

CANADIAN DISPUTES ACTS IS EFFICIENT

Of 212 Labor Disputes Referred Under the Act All But 21 Were Ended or Averted

Statistics in regard to the operation of the Canadian industrial disputes investigation act, as furnished to the United States Department of Labor by Mr. F. A. Acland, deputy minister of labor for Canada, and covering the period 1907 to 1916, show that during this period of over nine years some 212 disputes were referred under the act, and of these only 21 were not averted or ended.

The 90 per cent. efficiency of the Canadian industrial disputes investigation act has prompted the Canadian minister of labor to prepare a revision of the act to meet certain objections found in operation. One improvement will reduce the length of time for granting or refusing a board from fifteen to ten days. Where both parties agree to accept the recommendations of the board appointed to investigate the dispute, the same will be considered an agreement between the parties. Industrial agreements may be registered—the same to be effective for not more than five years. Again, a secret vote by ballot is to be required before a strike. When industrial agreements are registered, strikes and lockouts in public utility industries are forbidden, but either party may be relieved from the agreement by the report of the board.

Of the present act, the Bulletin of the United States Department of Labor says:—

"The Canadian industrial disputes investigation act applies to coal mines and metal mines, public utilities, including municipal service corporations, and transportation of all kinds, including occupations subsidiary thereto, and makes it unlawful for employers in these industries and occupations to lock out their workmen or for employees to strike until an investigation of the dispute has been made and a report published by a board appointed for the particular case. The purpose of the act is to prevent and prohibit strikes and lockouts; it does not aim at compulsory arbitration or to force men to work against their will after all chance of amicable settlement has disappeared.

"After the report of the board has been issued the parties may refuse to accept its findings and start a strike or lockout. This board is appointed, upon application by either side, by the minister of labor or his deputies, and consists of three members, one a representative of the employers, one representing the employees, and a third appointed by these two, or, if they fail to agree, by the government. The board tries, by conciliation, to bring the parties to an agreement; and, if successful, reports its findings; if it is not successful, its report describes the conditions that caused the dispute, usually recommending what appear to be fair terms of settlement. If the parties in the controversy are then unable to agree they may resort to the last measures of industrial warfare."

CANADIAN Pacific Railway Holdings

In what countries the shares are
held and to what extent

Statement to The Monetary Times

By BARON SHAUGHNESSY, Pres. of the Company

See The Monetary Times Annual

JANUARY 5, 1917

PRICE 50c

ADULTERATION IN MAPLE SYRUP

"In most of these cases of fraudulent sale, the manufacturer's label distinctly claims the article to be maple syrup; and I have noted the presence of these words on the label where such label has been seen by myself or by the analyst who did the work of analysis." Thus states Dr. A. McGill, Canada's chief analyst, in his recent report. Some 209 samples were purchased as maple syrup by inspectors during the current year.

Of this number, 162 samples were found to be genuine, in the sense of meeting standard requirements for maple syrup. Six samples met these minimum requirements within such narrow limits as to justify suspicion of their genuineness, but these were passed, thus giving a total of 168 samples as probably genuine, being 80 per cent. of the total collection.

Forty-one samples are adulterated, in the sense of being mixtures of cane sugar syrup with maple syrup, but sold as maple syrup.

The inspectors were instructed to demand maple syrup, and the samples now reported were supplied by the vendors as answering this demand. In two instances the vendor, after making sale, and discovering that the purchaser was an officer of the inland revenue department, stated that he did not claim the article sold to be pure maple syrup. In one of these cases the manufacturer's label upon the container claims that the article is maple syrup; in the second case the label bears the words "pure m. syrup," which is undoubtedly intended to make the purchaser believe that he is being served with maple syrup.

There can be no excuse for offering as maple syrup an article which is a mixture, as in these cases, suggests Dr. McGill. The article may be, and in most cases is, a desirable and nutritious food; but it should be placed upon the market under conditions which would correctly inform the purchaser as to its character. It is noteworthy that the uttering of the surrogate article appears to be entirely in the hands of a small number of manufacturers in Montreal and Toronto. The great proportion of samples purchased in localities where maple syrup is recognized as an established farm industry, as in New Brunswick and Quebec, are found to be genuine; and there can be no doubt that a real injury is done to these provinces when the markets offered by our western provinces and our larger cities are supplied by imitations of maple syrup which profess to be the genuine article.

In further comment the chief analyst states: "A correspondent asks information as to the truthfulness of statements made by certain manufacturers of maple syrup, who claim that their product is made from maple sugar, and not directly from maple sap, and that, for this reason, it fails to meet the standards established by the inland revenue department for maple syrup. In other words, these manufacturers assert that their syrup is a purer article than maple syrup made directly from maple sap, and that its purity causes it to fail to respond to government standards.

"The inland revenue department has fully established the fact that any sample of genuine maple sugar, when dissolved in water to the legal consistency of maple syrup, will produce a syrup which fully meets the legal standards for maple syrup.

"It follows that the statements made by manufacturers above referred to are without foundation in fact; and the natural inference is that such claims are made for purposes of fraud, and with intent to secure sale for an article which is manufactured in whole or in part from sugar which is not maple sugar."

THOUSAND MILES OF RAILS FOR FRANCE

From 1,200 to 1,500 miles of railway trackage is needed from Canada for immediate use in France. The Dominion government roads, the Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk and Canadian Northern are co-operating to meet the sudden demand. Already 300 miles of government railway sidings are in process of being taken up and shipped to France.

The Imperial government has asked the Dominion to help in solving the difficulties of the French railway situation, both in the relief of port congestion and the movement of guns and munitions behind the lines.

The munition work on which the Canadian steel mills are at present engaged precluded any possibility of early delivery of rails, tie-plates, bolts, etc., from those quarters, and it was evident that the situation could be properly and promptly met only by the taking up of Canadian track.