Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

TEACHERS SHOULD ORGANIZE.

IN less than a year the union spirit of teachers in the United States has expanded from twenty-three to seventy-two branches. The movement is spreading to Canada where school teachers are a very poorly paid section of the public service. In the United States the teachers have organized as a branch of the American Federation of Labor, known as the American Federation of Teachers. The aims of this organization are a minimum salary of $1,000 for the school year for all teachers; the enactment of adequate retirement laws; recognition of the rights of teachers to organize and to affiliate their organizations with union labor, and the guarantee of full educational opportunities for all children.

* * * *

It is stated that an effort will be made by the Department of Education for Ontario to induce returned soldiers to enter the teaching professions. A special course of training may be established with text and tuition books free and special allowances towards living expenses.

This is a noble profession for men who have given our country noble service. But they must be given better salaries than are in evidence today. Many bright Canadians who have spent the best part of their lives in teaching declare that present day salaries are not sufficient to meet the bare necessaries of life. Veterans who have risked their all in the service of their country, may not have a very high appreciation of a reward that would simply put them in a position to carry on a narrow, half-starved existence in a genteel manner. Organization under the banner of the Canadian Labor movement is the suggestion offered by the Canadian Labor Press.

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FOR EXAMPLE.

A NEWS despatch, as this is written, states that a Victoria Cross veteran in Winnipeg, while endeavoring to maintain order during the O.B.U. strike, was set upon by two aliens, said to be Austrians, and beaten almost to the point of death. This is an outrage not to be countenanced. We send our bravest men to Europe to fight for the liberty and freedom of all peoples and all classes—to relieve them from the domination of force. Force, in the persons of the aliens, seems to be with us to menace our own liberties here. Such regrettable incidents serve to show us that force, as manifested by the aliens, is a distinct disadvantage to any cause. Co-operation will serve the ends of labor better and sooner.

* * * *

SHORT HOURS.

AS a result of a wager between two officers during the war a very interesting test was made, demonstrating the efficiency of shorter hours. The incident was related in the British House of Commons during a labor debate, by Major Farquharson. The short-hour test was a contest in trench digging. One officer let his men work as they pleased, but as hard as possible. The other divided his men into three squads, to work in rotation, each squad digging its hardest for five minutes and then resting for ten. The second squad won easily. This test is a strong argument for shorter hours for the employe from production as well as a humanitarian standpoint.

* * * *

EDUCATION THE WORKING MAN'S HOPE.

THE policy of the Canadian Labor Press has been, is, and always will be, Education. It is the Hope of Labor. What better endorsation could you want than the statement of D. Trotter, Secretary of the Montreal Association of Building and Constructive Industries? Says Mr. Trotter:

"I am not against education, mind you, gentlemen; but we must realize that the working man of today is a much superior man in point of education than the working man of twenty years ago."

* * * *

THE MINDS OF MEN.

TO adjust industrial differences Canada could not do better than to follow the planks and principles of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress. We must bring into general use a National Labor Policy, founded upon Justice and Brotherhood as well as Efficiency. Very often Ill Will is the main cause of Industrial Inefficiency and Friction. To remove Ill Will and Prejudice we must change the Minds of Men. We must mold and we must educate men to think, see, speak and act in broader channels. The principles of political, social and Industrial Democracy must be introduced into Industry. Harmony, Progress and Prosperity can come only through broad-minded readjustment and Co-operation.

* * * *

THE ONE BIG QUESTION.

THE One Big Question in Western Canada today seems to be—O. B. U., or B. U. not a member of the One Big Union?

WASHINGTON WOMEN TO RECEIVE MINIMUM WAGE.

The first wage conference held under the new minimum wage law for women in private employ in the District of Columbia has reported a minimum wage of $15.50 per week. This conference was organized in March, to consider the wages of women employed in private printing and publishing houses, and if its recommendation is accepted by the Minimum Wage Board, as is expected, every woman employed in such establishments in the District of Columbia must be paid not less than $15.50 per week, after the decision goes into effect. At present the Board found about 75 per cent. of the women in this industry in the District are paid less than $15 per week, and nearly half of them are paid from $12 to $8 per week.

