

G. T. R. MAKES CONCESSION.**Gives Nine-Hour Day and Average Increase \$300 Per Year.**

Toronto, February 17.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada has made an agreement with their employees composing the mechanical occupations, and known as the Federated Trades, which covers their conditions of labor and sets a standard rate of wages. This is the result of the board of conciliation and investigation under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, which has been in session from February 6th until February 14th at the Court House in Stratford.

A summary of some of the important concessions obtained by the men is as follows:

Average yearly increase to each employee of over \$300.

A nine-hour working day.

Time and a half for overtime and legal holidays.

Employees not to be laid off during regular working hours to equalize overtime.

Grievance committees to be established in the shops which can take complaints to officials, until the highest official is reached. This is recognition of the employees' committees.

When reduction of expenses is necessary, the employees to be placed on an eight-hour day before staff is reduced, when staff is reduced seniority to govern. When full staff is again needed, men who were laid off to be given preference, if available.

Apprentice system regulated by allowing one apprentice for every three mechanics employed, and one for the shop.

Apprentices to serve four years, and then receive the minimum rate for journeymen.

Helpers not to be advanced to the detriment of mechanics or apprentices, unless men's committee has been unable to furnish men after two week's notification, work not to be delayed in the meantime.

No more improvers to be employed, and the improver system will pass away automatically as the men at present employed are made proficient.

A new schedule of wages arrived at, equivalent to the standard rates for the mechanical trades of the C.P.R. and other roads.

Helpers, after two years' experience, to receive a minimum rate of 35 cents per hour, after three years 39 cents per hour, and after four years minimum rate of journeymen.

The G. T. R. Company and the men's representatives signed the agreement, which becomes operative on the first of March, 1918, and continues in operation for a year, when thirty days' notice in writing is required to change it.

The wage increase adds from \$500,000 to \$750,000 to annual pay roll.

CANADIAN EXPORTS.

Ottawa, February 16.

The trade of Canada for the ten months of the fiscal year ending on January 31 reached a total of \$2,229,493,276, according to the monthly statement issued from the Customs Department to-day. This constitutes an increase of \$351,208,579 over the same period last year, when the total trade amounted to \$1,878,284,697. Domestic merchandise exported reached a total of \$1,353,811,184 during the ten months of this year as against \$960,736,072 during 1917. The exports of domestic merchandise during the month of January this year, however, were lower than a year ago. They totalled \$96,216,284 as against \$99,106,259 a year ago.

The merchandise entered for consumption during the ten months this year reached a total of \$823,059,701 as compared with \$674,964,548 a year ago. During the month of January the total of this class was \$60,677,414, which was lower than in January, 1917, when it reached \$72,323,074. Foreign merchandise exported during the ten months of the fiscal year totalled \$38,874,724 as against \$20,470,769 for a similar period in 1917, and coin and bullion exported was \$2,972,822 as compared with \$196,190,607 a year ago.

Dutiable goods entered for consumption during the ten months ending January 31 amounted to \$460,976,255. Last year this class of goods totalled \$370,646,468. Free goods during the ten months amounted to \$362,082,846 as against \$304,318,080 in 1917. Duty collected during the ten months of 1918 totalled \$136,339,474 which was a substantial increase over the same period a year ago, when it reached \$119,141,357.

RECEIPTS OF LIVESTOCK.

The receipts of live stock at the leading markets in Canada for the month of January, 1918, were as follows:

Montreal—Cattle 7,195; sheep and lambs 6,117; hogs 53,375; calves 2,000 and horses 1,780.

Toronto—Cattle 22,896; sheep and lambs 6,117; hogs 53,375; calves 2,251 and horses 6,105.

Winnipeg—Cattle 11,569; sheep and lambs 594; hogs 50,984, and horses 540.

SUGAR.

Supplies of raw sugars continue scarce and only odd lots dribble through. Refiners are doing all that is possible to meet the demand and are so far successful. The Dominion Sugar Refineries' price has been reduced to \$8.40.

	100 lbs.
Atlantic Sugar Company, extra granulated sugars, 100 lbs.	8.40
St. Lawrence Sugar Refinery	8.40
Canada Sugar Refinery	8.40
Dominion Sugar Co., Ltd., crystal granulated	8.40
Special icing, barrels	8.70 9.05
Icing (25-lb. boxes)	9.10 9.40
Icing (50-lb. boxes)	8.90 9.20
Diamond icing	8.70 9.05
Yellow No. 1	8.10
Yellow, No. 2 (or Golden)	8.00
Yellow, No. 3	7.90
Powdered, barrels	8.60 8.95
Paris lumps, barrels	9.10
Paris lumps (50-lb. boxes)	9.65
Paris lumps (25-lb. boxes)	9.85
Crystal diamonds, barrels	9.10
Crystal diamonds (boxes 100 lbs.)	9.10
Cut loaf (50-lb. boxes)	9.30 9.65
Cut loaf (25-lb. boxes)	9.50 9.85

For deliveries in Montreal city districts add 5c to above refinery price if purchased through wholesalers.

For 50-lb. and 25-lb. bags add 10c per 100 lbs.; for 20-lb. bags add 15c per 100 lbs., for 10-lb. bags add 20c per 100 lbs.; for 5-lb. cartons add 25c per 100 lbs., and for 2-lb. cartons add 30c per 100 lbs. Granulated and yellow sugar may be had in barrels of 5c over above prices.

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