

CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

MEAT PACKING STRIKE: Strikes in Canada's meat packing industry involve 6,750 workers. Two walkouts scheduled for today will bring the total to almost 9,000. Strike votes by another 5,000 employees of Canada Packers Ltd. and Burns and Company are nearing completion. Some 3,500 employees of the Swift Canadian Company have been on strike since August 27. The other walkouts, which started this week, are in Canada Packers and Burns Plants.

In all cases, the strikers are members of the United Packing-house Workers of America (C.I.O.). Their demand is a basic minimum wage of 92 cents an hour, which would entail an average increase of 17 cents an hour. Swift has offered a three-cent, Canada Packers and Burns, a five-cent increase.

Canada Packers and Burns and Company last night accepted a formula, drawn up by the Ontario Department of Labor and based on conciliation, for ending the spreading meatpacking strike.

(Stocks of meat held by packers, abattoirs, wholesale butchers and cold storage warehouses on September 1 totalled 61,052,362 pounds, a decrease of 6,984,390 pounds from August 1, but an increase of 8,624,425 pounds over September 1 last year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics).

COMMONWEALTH TALK URGED: Solon Low, Social Credit Leader, has released a letter he has written to the Prime Minister urging that Canada should take the initiative in calling a Commonwealth conference to discuss ways to help Britain in her crisis. The letter holds that: "The only hope for the future of a chaotic world rushing headlong to disaster, is a strong and firmly knit British Commonwealth of nations working in close collaboration with the United States of America."

ITALY ESTABLISHES LEGATION: The Italian Government has established a Legation in Canada. Count Carlo di Cossato, at present representative of Italy in Canada, will be Minister. Jean Desy, formerly Canadian Ambassador in Brazil, who was recently appointed Canadian Minister to Italy, will shortly take up his duties in Rome. Mr. Desy has the personal rank of Ambassador.

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS: Merchandise export trade of Canada in July was valued at \$236 million an increase of 25 per cent over last year's July total but 13 per cent under the peacetime monthly high for June. (P. 3-4)

RECORD TRADE UNION MEMBERSHIP: Trade Union Membership in Canada at the end of 1946 was almost 15 per cent higher than the previous record established in 1944. (P. 10)