

Labor Items of Interest From the Capital City

FIREFIGHTERS NOTES LOCAL 162.

The sports committee met at No. 2 fire hall with a representative from the newly formed Athletic Association. Lieut. Dicks was elected to plan the main executive of that body to represent the firefighters. The following committee was selected to co-operate with the Police Dept.: A. E. McConnell, D. Dear, W. Duffey, Capt. Bradley, T. G. McKay, and H. Girouard. It is the intention to have a meet under the auspices of the two organizations.

If any brother who has the interest in this adventure at heart, but cannot take his time from the front line, will offer his services to any member of the committee he can be accommodated in some of the work that goes to make up the general organization. Amongst those who have come forward are Capt. J. Hot, Capt. J. Bradley and Fred Wright. With Labor Day rapidly approaching the boys will soon be getting their pants pressed for the greatest Labor Day parade in the history of Ottawa; and don't forget the sports will soon be in full swing at the Ottawa Trades Council.

The black diamonds selling at \$12.50 per ton, rent \$28, butter at 60c per pound—in fact everything that goes to keep a fellow alive is skyrocketing instead of staying on a level as was predicted when the committee accepted the last increase in pay, and when one hears the merd drawing the top pay complaint of the H. C. of L. it must need a Philadelphia lawyer to figure how the fellow drawing \$71.50 a month lives.

Capt. Starr met with an unfortunate accident while driving his car. One of the tires bursted putting the car out of control, causing the Captain to be thrown out, breaking his collar bones and severely shaking him. It is expected that the Captain will soon be around again as well as ever.

In the current issue of the International Fire Fighter, Bro. Donald Deer has the following to say:

This being an introductory communication to the Fire Fighter, a resume of our union labor activities will be the main feature of the issue, with the local fire fighters becoming acquainted with the local Ottawa.

Our union was in active service in the labor movement before the international was formed, thus we were pioneers and had to obtain a charter from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, this being a similar position in the Dominion to that held by the A. F. of L. in the States. Under this federal charter we became affiliated with and actively engaged in the work of the Central Trades Council, and made progress in the matter of bettering our conditions. Of course, as new comers to the organization we had opposition from those who saw grave disaster from fire fighters linking up with the trade union movement. This opposition was not as mounted as it used to be, and the benefits that have accrued from being a solidly unionized body have been reached by the men who have been organized are now in the process.

Our first charter was granted by the Trades and Labor Congress at its meeting place, and preserved as a precious relic. Our membership was transferred entire with a vote of 98 per cent. to the International Fire Fighter, January 1919, as Local No. 162. A coincidence was in evidence in the passing of the federal charter No. 25, as the International Fire Fighter was our 24-hour duty to the two-plant system.

The Ottawa local established relations in more than one particular. They were the first fireman's union in Canada to call for the application of the Industrial Disputes Act, before a strike, and they were the first to call for the application of the act in matters of mutual interest.

From the long hours of duty to the platoon system came as natural to the boys as sliding down the pole. A good feature in the additional men required to install this system was the signing of our returned veterans, and they sure jump right into the safety net of unionism, and for whom a low initiation fee is in vogue as some little appreciation of their valiant efforts on our behalf.

This is the first episode from Ottawa, but we are going strong and will not be our last. It is well to make personal mention that General Vice-President George Richardson, of Vancouver, paid us a visit especially opportune, as our sister local across the river, Hull, Quebec, was on strike, and he took off his coat, dug into the game, and before leaving had the satisfaction of seeing the Hull boys win out after a twenty-four-hour strike. During his visit he was entertained by the Ottawa boys under the chaperoning of the officers.

BARBERS ELECT DELEGATES. A. Aubry will act in a dual capacity in the delegates, first at Buffalo, early in September, and will then proceed at the close of the International convention to Hamilton in the event of the Buffalo convention being unduly prolonged and Bro. Aubry not being enabled to make the Hamilton convention. Bro. Macdonald was selected as alternate for the Hamilton sessions. This was the decision reached at the regular meeting before a very large attendance of members.

