

7 GEORGE V, A. 1917

committee will give this resolution the earnest and serious consideration which it warrants, as this is a matter of vital importance to all railroad employees, and particularly so to those employed in the shops.

I am, yours respectfully,

CHAS. DICKIE,

Secretary Federated Trades.

The resolution which was enclosed is as follows (reads):

Whereas, we are informed that it is the intention of the Government to amend the Dominion Railway Act during this present session, and,

Whereas, representatives of public bodies have appeared before the Railway Commission and presented certain proposed amendments in the interest of their respective constituents, and,

Whereas, the representatives of the railroad brotherhoods appeared and requested an amendment calling for the "Semi-monthly" payment of wages on all railroads, and,

Whereas, the "Semi-monthly" payment of wages has been made the subject of demand by railroad employees throughout the Dominion for a number of years, both through legislation, and the medium of agreements made with the officials of the different railroad companies, but without material result, and,

Whereas, the necessity of such reform and the justice of the demand was conceded by the members of the House of Commons in the year 1909, when the desired legislation was adopted, but which was rejected by the Senate, and,

Whereas, the reason given at that time by the members of the Senate were in effect that the railroad employees were not unanimous on the question, and,

Whereas, it is obvious that these reasons however valid at that time are not now extant, in view of the attitude of the representatives of the railroad brotherhoods at the present time.

Therefore be it resolved: That we the members of the System Federation of Railway Employees representing approximately 15,000 workers in the Mechanical and Car Departments of the Canadian Pacific Railway, do most emphatically urge upon the members of the Railway Commission the advisability of suggesting such amendments to the Railway Act of the Dominion as will make it compulsory for all railroads in Canada to pay their employees at least twice every month.

I have also a joint communication submitted by Mr. Peltier from Mr. W. G. Chester, Chairman, General Committee O.R.C., Canadian Pacific System and Mr. A. McGovern, Chairman, General Committee B.R.T., Canadian Pacific Eastern Lines.

HON. MR. COCHRANE: This communication will refer to practically the same matter.

THE CHAIRMAN: It is all in support of the same resolution and I will file it. It has already been printed in our proceedings at page 192. Then I have a communication which has been forwarded by Sir George Foster from Mr. L. L. Peltier, Deputy President, Dominion Legislative Representative of the Order of Railway Conductors, and which has been printed in our proceedings at pages 189-190.

MR. MACDONELL: I received a similar communication from Mr. Peltier.

MR. CHRYSLER, K.C.: With regard to the resolution of the Federated Trades in the Mechanical and Car Departments of the Canadian Pacific Railway, I think that that is not covered by the proposed amendment as I heard it-read just now.

THE CHAIRMAN: It reads:—

Therefore be it resolved: That we the members of the System Federation of Railway Employees representing approximately 15,000 workers in the Mechanical and Car Departments of the Canadian Pacific Railway, do most emphatically urge upon the members of the Railway Commission the advisability of suggest-