Labor News From Coast to Coast.

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Dept. of Labor Circulation Branch

"BORING FROM WITHIN" METHODS SCORED

CANADIAN WORKERS' STEADY PROGRESS MANIFEST IN E.C.'S COMPREHENSIVE REPORT TO WINDSOR CONVENTION

Labor Movement in Canada Becoming More and More International—Membership Shows Increase of Over 30,000—Permanent Quarters Secured at Ottawa—Tariff Board Recommended — Dangers of Destructionist Propaganda Pointed Out—Immigration Policy Outlined—Whitley Council For Post Office Department—Trades Congress Affiliates With International Federation of Trade Unions.

The magnitude of the work of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is gleaned from the executive council's report, which covers all important questions having to do with our social, industrial, economic and political life. The past year has been one of progress in every respect. The Labor movement in Canada has stretched out, and, according to the E. C. report, the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada affiliated with the International Federation of Trade Unions on June 24. The financial report shows a surplus over any previous year, and permanent headquarters of the Trades and Labor Congress have been secured, and the removal of the head office will take place shortly. The membership has increased considerably and shows that the labor movement in Canada is yearly becoming more international. Federal and independent union show a marked decrease, while international union show an increase of over 30,000 members.

Membership Grows.

There are now affiliated to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada some 160,000 workers, members of international unions. Federal unions show a decrease of 17,000, proving that the workers in Canada are becoming more and more international in aspect.

Despite all the statements made by the opponents of the Trades and Labor Congress executive officers their work has been strenuous indeed and never has the workers' cause been championed as during the past year.

22 Sections.

The Executive Council's report is divided into 22 subjects with a conclusion. These subjects deal with almost all problems confronting the workers. They are: annual interview with Dominion Government; legislation, emigration, industrial disputes Act, political action, tariff, the provincial executives and federations of labor, western representative, permanent Congress headquarters, Winnipeg trials and defence, International Labor organization, International Federation of Trade Unions, international affiliations and special conference international representatives, industrial councils, report from representatives on government commissions, committees, etc., destructive propaganda, co-operation with soldiers' organizations, miscellaneous matters referred from Hamilton convention, organization and publicity, amendments to the constitution, cost of living, government departmental matters, and conclusion.

It is impossible to give to our readers a full report of the executive council, but we herewith publish extracts from the report and some of the E. C's. recommendations.

The report is prefaced with these remarks:

In submitting our report this year we have endeavored to simplify reference to the many activities of the Executive Council of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, since the closing of our convention held in the City of Hamilton in September last, by incorporating the legislative review and other items previously dealt with in a separate report submitted by the President.

"President Moore has rendered monthly reports of the work carried out by him, and by this method, combined with the holding of several meetings, the Council, as a whole, have actively participated in dealing with all the important matters coming up for consideration during the past term.

Annual Interview.

The report then deals with the annual interview with the Dominion Government, a full report of which appeared in these columns at the time.

The report on this question concluded with these observations: "Many of the subjects are of such a nature that have essentially to be dealt with as departmental matters, and better results would be achieved if dealt with as such.

On the past two occasions those who have come to Ottawa to take part in the annual interview have expressed the opinion that equal results would be obtained if the Executive of Congress undertook this work itself. In this we concur, and recommend that the executive be empowered to compile an annual legislative programme from the resolutions and decisions of the Congress Conventions, and present the same to the Federal Cabinet on behalf of the affiliated organized labor movement."

Legislation.

Under this head the E. C. outline the legislation enacted by the Dominion Government at the special session, 1919-20, and the 1920 session. Reference is made to the draft conventions adopted at the International Labor Conference at Washington last year in the following paragraph:

"The International Labor Conventions adopted at the Washington Conference of the International Labor Body was officially laid down on the table of the House by the Hon. W. N. Rowell on March 29th. No legislation was introduced, however, incorporating any of these provisions, the Government deciding that most of this legislation came within the jurisdiction of the Provincial Governments and, therefore, in accordance with the provisions contained in the Treaty of Peace, they have been officially forwarded to the Provincial Government for further action."

Emigration.