The debris of the recent strike was cleared off the slate, some of the Labor Day parades was named with Bro. G. S. Macdonald as chairman. An opportunity for a full turnout is provided by the agreement calling for a full day's holiday, this being the first day of the year, but this or shampoos can be obtained on Labor's feast day. The penalty for not being present at the local treasury, so it

Winnipeg Trades Council TO BE REORGANIZED IMMEDIATELY.

At the conclusion of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council meeting on Tuesday, H. A. Rigg made the following statement:

"The authorized deputy of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, I shall proceed to carry out the instructions given to me by the organization and that the Trades and Labor Council of Winnipeg will carry on."

The Trades and Labor Council is the only organization of the kind in the city. It is a body of men who are not only interested in their own welfare but also in the welfare of the community as a whole.

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MISS HAPPY HOLIDAY.

The Canadian Summer Girl, posed by a member of Canadian Photo Productions, Limited.

Where've I seen the girl before? Her face looks familiar. It ought to. That's the fascinating young lady who blew the horn on the auto truck on Peace Day. She playfully poured a pint of white powder down her own neck, and you know she wasn't mad, were you? Nobody ever gets mad at her—for she trifles the Canadian Holiday Spirit. She's here and there, everywhere with never a care.

On Civic Holiday maybe she'll beat you in that canoe race up your summer resort—and then dance you off your feet in the evening. She spent her last Saturday half holiday getting subscriptions for the Canadian Labor Press—just to help the cause of Labor. On Labor Day you'll see her in the parade with the Women's Labor Society.

Friday at the ball game she rubbed elbows with you in the stands. That was her angelic voice calling out: "Whitey—I am the old apple for a Homer." Her "Homer" would be "Homer" would be the old College Professor, would it not, old top?

That was her motor car full of orphans on Dominion Day, going for a little dip at the beach. Her heart is so big and warm—I'll bet it's lined with red flannel.

Sure you go, full of life, full of joy—dancing, boating, singing, rollicking—she's the healthy, happy, handsome, helpful Canadian Girl on Vacation.

HERE'S TO WOMAN. Once Our Superior Now Our Equal.

B. C. WOMEN'S MINIMUM \$15. The minimum wage for women employed in offices in British Columbia has been fixed at \$15 a week, and the hours of labor at 45 per week.

VETERANS URGE WOMEN'S AUXILIARIES. That every possible effort should be made for the organization of ladies' auxiliary associations to help the men in the army and navy veterans' association, was the substance of the report read at the recent convention at Montreal, by Comrade Evans, of Kingston.

SWEDISH WOMEN SECURE VOTE. At last the time has come for Swedish women to exercise their political rights. They have waited longer than any of the people of the north, as Finland obtained it in 1906, Norway in 1913, and Denmark in 1915.

FIRST WOMAN MEMBER FOR SASK. Mrs. M. C. Ramsland, the Government candidate, was elected to the Provincial Legislature from the electoral district of Pelly on Tuesday by a majority of 282, with ten polls to hear from, which it is claimed will increase her majority. She is the first woman to be elected to the Saskatchewan Legislature and the second to contest a seat.

Winnipeg Women's League for O. B. U. The Women's Labor League of Winnipeg last week passed a resolution favoring the organization of the O. B. U. and decided to appoint delegates to its central council. It is asserted, however, that this body will not be a bona-fide trade union organization, which provides:

TORONTO GIRLS FORM UNION. A weekly pay envelope of \$1.50 for 50 hours work this week, has led to the formation of the Laundry Workers' Union, according to a number of the girls, who declare that their working conditions are little better than slavery.

EXPRESSION OF FELLOWSHIP. This gratifying expression of fellowship was in the June number of the Women Worker, the organ of the Great Britain's Federation of Women Workers.

Hours are determined by business conditions in Niagara Falls undoubtedly stand out more conspicuously because of the large number of waitresses employed, but on the other hand it in no way indicates that the hours of labor are shorter in other third class cities. These women are handling food and their health, therefore it is a matter of public interest. There seems to be no reason why third class cities should be discriminated against. The mercantile law should be enforced by the local health department instead of the Mercantile Division of the State Department of Labor. Legislation and enforcement should be uniform throughout the state no matter what size the city may be.