The recommendation of $15.50 per week as the minimum wage upon which a woman without dependents can maintain herself at a proper standard of living in the District of Columbia was arrived at after four meetings of the conference, and was unanimous. The employer member of the Board, Joseph A. Berberich, who is president of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association of the District, was also present and agreed to the recommendation.

The items in cost of living allowed for by the Conference under the minimum wage rate of $15.50 per week are as follows:

Room and board	$9.00
Clothing	3.35
Laundry	.75
Sickness, dentistry, oculist	.50
Amusements	.20
Vacation	.25
Savings and insurance	.35
Church and charity	.16
Organization dues	.10
Self-improvement	.10
Car fare	.60
Other incidentals	.20
Total	$15.50

For learners, or apprentices, the conference recommended rates of $8 for the first three months, $9 for the second three months, and $12 for the fourth three months, the full wage of $15.50 per week to apply at the end of the year.

Before the new minimum rates can be put into effect, a public hearing must be held, after a thirty-day period of advertising, and then a sixty-day period must elapse to permit the employers to adjust their pay rolls. This will bring the new rates into operation probably some time in August, 1919.

The minimum wage law of the District of Columbia is mandatory, and the failure of any employer to pay the prescribed minimum renders him subject to fine or imprisonment.

WINDSOR MAGISTRATE SCORES THE BOLSHEVIKI.

"The spirit of right-minded people will prevail and before long the Bolsheviki will be like rats leaving a ship," said Police Magistrate Miers in Windsor police court on Saturday when commenting upon the provocation plea entered by Barrister Fred Kerby, on behalf of Constanti Bajoko, a Russian, charged with assaulting Michael Kniopka, a fellow countryman, who is alleged to have been active as a Bolshevik organizer in the border cities.

On the night of June 16 Kniopka was beaten up and kicked by the accused for soliciting subscriptions for red literature and the Bolshevik cause.

"Bajoko is to be commended for his action," said the court, "but he should not have taken the law into his own hands.

"I find him guilty of common assault and impose a nominal fine of $5."

Bajoko admitted the charge and claimed that the Bolsheviki in the border cities sneered at him because he would not join the movement and believed in God and the church.

The crown will further investigate plaintiff Kniopka, who admitted that he was not engaged in work of any kind.

DEVELOPMENT OF CANADIAN RAILWAYS.

The first passenger-carrying railway in Canada, the Champlain and St. Lawrence, was opened on July 23, 1836, and the length of the line was 16 miles. The line was the only one in Canada until 1847, when the railway mileage was increased to 54. In 1851 the mileage had grown to 159 and in 1861 to 2,145. At Confederation, in 1867, the mileage was 2,288. The total railway mileage of Canada at the beginning of each decade from 1871 to 1911 and in 1917 was as follows: 1871, 2,695; 1881, 7,331; 1891, 13,838; 1901, 18,140; 1911, 25,400; 1917, 38,604, according to the Canada Year Book for 1918, issued by the Census and Statistic Office.

CLOSE CO-OPERATION IN NATIONAL BANK OF GEORGIA.

The Lowry National Bank of Georgia has adopted a profit-sharing arrangement with its employes, to go into effect on July 1. The initial payment to the workers will be 10 per cent. of their salaries in the first six months of 1919, future distributions depending upon the bank earnings.

In explaining the plan to the employes, John E. Murphy, president of the bank, said the purpose was to make the interests of the stockholders and the interests of the employes identical. He expressed the view that without the co-operation of the employes the operation of the institute would not be a success.

GOODS MADE BY CANADIAN LABOR FREE TO BRITAIN.

A cable message from Downing Street to the Governor-General of Canada says, referring to the cablegram announcing the removal of all restrictions on the importation into the United Kingdom of goods the manufacture of British Dominions, except in the case of gold and spirits other than brandy and rum, and hops, the Board of Trade has decided to accept as produce or manufacture of the British Dominions goods which owe at least 75 per cent. of their total value to Dominion or Colonial labor and materials. It is not contemplated, however, that so high a percentage should be applied for the purpose of preference. This means that in order that Canadian manufacturers may enjoy the privilege of exporting goods to the United Kingdom free from the restrictions imposed on the manufacturers of foreign countries, they must make a declaration in each case that 75 per cent. of the total value is due to labor and materials of Canada, or some other part of the British Empire.