The E. C's report deals with the various amendments to the Immigration Act and the council's activity in this respect. Labor's policy in this regard is laid down in the following declaration:

"Organized labor in Canada has no desire to retard the development of Canadian industries because of inability to secure sufficient skilled labor, nor yet have we any desire to prevent the British worker from endeavoring to improve his position by emigrating to Canada to secure any position that may be really vacant, because of his non-possession of the necessary money for steamship and railroad fares for himself and family. Where it is necessary to advance this money, it is advisable that it should be advanced to them from a Government fund and repaid through the employment offices in the Dominion of Canada, thus ensuring the immigrants freedom to work for such employers as they themselves decide, and under such conditions as are considered reasonable."

"British employment offices are all jointly controlled by advisory councils, on which trades unions have proper representation, and if recruiting of labor is confined to this channel, we are satisfied that there would be greater protection for the workers than under the prevailing system. It is our understanding that the British Labor Department would be quite willing to co-operate in this manner. Communications on this subject have passed between the British and Canadian Governments, and a draft form has been tentatively agreed upon which all employers desiring to hire labor in Great Britain through the British Overseas Settlement Board have got to comply with, and in our estimation under this system there is very little danger of misrepresentation, providing this form is honestly filled out by employers. Very few employers, however, avail themselves of this method of securing British labor, preferring to use other agencies who are often less scrupulous about making known the true facts as to Canadian working conditions. We therefore recommend that your executive be authorized to press for the enactment of legislation which would assure the abolition of the present practice of labor recruiting outside Canada by private employers, and the advancing of funds by employers to enable such workers to reach and enter Canada, and the substitution therefor of a system of co-operation between the Dominion Employment Bureaus and the British or other Government Labor exchanges, and the advancing of steamship and railroad fares in worthy necessitous cases from the Government controlled fund."

Industrial Disputes Act.

"During the past two years," says the E.C.'s report, "requests from affiliated unions have constantly reached this office asking the assistance of the Congress executive to have the Government appoint boards under the Industrial Disputes Act. Suggestions have been made to us in some of these communications that the law should be amended to make compulsory the acceptance of a board when applied for by one of the parties to the dispute (employer or employes).

"Your executive are, therefore, of the opinion that this convention should again review the operations of this act, and reach a decision that would enable the Congress executive to act clearly in the interests of the majority of the organized wage earners on this matter."

Political Action.

As this is one of the vital questions confronting the workers, we reproduce the E.C.'s report in full;

"Since its inception the Trades and Labor Congress has refused to constitute itself a political body.

"Its attitude on this question was

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REGISTRATION OF CHILDREN IN QUEBEC.

Since last spring when the issuing of registration cards to children began under the provisions of the Quebec Industrial Establishments (Amendment) Act respecting child labor, about 8,000 children between the ages of fourteen and sixteen years have been examined by factory inspectors at Montreal, and 2,000 at Quebec. The cards show the name, age and nationality of each child, number of years of studies, whether an attendant at night school, ability to read and write, nature of employment, residence, complexion, height, weight, and any special mark of identification. A child cannot be employed unless in possession of one of these cards and in order to obtain one a certificate of baptism must be produced and ability shown to read and write.

AUSTRALIAN CIVIL SERVANTS STRIKE.

Western Australia has set a new fashion in strikes. Its civil servants demanded increases in wages, and not being satisfied with the Government response, came out on strike, tying up the public offices and stopping the machinery of the Government to a large extent.

The Premier's statement that an appeal board would overcome difficulties was met with the statement that its operation would be too slow. As the Public Service Commissioner had been at work dealing with the classification of public servants with salaries up to £250 a year, and as the Ministry had already taken steps to assist those in receipt of salaries up to £324, the Government determined to refuse to yield to the strikers. Efforts to end the deadlock were not successful.

In the other states the public servants have also been agitating for better conditions and higher wages, with a large measure of success. Support is being sent by public servants in Queensland, New South Wales and elsewhere to the West Australian strikers.

CERTIFICATE OF CITIZENSHIP.

The issuance of certificates of Canadian citizenship is a new departure decided upon by the Dominion Immigration Department that is expected to be of great convenience to Canadians who go abroad or cross the border into the United States. The certificate is in the form of a small card bearing on one side a photograph of the individual to whom it is issued and giving such information as the name, date of birth, and birthplace of the holder. All that it is necessary for applicants to do to secure a certificate is to supply the department with a small photograph and proof of Canadian citizenship. It is believed that holders of these certificates of citizenship will find them very useful for purposes of identification even within the confines of the Dominion, as they would doubtless be accepted by banks and other business institutions.

