

Conservation and Technical Education

constituted, he wrote to the Premiers of the Provinces, enquiring how they would regard action by the Dominion Government in appointing such a Commission. Satisfactory replies were received from all. There is no fear of encroachment on provincial rights, and no awakening of provincial hostilities or suspicions. We began our sittings at Halifax, N.S., and crossed the Dominion to Victoria, B.C. We have been received officially by the Provincial Government or its representative in every province of Canada, and have received not merely assurances of goodwill, but the heartiest co-operation. In four provinces the Provincial Governments asked us to hold our sessions in the Parliament Buildings. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association and Organized Labour, speaking by their various organs and representatives, had been asking for the appointment of such a Commission. Both employers and employees throughout the Dominion desired this work to be done.

In July we began our work of inquiring into the present equipment of Canada for industrial training and technical education, our needs in respect thereto and how our folks thought their needs could be met. We visited one hundred cities, towns and important localities. Our course was usually first to visit the industrial establishments and educational institutions, then to hold sessions to receive testimony under oath. We held some 174 such sessions. We have in our records the testimony of 1,470 of the leading men and women of Canada as to what we now have, what we need and how those needs can be met. For example, in Nova Scotia, the Chief Superintendent of Education,