82.2 PER CENT CANADIANS REPATRIATED.

It was officially stated in the British House of Commons on Wednesday that by the thirtieth of June, 82.2 per cent. of the Canadian army will have been repatriated. The American army is not being repatriated quicker than the Canadian. It was stated that 134,554 American soldiers will have been sent home by June 30, and 238,000 Canadians.

JOINT MEETING OF BRITISH TRADE UNIONISTS AND CO-OPERATORS.

A joint meeting of representatives of British trade unions and co-operative societies was recently held in London. About 800 delegates were present representing nearly 5,000,000 trade unionists and 3,750,000 co-operators. The object of the meeting, as stated by the chairman, Mr. G. H. Stuart-Bunning, chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress, "was not to re-establish such prosperity as we had before, but to establish a new and more equal prosperity, which would bring the working classes closer together in a real co-operation." They had been working on parallel lines, he said, in an effort to get to the same goal. In neither case would they get the full results of their labor until they joined together in one common effort. From his experience on the Consumers' Council of the Ministry of Food, he declared that "the only way to prevent the working classes from being shamelessly robbed in regard to food and other things was by the co-operative movement." A resolution was passed welcoming the inauguration of the United Advisory Council of Trade Unionists and Co-operators, supporting the policy of mutual assistance, and pledging the meeting to further to the utmost the organizing of working-class opinion and activity against the reactionary efforts to obstruct and hinder the social and economic emancipation of the workers.

RESTORING PRE-WAR TRADE UNION CUSTOMS IN BRITAIN.

The text has been published of the Government bill providing for the restoration, after the present war, of "certain trade practices and to amend the law relating to munitions tribunals."

Clause 1, which deals with the restoration of these practices, is split up into six sub-sections.

Sub-Section 1 states that in any establishment to which the bill applies, where practices or customs have been departed from in consequence of the war, the owner shall be under an obligation, at the expiration of one month from the receipt of a specified notice, to restore, or permit the restoration of such trade practices for the period of one year.

New establishments or branches are dealt with in Sub-Section 2 on similar lines.

There is a provision in Sub-Section 3 that an obligation under this section shall not become binding on the owner of any establishment, unless, within three months after the termination of the war there is served on him, by, or on behalf of a majority in the establishment of the class or grade of workers whose custom it was before the war to maintain the trade practice in question, a notice requiring the observance of the obligation.

If the owner of the establishment is not prepared to comply with the notice, or is in doubt as to its nature, it is provided in Sub-Section 4 that he must give a counter-notice within 14 days of the receipt of the notice.

Where such a counter-notice is given, Sub-Section 6 provides that either party may apply to a munitions tribunal of the second class to determine whether the obligation exists or, as the case may be, the nature of the obligation. Any order made by the tribunal shall be conclusive in any proceedings that may subsequently be taken against the owner in the matter.

Clause 2 imposes a penalty not exceeding £25 for each day or part of a day during which failure to comply with an obligation under the bill shall continue.

A trade union or federation of trade unions may institute proceedings against an employer for an offence under the bill.

The powers of the Minister of Munitions in relation to munitions tribunals are, by Clause 3, transferred to the Minister of Labor.

The establishments specified under Clause 4 are those in which munitions work has been carried on and any other establishment in which departure from practice was made in consequence of the Treasury agreements of 1915.

Sub-Section 2 of this clause brings Crown establishments under the purview of the bill, and makes them liable to similar proceedings as a privately owned establishment.

TORONTO STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYES OUT.

On Sunday last the employes of the Toronto Street Railway took their cars to the barns and there the cars have remained. The men and the company failed to agree on a new schedule calling for an eight-hour day and fifty-five cents an hour. Conferences were held with the City Council, the Provincial Government and the Dominion Labor Department, but without success, and the men are now on strike, and at the time of writing no settlement is in sight.

NO MAN ABOVE THE LAW.

In reply to a telegram from Secretary Hamilton, of the Toronto Metal Trades Council, with regard to the arrests of the Winnipeg strikers, Premier Borden sent the following message:

"The persons arrested in Winnipeg have been charged with acts which under the laws of this country are serious offences. The Government intends to maintain the law and to prevent and punish any attempt to subvert the authority of the people as established by their representatives in Parliament. Your assertion that the Government has been animated by a desire to assist the employing class or to injure the labor movement is absolutely contrary to the fact. No man in this country, whether employer or employe, is above the law, nor can any such person be permitted to defy the authority of the people as a whole."