OTTAWA MACHINISTS RESUME WORK. Following a conference between the executive of the Ottawa Machinists' Union and the management of the employing companies, the union, which was on strike since June 1st, has resumed work today. Previous to this conference the bosses absolutely refused to negotiate with the men but once the parties got together a settlement was soon effected.

THE ONE BIG UNION. (By Dan). Did you ever hear that story of workers trying to corner the gold? They said: Let's gather in sweet communion. And change our name to the One Big Union. A good idea, they all cried out: We'll put the capitalist to rout. And run their plants, just as we please. Till they come to us on bended knees. We'll take the reins from the powers that be. For the workers will listen to our Soviet Government will institute. 'Tis as easy as playing on a flute.

They met and drafted up their plans. With the help of men from other lands. And that's all they had to do. Was send a letter to see it through. But the working class were just too dumb. They heeded not the wordy cries. Of those who would their unions break. And constituted authority shake.

So out in the west they stood alone. Passing up the bread and saying the ston. While the east stood by the movement tried. With conscience clear and naught to hide. They saw them riding to a fall, forgetting the handwriting on the wall. Or advice that friends were wont to give. To help the Trade Union Movement live.

The time came round, the strike was on. And the One Big Union's day saw dawn. Tossing it into the melting pot. For six long weeks they stroled around. Trying to practice new theories found. But one of them seemed to work the same. As they read in books of different name.

At last they saw that all was over. Some comrades passed to the other shore. And others wounded, because of what? Listening to a lot of bunk and soot. What gains were made, will some ors tell. Outside of their ranks being shot to hell. And their families suffering the agony.

That's brought by mistakes and queer. Oh, workers of Canadian blood, Stand up against this rising flood. For we're no longer what we are not. The same as they are. The Trade Union Movement is the only name.

The wise men sometimes come from the east. They do not believe in a theoretical feast. And if they meet in sweet communion 'Twill be to down that monster—O. E. U.

LEGAL REGULATION NEEDED. The following schedule of hours was discovered by investigators from the New York Bureau of Women's Industrial Service recently at Niagara Falls:

73 hours weekly; one day off in 10 or 12.

58 hours weekly; night shift.

67 hours weekly; no day off.

63 hours weekly; no day off; frequent overtime.

28 hours weekly; no day off.

21 hours weekly; no day off.

24 hours weekly; no day off.

165 hours weekly; no day off.

The labor law which prohibits the employment of women in restaurants more than 84 hours per week, more than six days weekly, and between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., does not apply to third class cities. Niagara Falls is a third class city, although visited yearly by thousands of tourists. To accommodate these visitors there is a large number of hotels, restaurants and lunch rooms.

AWARDED GRAND PRIZE AT INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS. ON SALE AT ALL GOOD STORES. Ask to see the handy THERMOS KITS for workers everywhere.

SERVICE BUTTON WORKERS. Notes of Particular Interest to Returned Soldier and Sailor Trade Unionists.

EDITOR'S NOTE.

Ex-soldiers and sailors this is your department—use it. We will publish all your communications, provided, however, that you sign them, not necessarily for publication—but as a guarantee of good faith. The editor is an ex-soldier who went to France as a private and after spending a year in the ranks was granted a commission. During the last year of the war he was intelligence officer of the 42nd Battalion. He knows something of army life and your troubles so don't be afraid to let him know what you think. Get it off your chest.

ARMY VETERANS WANT BOLSHIEVISM INVESTIGATED.

At the recent convention of Army and Navy Veterans held at Montreal the following resolution was passed with a most enthusiastic and unanimous vote:

"That we, the Army and Navy Veterans of Canada, as loyal citizens, stand for law and order and condemn in the strongest terms, the doctrine of Bolshievism and anarchy, and are emphatically opposed to the One Big Union, which is a tool of the Bolshevists, and a source of disturbances in our country, with the ultimate aim of destroying constitutional government in Canada."

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