Tariff Board Recommended

One of the most important questions confronting the workers today is the tariff. The Executive Council of the Trades and Labor Congress have given the matter much thought and study, and in their report to the Windsor Convention state:

"During the past year there has been carried on a very active campaign by certain interests for the adoption of a Free Trade policy in Canada. To the numbers of workers engaged by Canadian branches of United States industries, and other industries claiming tariff protection as necessary for their existence, this question is a vital one. Your Executive are of the opinion that tariff decisions should cease to be made a matter of political expediency and the decision for their maintenance, or abolition, should be reached only after exhaustive inquiry and with a view to enabling the worker, in such industries, to be paid proper wage standards, without destroying the industry by unfair competition from sources outside of Canada. We recommend the formation of a Tariff Board on which organized labor should have proper representation, created with full powers to deal with this subject in a similar manner to the powers exercised by the Railway Commission on railroad matters."

N. S. LABOR UNSUCCESSFUL IN BYELECTION.

In the byelection held in Shelbourne County, N. S., last week, Hon. E. H. Armstrong, (Liberal), was elected by over seven hundred majority.

The election was caused by the retirement of F. E. Smith to allow Hon. E. H. Armstrong to run as commissioner of works and mines in the Nova Scotia Government. His opponent was Zenas F. Bower (lumberman), who was nominated as an Independent candidate with the support of Labor, farmers and fishermen.

Hon. Mr. Armstrong was defeated in Yarmouth at the recent provincial general election.

4,000 CIVIL SERVANTS TO SHARE IN RAISES.

About 4,000 civil servants in Ontario will benefit by the salary increases, which approximate about 10 per cent. generally, though in some cases the increase is considerably higher. The sum appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose, $332,500, may prove insufficient to meet all the increases, which are retroactive to November 1, 1919. Engineers will benefit largely, some of them receiving increases amounting to $1,000. Their salaries have ranged from $1,500 to $1,800.

TO TAKE CANADA'S CENSUS NEXT JUNE.

Arrangements are practically completed already for the decennial census of Canada next year. It will be taken early in June, on a date to be decided later, and twelve thousand enumerators will be employed.

From calculations which are based on the average increase in the past twenty years, it is estimated that the present population of Canada is eight and three-quarter millions, with the increase most marked in the Western Provinces and in Quebec. The next census will exceed all previous ones in the extensive detail to be covered in the enumeration.

WORK FOR LABOR GOVERNMENT.

If a Labor Government was returned in Great Britain tomorrow one of its first jobs would be the taking over of the mines and minerals and the transport system, said Ernest Bevin, speaking recently at Weston-super-Mare England. No nation could work out an economic solution, either internationally or otherwise, until it had obtained possession in these essentials.

Bevin declared that the labor movement was faced with one of the greatest problems and biggest responsibilities which had ever faced the working classes of this nation. The workers had to learn the lesson, sooner or later, that that responsibility rested on themselves. The real Government of the country must be vested in the hands of those who possessed not merely the political power, but also the economic power.

It was essential therefore, to secure economic control as well as political expression.

Ben Tillet, M.P., said that the war had given to only one country a great advantage. America had slipped out of her obligations in a very clumsy and brutal manner. Her financiers, capitalists and politicians had utilized their non-committal and irresponsible position in such a way that, not only had America cleared off all her debts to Europe and the world, but had got the world—and Europe in particular—in the position of owing her as much as America ever owed to the world.

Alluding to the "Ca' Canny" policy, Tillet agreed that there was a certain amount of "ca' canny" among some groups of labor, but if they looked on the other, the capitalist, side, was there not "ca' canny" there also?

The occasion of these speeches was a demonstration in connection with the Weston-super-Mare branch of the British Dockers Union.

MANUFACTURERS WANT NEUTRAL ON BOARD.

The appointment of "Neutral" to the position on the Workmen's Compensation Board vacant since the death of A. W. Wright more than a year ago, is urged by manufacturers who claim that if a labor man is appointed they too should have a special representative on the board. They claim there is at present no such representative while labor is inclined to argue that George Kingston represents manufacturing interests.

