



Industrial Review From Many Sources



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UNEMPLOYMENT RETURNS.

Very little change in the employment situation throughout Canada is shown by the bulletin of the Employment Service, covering the two weeks ended October 8. The departmental index number, covering reports from 5,400 business firms, stood at 89.9 as compared with 90.2 for the preceding two weeks, and with 107.5 for the corresponding period of 1920. Employment continues at about the level of the middle of January last, when the index number stood at 90.4, the highest point reached in the present year. The seasonal expansion in logging continued during the fortnight under review, but this was offset by a shrinkage in saw milling operations. The situation in the prairie provinces was somewhat more favorable than in other parts of Canada, largely, says the bulletin, on account of expansion in railway construction.

As in the last report, leather, coal mining and local and water transportation were the only activities which showed an improvement over this period last year. In the building and construction group, statements from 287 firms employing 18,207 showed a decline from the previous period when the percentage of employment stood at 91.5 as compared with 91.3 in the preceding month, and with 96.7 at the beginning of October, 1920. Returns covering 79,423 transportation workers show an employment percentage of 95.5 as compared with 97 in the preceding month. The percentage of employment in building and construction was 88.3 as compared with 81.8 at the beginning of September.

CANADA'S FIRST CANADA-PRODUCED FEATURE FILM WITH A CANADIAN STAR IS COMPLETED.

"Big Timber," the working title under which John W. Noble has produced his story, "Jim Ferguson," for the screen, is ready for cutting and titling. The picture was made for the Maritime Motion Picture Company of Sydney, Nova Scotia, for release under the banner of Associated Exhibitors-Pathé and Canadian branches.

Wallace MacDonald, general manager and organizer of Maritime, already is arranging for the production of the next feature for the same releasing outfit, and in a statement made recently said that it is the plan of Maritime to continue the making of Canadian pictures in Canada with the same Canadian picture star—Richard C. Travers.

Mr. Travers—a stage name—was born in Ontario, the son of a Presbyterian preacher, and was a captain during the Great War in the army of the United States, where he was playing in pictures at the time. He is a former hockey player of note, a general all-around sportsman and popular in films. For years he was the chief stellar attraction of Essanay and recently has been featured with Pearl White, Corinne Griffith and others.

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HOW CHILDREN MAY HELP AVOID MOTOR ACCIDENTS

Use judgment, and especially HEED the motor horn. Take advice on "Safety." Form Safety Patrols in schools. Cross at streets with the traffic, and watch the approaching motors. Help elderly people if they become confused. Inform proper authority when discovering wash-outs, or defects in public roads. Always keep to the right side.

HULL, P.Q. TRADES COUNCIL MEETING.

Mr. Amédée Hébert, president of the Hull Trades and Labor Council as a protest to the council's action in endorsing Dr. J. E. Fontaine, who is the Liberal candidate in Hull, Mr. Hébert told the delegates that he considered they had acted contrary to principles laid down by labor, in having endorsed a candidate who was not a labor man and who had not accepted labor's platform.

Mr. Hébert's resignation was accepted only after a division and shortly afterwards officers were elected. Mr. Arthur Thibault being chosen as president.

While the Hull Trades and Labor Council has endorsed the candidature of a Liberal another step, which labor men consider unusual, was council's decision to file the labor platform sent by the Trades and Labor Congress for either acceptance or rejection by candidates in the different Federal ridings. Such planks as eight-hour day, minimum wage, compulsory education, old age pensions, etc., are included in the platform. In placing a document on file, council automatically ignored the labor programme in favor of the Liberal policy.

The "Political Pills." Both President Hébert and Delegate C. Paradis were strongly opposed to endorsing any but a Labor candidate. The latter thought it unusual that organized labor should support Dr. Fontaine who had demanded in the House of Commons the resignation of the Minister of Labor. He said Senator Robertson was labor's representative and as such had done more for the laborer.

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PLATFORM OF THE CANADIAN LABOR PARTY

The Canadian Labor Party was formed by delegates to the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, Winnipeg, week ending August 29, 1921. The platform adopted by the party is as follows:

"We have in view a complete change in our present economic and social system. In this we recognize our solidarity with the workers of the world over. As a means to this end and in order to meet the pressing needs we recommend the following platform:

1. Unemployment: (a) State insurance against unemployment chargeable to industry; (b) regulation of immigration.
2. Public ownership and democratic control of public utilities.
3. Electoral reform: (a) Proportional representation; (b) names in order of election deposit; (c) extension of voting facilities.
4. Old age pensions and health and disability insurance.
5. Abolition of non-elective legislative bodies.
6. International disarmament.
7. Direct legislation: (a) The initiative; (b) the referendum; (c) the recall.
8. Enforcement of recommendations of Washington Labor conference, especially the eight-hour day.
9. Repeal of amendments to Immigration Act providing for deportation of British subjects.
10. Removal of taxation on the necessities of life, taxation of land values.
11. Nationalization of the banking system.
12. Capital levy for the reduction of war debt."

DETROIT'S SYSTEM TO MAINTAIN EMPLOYMENT

Detroit manufacturing concerns were urged to give employment preference to former employees with dependants and to effect production curtailment where necessary by shortening hours rather than by discharging workers, in a series of recommendations drawn up today by the manufacturers' sub-committee on unemployment.

The sub-committee also suggested that where possible, manufacturers increase their reserve stock as largely as possible. Concerning the employment of women, the recommendation read: "In employing women it is recommended that the order of preference be widows with dependants, married women with dependants and single women with dependants."

The Ford Motor Company, according to Edward H. Ford, is rotating its workers on a two-week basis and operating five days a week to employ as many men as possible.

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