MONTREAL TRADES COUNCIL NOTES.

At a regular meeting of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council held on Friday last, J. T. Foster, president, said the present crisis was a very serious one for organized labor throughout the Dominion. It was becoming more and more patent, he said, that there was a gigantic conspiracy on foot on the part of somebody to interfere with the labor movement. He added, "There is something wrong with the government of the people, when it can enact legislation in twenty-five minutes to arrest labor leaders, when we cannot, in five years, secure legislation in the interests of Canadian workingmen."

A. Mathieu, secretary, pointed out that some radicals in the past had caused disruption in the labor movement, but begged them to "come half way" in the present situation and present a solid front to the Government.

The general strike committee of the Canadian Vickers wrote the council asking that body to sanction a general strike if it were called. The council replied that it was not in a position either to call or sanction a general strike. The council, it was pointed out, was only a legislative body.

A worker at Grand Mere wrote that when the Royal Commission on Industrial Relations was in the Province of Quebec it was not known that they were to be represented by Messrs. Deslaurier and Gauthier, and added that these men did not represent the general sentiment of the workers in that district. He also held that the letter of Father Lafleche, which stated that the men were perfectly satisfied was not in accordance with the facts and that Father Lafleche had either been led astray or was ignorant of the facts.

The striking textile workers were accorded the moral support of the council.

BRITISH ARMY PAY CLERKS ORGANIZE.

A meeting of the clerks employed at the British army pay office, Upper Thames street, London, E.C., was held at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon street, when it was decided to form the East Central Army Pay Clerks' Branch of the National Union of Clerks. A considerable number of the 1,000 clerks engaged there were enrolled. Mr. G. Tidy was elected chairman, and Mr. B. J. Synnott, secretary. The chairman said the present standard of pay was hopelessly below the present cost of living, the maximum for men being 56s. 6d., and for women 42s. A resolution declaring that the present wages were inadequate to maintain a decent standard of living, and pledging the branch to raise the amount in company with other branches dealing with soldiers' accounts, was carried unanimously.

MONTREAL BAKERS OUT.

About 500 bakers, confectioners, and bakery drivers are out on strike in Montreal. The unions made demands on the employers last Wednesday, which were refused, following which the workers of some 40 firms quit work.

The drivers are asking for $18 a week and 5 per cent. commission on collections, special delivery men to receive flat $25 a week. The bakers want an eight-hour day and the following scale of wages: foremen (day), $30 weekly; night, $35; second foremen (day), $28; (night), $30; bench and machine hands (day), $25; (night), $27; helpers, $20 and $22; apprentices, day or night, $10, $12, and $15 for first, second, and third years respectively. Double time is asked for work done on the seventh day. Both agreements call for the establishment of joint committees to settle troubles.

Two hundred and fifty bread drivers went on strike Wednesday morning to enforce the demands which they presented to their employers last Wednesday, and in sympathy with the bakers, who went on strike on Sunday.

The boilermakers and iron shipbuilders of the Montreal Drydock Company have struck work and other crafts are expected to follow. Otherwise the Montreal labor situation remains about the same.

SELF-PRESERVATION.

For three successive nights the new and proud father had walked the floor with the baby. On the fourth night he became desperate, and on arriving home from the office unwrapped a bottle of soothing syrup.

"Oh, James," exclaimed his wife, when she saw the label, "what did you buy that for? Don't you know it is very dangerous to give a child anything like that?"

"Don't worry," was the husband's tired reply; "I'm going to take it myself!"

THOSE WHO PAID.

Robert W. Service.

What d'ye think, lad; what d'ye think,
As the roaring crowds go by?
As the banners flare and the brasses blare,
And the great guns rend the sky?
As the women laugh like they're all gone mad,
And the champagne glasses clink.
Oh, you're gripping me hand so tightly, lad,
I'm a-wonderin': what d'ye think?

D'ye think o' the boys we used to know,
And how they'd have topped the fun?
Tom and Charlie, and Jack and Joe,
Gone n. .., every one.
How they'd have cheered as the joy-bells chime,
And they grabbed each girl for a kiss!
And now—they're rotting in Flanders slime,
And they gave their lives—for this.