"I see no reason why two classes should not be represented on the board," said Hon. Walter Rollo, Minister of Labor today. "That is the people who pay into the fund and those who benefit from it. Mr. Wright was always supposed to represent labor, although labor was not well satisfied."

HOW PORTO RICO COFFEE WORKERS LIVE.

In the annual report of the bureau of labor this side light on the lives of Porto Rico workers employed in the coffee district is shown:

Normal wages of 50 cents a day for 10 and 12 hours reduced to a weekly income of $1.50 to $2.50 during the eight months of dead season. Fathers and sons are generally barefooted with 50 per cent. of the mothers and daughters provided with the poorest kind of footwear, only to be used on Sundays and holidays to attend church.

These workers enjoy no kind of recreation; they never hold meetings, nor do they know of the latest inventions or expressions of the human mind.

They only work hard to eat badly and sleep worse, on hard boards under the most confusing and unsanitary crowding. They grow up to premature old age and death.

Medical attendance hardly reaches these places on time. Municipal governments at times cannot afford the payment of an adequate salary to a physician, requesting of him, only in case of extraordinary emergency, to visit the districts far distant from the town. As a result patients are brought to the consultory of the town doctor and prescriptions are filled gratis so long as the appropriation for such service is not exhausted from the municipal budget.

GOVERNMENT INSURANCE FOR RETURNED SOLDIERS.

Insurance policies may now be taken out under the new scheme instituted by the Government for the benefit of returned soldiers, who have now the opportunity of insuring their lives, without medical examination, for sums ranging from $500 to $5,000 at premiums slightly less than the ordinary life insurance premium.

Literature, consisting of booklets containing details and application forms, is being issued from the office of the Board of Pension Commissioners and will be distributed throughout Canada.

Applications for policies should be made on the prescribed form and may be forwarded through local pension offices, post offices, military district offices, C. R. offices and any veterans' association.

TRADES CONGRESS E. C. LETS IN SOME MORE LIGHT ON THE REVOLUTIONARY PROPAGANDA CARRIED ON IN CANADA

O.B.U. and Socialist Party Carrying Out Lenine's Orders in Canada —Seek to Weaken the Power of the Trade Union Officials and Thus Destroy the Trade Unions—E. C. Point Out the Danger Zones.

From time to time the Canadian Labor Press has drawn to the attention of its readers the danger of the propaganda being carried on in Canada by the opponents of the International Trades Union movement. The Executive Council of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada in their report to the Windsor Convention have much to say regarding "destructionist propaganda." They condemn it in no uncertain language, as their report which follows would indicate.

E. C. Report.

"Last year your executive drew attention to the propaganda being carried on in Canada by the One Big Union and other groups who classed themselves 'revolutionary,' etc., and who had the object in view of destroying the Trade Union movement in Canada. Though the more extreme propaganda has somewhat subsided there is still a persistent and insidious campaign being carried on with the same object in view.

"In order that our membership may the more fully understand the danger which faces the trade union movement at this time, we bring to your attention a few of the many public declarations which have been and are still being made in this direction.

"Whatever result the Soviet form of government may have on the social life of the people of Russia, is difficult to know because of the many apparently authentic and yet very conflicting reports that are issued by those who have visited that country. The influences attempted to be exercised by the Russian Soviet Government and its spokesmen, on the trade union organization and social life of Canada and other countries is something, however, that should be not be ignored.

Perhaps the most important official declaration in this regard is the proclamation signed "Zinoveff" (associate of Lenine), and addressed to the proletariat of the whole world, and is a declaration from the meeting of the Third International which met in Moscow during the present year, which contains instructions to their agents to form revolutionary groups in every Trade Union branch and to endeavor to attract to their party the most advanced and class conscious workers, so as to have a small nucleus dominating each Trade Union and moulding the opinions of its members. Their instructions contain the following:

Destroy Trade Unions.

"To strive to alter the rules and structures of their unions to serve revolutionary ends. They should always endeavor to weaken the power of the permanent Trade Union officials, and strengthen the rank and file of the movement, so as to make the power to decide strikes rest with the workers themselves and not with the official elements. .... It cannot be too strongly impressed by Communists upon all workers, that Trade Union officials both by their secure position and their enhanced salaries serve the maintenance of capitalism much more than they serve the cause of the emancipation of the workers."

