

Estimate Reduced in Federal House

SECTIONAL BODY ASK FOR RECOGNIZED STANDING

The claims of the National Catholic Union in government recognition on the same basis as it is accorded to the international unions were placed before the government at Ottawa by a delegation. The delegates, nine in number, were introduced to the prime minister and the cabinet ministers by George Parent, member for Quebec West, and were accompanied by Dr. J. E. Fontaine, member for Hull. They made a number of requests, but the one on which most stress was laid was that of recognition of the union. It was pointed out to Premier King and his ministers that the former minister of labor, Senator G. D. Robertson, had refused this request. The union, it was stated, had a membership approaching fifty thousand. Its influence on labor conditions had been a most beneficial one, and its members saw no reason why it should not be recognized. When the government called conferences on labor matters, the National Catholic Union was entitled to send representatives to these conferences. The other requests made by the delegation were that the government restore the holidays of New Year's, Epiphany, Ascension Day, All Saints' Day, and the Immaculate Conception as statutory holidays; that immigration be restricted to farm labour only and simple for a period of three years; that postage stamps and money be printed in both French and English; and finally that steps be taken to deal with unemployment.

GENERAL STRIKE OUTLOOK OF THE WESTERN MINERS

When the whistles blew at the Union coal mines of Alberta and Eastern British Columbia they signalled the commencement of possibly the most bitter struggle between the operators and men ever known in the mining history of Western Canada. Twelve thousand men all members of District No. 128, United Mine Workers of America, laid down their tools and the mines are idle except for the pumps and others who remained on duty at the mines. An arrangement between the Western Canada Coal Operators' Association and the miners' officials to this effect was reached yesterday afternoon. How long the strike may continue is an unknown quantity, much will depend upon the board of conciliation appointed by the Dominion Government. At present both sides of the controversy have taken the most determined stand and the miners have refused to accept the revised scale of wages offered by the operators.

NOVA SCOTIA MINE SITUATION

Robert Baxter, president of the United Mine Workers of America, District 28, sent a telegram to James Murdock, Minister of Labor, asking him to investigate the mine situation in Nova Scotia. A commission appointed to investigate mining conditions in Nova Scotia if the miners would resume the "striking on the job" policy recently advocated by J. B. McLachlan, District 20 secretary.

G.T.R. EMPLOYEES NOTIFIED OF READJUSTMENT

Notification that a readjustment of working conditions governing the employment of clerks, stationmen, roundhousemen and other employees on the Grand Trunk Railway has been received by the general grievance committee from C. G. Bewker, superintendent of the G.T.R. at Toronto. A conference will be called between representatives of the company and the men in the near future to discuss the matter.

COAL OWNERS WANT STRIKE

Washington, April 1.—Coal owners are counting a strike in the hour that they may establish the anti-union shop, declared Matthew Wolf, A.E. of L. vice-president, on his return to A.P. of L. headquarters following a month spent in various sections of the country.

RENE WAGREEMENT

New York, April 1.—Embroidery Workers' Union No. 6 has renewed its agreement with employers, although the latter made the union agree to lengthen hours and reduce wages. The union is affiliated with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

WANT ONE LABOR LAW

Boston, April 1.—The Massachusetts state legislature wants congress to propose an amendment to the federal constitution which would empower congress to regulate the hours of women and miners, and to make the same uniform throughout the United States.

BREAK AGREEMENT

Enid, Okla., April 1.—Stage employees in this city are attempting to force theatre managers to live up to a contract they signed with these workers.

CHECKING REACTION

Piscataway, N.J., April 1.—Patriotic veterans of the World War are checking around the trade union movement in its opposition to the state constitution.

WANTS MINE LABOR BOARD

Washington, April 1.—Despite a price war with the railroad labor board, Congressman Bland, of Indiana, would establish this system in the coal industry.

UNIONISTS LOCKED OUT

Yonkers, N.Y., April 1.—Nearly 200 members of Ladies' Garment Workers' Union No. 113 have been locked out.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR UNDERGOES EXHAUSTIVE EXAMINATION

A reduction of \$15,000 in the estimates of the department of labor passed the house of commons by consent of the government, after a fight which had lasted all through the afternoon and most of the evening. The original amendment, moved by Hon. H. H. Stevens, Conservative, Vancouver Centre, was to reduce the salaries vote under civil government from \$195,040 to \$171,640, leaving the contingent vote at \$35,000, which was unchanged from last year. After an afternoon's debate during which the interior workings of the department of labor were thoroughly dissected, in the course of exchanges, at times somewhat heated, between the minister of labor, Hon. James Murdock, and Conservative members, Mr. Stevens agreed to change his amendment to read "that the estimates be reduced by \$15,000."

PREMIER AGREES TO REDUCTION TO SATISFY CRITICS

The prime minister agreed to accept this amendment, in order to save time, and during the night sitting the amendment went through without a dissenting vote being recorded. There was some confusion for a moment when the vote was taken.

LIST OF APPOINTMENTS

Hon. James Murdock, at the opening, read a long list of appointments, the dates on which they were made, and the salaries attached to the position. When he had finished this, Sir Henry Drayton asked if the minister considered that any of these salaries were too high.

WORLD CHANGES

World revolution, but no bloody revolution, was advocated by Dr. L. C. Jacks, Principal of Manchester College, Oxford, and editor of "The Hibbert Journal," in an address, entitled "Seeing Things Out of Proportion," given to the fellows of the University of London Club.

DOUBTFUL YET

The decision of the committee on privileges of the House of Lords, which recently allowed Viscountess Rhonda to take a seat in that body, requires satisfaction by the House of Lords itself before it becomes effective.

AGAINST COURT

The Liberals of Nottingham are against a court of inquiry into the engineering lock-out as requested yesterday following a conference of the engineering unions.

SENATE QUERIES ON NATIONAL PROSPERITY AND INDUSTRIAL PEACE

Having disposed of routine business on their order paper, yesterday the senate decided to adjourn until the afternoon of Wednesday, April 5. By that time it is possible that interim supply bill, which has not yet passed the commons, will be ready for consideration by the upper house.

LAZARUS STRIKE ENDS

New York, April 1.—The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union reports that the Montreal clock strike has ended. The struggle was on for several months.

CIGAR MAKERS UNITING

New York, April 1.—Cigar makers in this city have started an extensive organizing campaign. The movement was launched at a mass meeting addressed by President Gompers.

PRESSMEN MAKE GAINS

Pressmen's Home, Tenn., April 1.—A large and interesting list of recent wage gains are recorded in American Pressman, official magazine of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union.

CAR MEN HOLD LINES

Toronto, Ontario, April 1.—Motor men and conductors employed by the Toronto transportation commission have renewed last year's agreement.

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Items of Interest from Overseas

EXPORT INCREASES

Major Kelley has asked the parliamentary secretary to the Overseas Trade Department whether the information at his disposal shows that the business in Europe and South America which was diverted to the United States coal exporters during the last year's coal dispute, and what the prices ruling for American and British steam coals at Buenos Aires and Genoa.

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