Or d'ye think of the filthy a time,
When we wished we too were dead,
Up to our knees in the freezin' grime,
With the fires of hell overhead?
When the youth and the strength of us sapped away,
And we cursed in our rage and pain—
And yet—we haven't a word to say—
We're glad. We'd do it again.

I'm scared that they pity us. Come, old boy,
Let's leave them their flags and their fuss.
We'd surely be hating to spoil their joy
With the sight of such wrecks as us.
Let's slip away quietly, you and me.
An' we'll talk of our chums out there:
To wish your eyes that'll never see,
He that's wheeled in a chair.

POLITICS and PEOPLE THROUGH THE TELESCOPE OF LABOR

With morning, afternoon, evening and Saturday sittings in progress the end of the session is in sight. There is talk of adjournment by Saturday, July 5. There is still, however, considerable business to be completed, and outside of the legislation actually before the House there are no other necessary measures to be considered. The Pensions Committee has brought in a report which, it is presumed, will be embodied in the legislation. Roughly the pensions report provides for an increase in pensions to soldiers of twenty per cent. to meet the increased cost of living.

Then the Industrial Commission will soon have a report ready. The Commission unfortunately, so far, has been unable to bring in an unanimous report, and the present outlook is that there will be a majority and a minority report. The two Labor members, Tom Moore and John Bruce, along with C. N. Harrison, the Labor member for Nipissing, an official of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Conductors; Judge Mathers, the chairman, and Carl Riordon, an employer, will likely sign one report, and there will be a minority report signed by Senator Smeaton White and Mr. Pauze, two employers. The majority report will recommend immediate important legislation. Whether the recommendations will be acted upon remains to be seen.

Then, in addition to this Commission, the Cost of Living Committee, which under the chairmanship of G. B. Nicholson has been probing the profiteering of certain companies, will have a report to make to Parliament. Their inquiry has revealed a disquieting state of affairs among certain companies dealing in the necessities of life and profits which would seem to be beyond all reason in the present stress of living. It is expected the committee will bring in a recommendation to deal with this state of affairs. One recommendation, which is favored by many of the members, is the establishment of a Court of Commerce, which would have power to probe into operations of companies, and possibly to fix profits and otherwise prevent exorbitant price raising and profiteering.

Labor should be interested in a bill which was introduced in the Commons last week and which passed a second reading after a sharp debate, which provides for the establishment of divorce courts. The present system is expensive and as a result of present divorce is a rich man's luxury. By divorce courts it is planned not to make divorce easier, but to give the poor man an equal chance with the millionaire to break the wedlock bonds with an unfaithful spouse. The present plan, which dates back to Confederation, places divorce in the hands of Parliament for five out of the nine provinces. The three Maritime Provinces and British Columbia had divorce courts when they entered the Dominion hand; they have always been permitted to continue them. By the new bill, which was introduced by Mr. W. F. Nickle, of Kingston, who led the title-busters, divorce will be taken out of the hands of Parliament, and there will be established provincial courts. The worst of the present situation is that the divorces are really decided by a Senate Divorce Committee. This committee is in no position to give judicial decision and this past session it has been physically impossible for them to properly hear all the eighty-two odd applications which have been before them.

A real and pressing reason for reform is that too often there has been lobbying for divorces at Ottawa—a most outrageous procedure. Petticoat lobbying has too often been seen at the Capital, while there have been times political influence has had its effect. "The conditions today," added Mr. Nickle, "are not fair. When a man who has the money comes to this House and can prove adultery and get a divorce, is it right that a man who went overseas and has not the money cannot secure one? Is divorce to be the rich man's luxury?"

The most important bill before the House during the past week has been the Soldiers' Settlement Bill introduced by Hon. Arthur Meighen. While this bill particularly interests the soldier, yet after all it is a measure in which every citizen must be interested.

The most important and noteworthy feature of the Minister's speech, perhaps, was that dealing with the operations of the Board to the 14th of June. Figures were available to show that the Soldier Settlement Board had loaned to returned soldiers to enable them to settle on the land no less a sum than $14,467,974, of which $8,710,128 was for the purchase of land, the balance being for the purchase of live stock and implements, and for the erection of permanent buildings on the farm. The average of the loans was $2,394, and it was shown that 4,262 ex-service men had availed themselves of the loan privileges.