Much agitation has been carried on in Canada along the lines of these instructions and, though we are not in a position to state that those doing so should be classed as the official agents of the Third International or the Soviet Government, yet their methods are undoubtedly carrying out the work outlined by the Third International as effectively as if they were their official agents.

Leon Jouhaux, president of the French Federation of Labor and a member of the executive of the International Federation of Trade Unions, and himself a very advanced Socialist is reported as issuing the following statement:

"Up to the present we have neither in the General Federation of Labor, nor in the International Federation desired to take a position with regard to the Third International, but proclamation signed by Zinovieff is a declaration of war against our organization, as clearly shown by the statement made at the recent Congress of the Third International. We can no longer keep silence notwithstanding all the sympathy we feel for the Russian revolution."

Work In Canada.

With these two declarations before us, greater significance is given to some of the resolutions passed by the B. C. Federation of Labor, while still chartered by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada; the Calgary Western Conference, which gave birth to the One Big Union; by prominent members of the Socialist Party of Canada, many of whom are now leaders in the One Big Union movement; and the more recent declarations by less pronounced extremists which are also worthy of careful consideration in the light of the declarations quoted above.

Jos. Naylor, a member of the Executive Council of the B. C. Federation of Labor at the time of its disruption, stated at the Ottawa convention of the Congress:

"I am an industrialist and revolutionary socialist and if I hear labor candidates getting off slush on public platforms I will get up and criticize them."

Mr. Naylor is now organizer for the One Big Union.

The following quotations from the Western Labor News, during the time it was controlled by the revolutionary group in the Winnipeg Labor movement, are also worthy of note.

February 14, 1919. Extract from the meeting of the Trades Council:

"The Vancouver Trades and Labor Council offer the council more of 'Socists at work.' An order for the purchase of 500 more was passed."

April 18, 1919. Western Labor News.

This issue published a chart of the O. B. U. and copy of the Australian propaganda of the same. The following reference to a Calgary strike also appeared:

"This is the first case of direct action in the Dominion that demonstrates the spirit of the times. The bosses are backed by the boards of trade, the workers by the O. B. U. spirit."

In an editorial on the same date the Western Labor News says:

"The O. B. U. is a step forward not a step backward. It is only a step—It is not the whole thing."

On March 7, 1919, one week previous to the holding of the Calgary Conference, an editorial in the Western Labor News with William Ivens as editor, says:

"At a time when Empires are tottering and century-old systems of economic civilization are dissolving under the white heat of a new proletarian emancipation, it is fitting that the restless pioneers in a new land should take their full part in the shaping of destiny."

"In Western Canada the new day is dawning, the more effects East is burdensome to the West . . . It may be well that the day of craft unionism is almost passed and the day of industrial unionism is dawning. It may be that a definite plan for the formation of Soviets will have to be considered in order that the pressing problem of unemployment may find satisfactory solution."

April 11, 1919. Another editorial in the Western Labor News by William Ivens, editor, says:

"Gomperism accepts the maxim that capitalism and the profit system are here to stay and therefore the correct procedure is for the employer and employe to get together through the mediumship of the Governments of the world."

Continuing, this editorial says:

"Opposed to this ideal stands the policy of the Western Conference, which says that there should be no employer and no employe and no government as at present constituted. In place of these all shall be workers because of the wiping out of the profit system; and then through the institution of the Soviet

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INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE STARTS WORK ON EMIGRATION PROBLEMS

International Emigration Commission Established at Washington Conference Last Year Sends Out Questionnaire to All Interested Parties in Europe and Outside of Europe, Dealing With Statistics, Existing Legislation and Question to be Submitted.

The International Labor Conference held at Washington in 1919 voted the following resolution:

"It is resolved that the governing body of the International Labor Office shall constitute an international commission, which shall, while giving due regard to the sovereign rights of each state, consider and report what measures can be adopted to regulate the migration of workers out of their native country, and to protect the interests of wage-earners residing in another country than their own. The representation of the states in the European Continent on the commission shall be limited to one-half of the total membership of the commission. The said commission shall present its report at the session of the International Conference in 1920."

