamed for any delay in the matter."

Men Are Surprised.

Officials of the street railwaymen's union expressed gained surprise at the action of the company and pointed out that Major Burpee, during the sessions of the board of conciliation, had expressly stated that the company would not make any changes with regard to the rates pending receipt of the award of the board. Beyond this they would not make any statement, preferring to await the receipt of their pay envelopes, in order to ascertain exactly what the new move of the company meant.

Hard To Figure.

The motorman and conductors are being paid today at different intervals, so that it is difficult for the officials of the union to ascertain exactly how the company has based its pay list. From individual reports which have reached them so far, it has been found that the amounts paid differ in some cases considerably from

REVISION OF RULES NOW COMPLETED

Montreal.—Representatives of the Railway Association of Canada and of their employees in the mechanical trades in negotiation here for the past month for a revision of rules and affecting working conditions, have agreed upon the final details of a mutually satisfying arrangement which concerns between 20,000 and 25,000 men.

The most important changes discussed have been with respect to paying overtime for Sunday and holiday work in main shops the payment of time and one-half for Sunday work will be continued, as it will also be for holidays, except that employees necessary to the operation of power houses, millwright gangs, heat treating plants and pipe line maintenance gangs, insofar as holidays are concerned, will be paid punitive overtime for New Year's Day, Labor Day and Christmas Day only.

Employees necessary to the operation of train yards, running, repair and inspection forces will be assigned one regular day off duty in seven, Sunday, if possible, and if required to work on such regularly assigned seventh day of duty, will receive punitive overtime at the rate of time and one-half time, although in cases in which such assigned day of duty is not Sunday, work on Sunday will be paid for at straight time rate. Those employees engaged in running work will also be paid time and one-half for work on New Year's Day, Labor Day and Christmas Day.

Items of Interest from Overseas

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