There were other significant figures in the address of the minister which indicate the success which is attending the efforts of the Government to provide a scheme of settlement that appeals strongly to the returned men. The total number of applications which have been received by the Soldier Settlement Board for qualification certificates is 17,109, of which 12,594 have been approved by the Qualification Committees. Alberta leads the way with 2,385, with Saskatchewan second with 3,124. The figures for the other provinces in order are: Manitoba, 2,349, British Columbia, 1,914, Ontario 725, New Brunswick 366, Quebec 271, Nova Scotia 269, Prince Edward Island 193.

Touching on the financial arrangements made for the benefit of the returned soldier settler, Mr. Meighen showed that as the money loaned to the soldier at an interest rate of five per cent. cost the country from one-half to one per cent. more than that, and taking into account the length of time that the soldier has to repay, the saving to the soldier was very substantial indeed, to say nothing of the total remission of interest for two years on the money loaned for live stock and agricultural implements. He was able, also, to give figures showing that the soldier settler received very substantial advantages when purchasing his equipment through the Board. Instancing Calgary as one point of distribution, Mr. Meighen showed the following reductions of prices to soldier settlers from the cash prices quoted ordinary customers: United Grain Growers' Limited, 13 per cent.; John Deere Co., 15 per cent.; Massey-Harris, 9 per cent.; Cockshutt Co., 18 per cent.; International Harvester Co., 19 per cent. The soldier settler saves 30 per cent. on harness and 20 per cent on lumber. At Edmonton the prices for soldier settlers are 16 per cent. lower than those quoted to civilian settlers. It runs that way throughout, except that at one point the soldier saves 40 per cent. on the purchase of harness. The arrangements as to stock and implements apply to every province.

BRITISH NATIONAL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE AGREED ON BILL.

The joint committee of the National Industry Conference has agreed with the Minister of Labor upon the draft outlines of the bills to be presented to Parliament for establishment of minimum wages and a minimum 48-hour week, and will now proceed to help the National Council recommended by the conference. The full council will consist of 400 members, representing the trades unions and the employers' organizations respectively. The greatest satisfaction is expressed in industrial circles over the agreement. It is felt that it will inevitably lead to the formation of a recognized centre for the settlement of all trade disputes.

It is hoped that when the bills receive the sanction of Parliament the council will be already in existence and ready to undertake the administration of this reform. It was only last February that the Government arranged the National Industrial Conference to consider and report on the causes and remedies of labor unrest.

UNION LABEL THE SOLUTION.

Members of labor organizations in the United States and Canada earn four million dollars per day on an average. Think what would be the result if this money were all expended for products bearing the union label.

Strikes would be eliminated.

All just demands of the workers would be compiled with and no labor organizations would be without recognition.

See that your money all goes for union-labeled goods.

Why should not union workmen live in houses built by union labor and with the union label over the door?

ONLY OLD CLOTHES.

Peddler: "Have you got any old clothes?"

Citizen: "Have I got any others? If you take my old clothes I must lie in bed till reconstruction is started."

RATHER ROUGH.

Adeline—What would you do if you were in my shoes?

Madge (after a glance at them)—Get a pair about four sizes smaller.

The Daly Store's "Removal Sale" is Still Going on Strong.

Fresh, New, Seasonable Goods are Being Offered at Great Price Reduction.s Do Not Fail to Visit the Store These Days, it Will Pay You Well.

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"After taking up Pelmanism for about three months," writes a Departmental Manager, "and working through about four lessons, I was offered a very high post in the firm in which I am employed. This necessitated my devoting the whole of my energies to starting and systematising a new department, so that my time has been fully occupied. This advancement, which incidentally doubled my salary (which was not inconsiderable before), I attribute entirely to Pelmanism."

GAVE HIM CONFIDENCE.
"You will be pleased to hear I have been offered, and have accepted, a position which not only offers me an immediate increase in salary, but has also very good prospects. I am going into a Merchant's Office to learn his business, so that I can take charge when he is away . . . I feel confident that the methods I have learnt from you will be of great value to me. I certainly don't think I should have had the self-confidence to accept the position had I not taken your course."
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