In accordance with this decision, the governing body has constituted an International Emigration Commission. This commission is composed of 18 members; nine appointed by European Governments and nine by Governments outside of Europe, as follows: Six employers' delegates, South Africa, Argentine, Spain, Greece, Czecho-Slovakia, Switzerland; six workers' delegates, Germany, Australia, United States, Italy, Sweden, Poland; six Government delegates, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Japan, India.

The governing body decided to invite to the chair of this commission a delegate of the British Government, and as vice-chairman a delegate of the Italian Government, and M. Louis Varlez, who directs our technical services of unemployment and emigration, has been appointed secretary.

The majority of the members of the commission are actually nominated, and an active correspondence is in progress between the delegates and the office on the subject of the manner of organizing the work and of preparing the reports which will be submitted to the International Labor Conference during the session at Geneva in 1921.

On account of the difficulty of effectively bringing together members coming from all parts of the world, it may prove impossible to convene the commission itself, except during the period immediately preceding the conference, in which the majority of the members of the commission will no doubt take part. In anticipation of that meeting the International Labor Office have, in agreement with the chairman of the commission, Viscount Cave, prepared a questionnaire for the purpose of collecting material and preparing the report.

This questionnaire deals with three principal points:

1. The actual position of emigration and immigration in the various countries. The questions aim at obtaining the necessary elements for filling in tolerably detailed statistical outlines, but the International Labor Office is perfectly aware that in the present state of the statistics of movements of migration it would be over-bold to expect complete replies. They therefore beg the Governments, which cannot reply to all questions on these points, to furnish the office, at least, with all the information at their disposal.

Besides statistics they also ask for information on the role of private and public associations and institutions dealing with matters of emigration.

2. The second part of the questionnaire is concerned with existing legislation and regulations. On this point the International Labor Office hopes to receive replies as precise and complete as the Governments are able to supply. If legislation has not yet dealt with all the points indicated, a simple negative reply will contribute to the elucidation of the position.

They should also be grateful if in addition to legislative documents the various Governments would supply them with any documents on the subject of their programme or general policy in the matter of migration of workers. The mere text of the laws is in fact often quite insufficient to make the fundamental ideas of legislation comprehensible, and the commission in its enquiry is anxious to understand the attitude adopted by each state.

3. Finally, the last part of the questionnaire enumerates certain questions which the commission will probably wish to examine and constitute the real object of the Washington resolution. This list does not aim at finality or completeness. Other questions will be raised by the delegates of the Governments. The International Labor Office begs all interested parties to make known to the commission the matters which they would like to see discussed.

CONSTRUCTIVE POLICIES FORMULATED AT THE WINDSOR CONVENTION

Thirty-sixth Annual Convention of the Trades and Labor Congress Getting Down to Business—"Reds" Due For a Bad Fall, According to Present Indications—Ottawa Painters' Resolution Deleted From Records.

The 36th annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is this week in session at Windsor.

At the time of writing (Tuesday night) the convention has transacted considerable important business, but much of it is yet to be done. The convention, by unanimous vote, endorsed the recommendation of the Executive Council on the tariff question—a summary of the recommendation appearing elsewhere in this issue.

The revolutionary group seem to be in a very small minority, and it is freely admitted that the work of the past year has been the most progressive since the Congress' inception.

Delegate McCallum, of Toronto, is leading the anti-administration forces, with a few Toronto and Montreal "advanced thinkers" in his squad.

A resolution from Ottawa Painters' Union, No. 200, was a bone of contention for a few minutes, but on division it was deleted from the records.

Many constructive resolutions have been adopted, and the executive of the next year will be armed with real constructive policies.

Destructive resolutions have been received, but we are safe in saying that they will receive the contempt they deserve.

Political action has been dragged all over the floor of the convention, and at the time of writing the debate has been adjourned and will be resumed on the morrow.

On Monday the delegates were welcomed to the city by Mayor W. Winter and other representative citizens. Hon. Walter Rollo, Minister of Labor and Health of Ontario, extended the greetings of the U. F. O.-Labor Government. In the afternoon Hon. Arthur Meighen, Prime Minister of Canada, delivered an able address. He was accompanied by two "red coats," who occupied seats in the convention and gallery. The color at least should suit the "advanced thinkers."

President Tom Moore was received amid loud and enthusiastic applause.

Secretary-Treasurer P. M. Draper, although suffering from a severe attack of indigestion, has handed out some straight talk to his opponents.

Jas. Marsh is chairman of the resolutions committee; W. J. Wilkinson, of Vancouver, chairman of the committee on officers' reports, and John W. Bruce, of Toronto, chairman of the credentials committee. J. A. P. Haydon is associate secretary, and Gus. Francq, of Montreal, translator.

Some 529 delegates have been seated at the convention.

HOW CHILDREN MAY HELP TO AVOID MOTOR ACCIDENTS.

Most accidents are caused by carelessness of children. This is why the Ontario Safety League is issuing posters exhorting children to be careful. It is hoped that the children will obey the instructions that the posters contain. If they would, the number of accidents would surely decrease.

Children playing on the streets are the chief cause of accidents. Many a time they do not hear the warning sound of an automobile horn. It is very difficult for an autoist to steer through a crowd of noisy, yelling children. If the bigger boys would at least hold the smaller children back until the danger is passed an accident might be averted. But there are large public playgrounds where children can go and play, and where there is no danger of being run over.

Children when getting off a car often run across the tracks without looking to see if a car is coming the opposite way. They should look up the tracks first to see if a car is coming.

A very dangerous proceeding is coasting down a hill on a small cart, tricycle, etc. Last year two boys were killed in this very city, when they crashed into an automobile. Accidents of this kind are frequent, and can easily be stopped.

A few weeks ago a girl on roller skates hung onto a wagon. When she let go and turned around her dress became tangled in a wheel. She was drawn under the wheel, and was killed. If children did not hang on to wagons no accidents like this could happen.

If children did not run risks no accidents would happen. But unfortunately nearly all children run risks. Canada needs all her children, who will some time grow up into sturdy children—accidents are a great loss to her.—Bernard Brodie, 220 Arlington Ave., Ottawa, Ont. Pupil Borden School.

SHOE STORE BONUS IS AN ILLEGAL PRACTICE.

Dealers in boots and shoes must not, in future, allow their salesmen or clerks any bonus or percentage for selling goods at more than the "normal, proper or stipulated" price. In an order handed out last week, the Board of Commerce declares that this practice tends to enhance the price of boots and shoes, and must cease. The order states that the practice of paying a bonus or percentage, when the sale price obtained by the clerk "exceeds an advertised, marked, shown, regular, normal, proper or stipulated sum or price," actually exists. All vendors are in future prohibited from paying such bonuses or allowing this practice to prevail on their premises.

CONDITIONS IN BRITISH LABOR CIRCLES BAD DECLARES BRITISH M. P.

Fraternal Delegate From British Trades Union Congress Tells of Disputes in the Old Land—Sees Setback to Last For 20 Years—Thinks Government is to Ignore Pleas Regarding Ireland.

Hon. R. A. Davidson, member for the constituency of Smethwick, Birmingham, in the British House of Commons, is the fraternal delegate from the trade unions of his country at the trades congress in session at Windsor.

Delegate Davidson brings a gloomy report of industrial conditions in England. He expressed the opinion, on Tuesday, that the situation in Great Britain could not be worse, as indications were that the electrical workers' and coal workers' disputes would be fought out, which would result in a setback to the country from which it would not recover in 20 years.

Hon. Mr. Davidson is well acquainted with Sir Allan Smith, who is leading the employers of the electrical trades industry at the present time in England. Consequently, he is in a position to discuss the situation which has arisen between the unions and the employers of labor.

"If the electrical trades union dispute develops on Saturday, the whole of London's transportation facilities will be closed down," said Hon. Mr. Davidson. "This will spread through the entire country and will nullify the strike notices of the miners. Even the pits to a great extent will be closed down. The dispute between the electrical trades unions and the employers is the result of a walkout of the electrical trades unions of Sheffield because a foreman refused to become a member of the union. The engineering employers will retaliate with a lockout of a general nature, which will affect 1,500,000 men."

In discussing the MacSwiney case, Mr. Davidson expressed the opinion that the Government was not going to take any notice of appeals on behalf of the Lord Mayor of Cork. Lloyd George, he said, was between the devil and the deep sea and could do nothing because of influences in the House of Commons.