

REPRESENTATIVES OF ALBERTA FED. OF LABOR SUBMIT PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO PROV. CABINET FOR CONSIDERATION

Program Laid Before Cabinet Is Compiled Under Thirty Distinct Headings and Embraces Some Fifty-five Amendments as Well As Five New Acts.

Representatives of the Alberta Federation of Labor waited on the members of the Provincial Cabinet, on Monday and Tuesday of this week, for the purpose of submitting for consideration certain proposed legislation and amendments to existing legislation, as are approved by the Federation.

Those representing the Federation were Frank Wheatley, Bankhead, Alta., President of the Federation; Walter Smitten, Calgary, Secretary; R. Levitt, Bellview, representing the U.M.W.A.; G. H. Geary, Edmonton, representing the Amalgamated Carpenters, and also Vice-President of the Trades and Labor Council; J. Thompson, Edmonton, representing the Journeymen Barbers; J. Barnett, and H. C. Newlands, representing the Alberta Teachers' Alliance, and A. Farnilo, Vice-President of the Alberta Federation of Labor. The entire cabinet was present.

The program of legislation laid before the cabinet is compiled under thirty distinct headings and embraces some fifty-five amendments and suggested measures for government action as well as five new acts prepared and submitted by themselves. The program is as follows:

To Premier C. Stewart, and the Honourable members of the Cabinet Council of the Legislature of Alberta.

We, the Executive Officers of the Alberta Federation of Labor, do hereby submit for your consideration the following memorandum of proposed legislation and amendments to existing legislation.

1. Amendments to the "Workmen's Compensation Act" (as submitted).
2. Amendments to the "Coal Mines Act" (as submitted).
3. Amendments to the "Travelling Shows Act" (as submitted).
4. Amendments to the "Factories Act" (as submitted), and further that the Government assume all responsibility for its enforcement; that the number of inspectors be increased; that the administration be removed from political influence. With the elimination of all night work in bakeries.
5. An Act respecting "Allowances to Parents and Children" (as submitted).
6. Amendments to the "Health Act" (as submitted).
7. An Act relating to Printing, Bindery and Stationery Work (as submitted).
8. An Act respecting Inspection in Trade Disputes (as submitted).
9. Model License Law for Barbers (as submitted).
10. Mechanic's Lien Act (to be submitted later).

11. We urge the Government to place the administration of all legislation directly affecting Labor under the Workmen's Compensation Board until such time as a Department of Labor is created.

12. We request legislation that will permit Civic Employees (exclusive of heads of departments) to run for and hold elective civic offices without forfeiting their positions.

13. We request legislation that will provide that the current rate of wages be paid on all public works and buildings.

14. We request legislation that will

HALIFAX MINERS SECURE A NEW WAGE AGREEMENT

Wage Standardization Involves General Increase for United Mine Workers.

An agreement between the Dominion Coal Company at Halifax and the representatives of the United Mine Workers of that district on the standardization of wages in the different mines has been signed. The standardization will involve a general increase for the miners. The agreement will stabilize the industry for a year but guards the interest of the miners by making provisions for a revision at stated intervals.

Discussion between representatives of the Dominion Coal Company and the miners began early in December and as over 300 different classifications of wages were involved this meant strenuous work. However a conciliatory and amicable spirit shown by representatives of both sides has resulted in the agreement being unanimously signed.

Following the advance in the price of coal to domestic consumers in Cape Breton has been advanced by the Dominion Coal Company from \$5.65 to \$6.20 per ton. There has been no increase to the miners but the price to colliery doctors and churches has been advanced.

The Swedish Parliament has sided with ship owners and against seamen who demand higher wages. The seamen say they will paralyze the overseas trade of the ship-owning profiteers unless the demands of the union are complied with.

PRESIDENT McCREATH ATTENDS MEETING FACTORY ACT COMMISSION

In connection with his duties as a member of the Edmonton Factories Act Commission, President Robert McCreath of the Trades Council was in Calgary on Wednesday. The commissions from the four Alberta cities decided to hold a joint conference before proceeding with their enquiries, and the Calgary meeting was for the purpose of outlining the commission's procedure.

REGULAR WORK IS MAIN WISH OF MINE WORKERS

Public Has Wrong Impression of Miners' Demands For the 30-Hour Week

To President Wilson's coal commission, in session for the purpose of adjusting conditions in the bituminous mines, John L. Lewis, acting president of the United Mine Workers of America, has given a statement that the miners' demand for a 30 hour week only asked "assurance that they will have no less than thirty hours of steady work each week in the year."

"The public has the wrong impression on that subject," Lewis said, "because they were led to believe that the miners were opposed to working more than thirty hours a week. The fact is the coal miner cannot earn a living for the whole year by working only a part of the time, no matter how many hours a day he may work. But if he can be assured of no less than thirty hours a week throughout the year he can make a living for himself and his family."

It is the inability of the miners to get regular work that makes them require the 60 per cent. increase. No coal miner can tell whether the mine is going to work the next day or not, and for these reasons the 30 hour week and the 60 per cent. increase are necessary to even things up.

CONGRESS PASSES SCHOOL TEACHERS' RETIREMENT BILL

Congress has passed a school teachers' retirement bill for the District of Columbia. Teachers shall contribute not to exceed 8 per cent. of their basic salary. Any teacher who has reached the age of 62 years may be retired upon his own application of by the board of education. At the age of 70 he is retired automatically unless three-fourths of the members of the board of education believe he should be retained. Any teacher who reaches the age of 45, who by reason of accident or illness has become physically or mentally disabled, may retire, provided he has taught ten years in the public schools.

FEDERAL BOARD IS READY FOR REHABILITATION

What To Do With Industrial Victims One of Chief Thoughts of Labor.

"One of the chief thoughts that affect Labor at this time is what to do with industrial victims who, through perhaps no fault of their own, become crippled."

This is a recent utterance of Otto Nichols of the United Garment Workers of America. He has a remedy in mind. He says that the worker receiving injury through an industrial accident should "be rehabilitated so that he can take care of himself in the future just as was and is being done for the crippled soldier of the world war by the United States government."

The federal board for vocational education is the agent of the United States government in the work of the rehabilitation of the disabled veteran. It is expected that the board will be commissioned to take on the rehabilitation of persons disabled in industry as soon as a certain bill before congress becomes a law. The bill provides that the state boards for vocational education shall co-operate with the federal board in this new work.

PICOTU COUNTY, N.S. MINERS WILL ERECT \$10,000 MONUMENT

The miners of Picot County, Nova Scotia, are instituting a campaign with an objective of \$10,000, for the purpose of erecting a monument to the memory of those 88 miners whose lives were snuffed out in one of the worst disasters in the history of coal mining—that of the second Allan Shaft disaster, which occurred on January 23rd, 1918. The monument will also serve to commemorate those who lost their lives in the Flood Pit, November 12, 1880 and the A'nan Shaft, first disaster, December 20, 1914.

REGULAR MEETING TRADES COUNCIL MONDAY EVENING

The next regular meeting of the Trades and Labor Council will be held on Monday, February 2. All delegates are urged to be in attendance.

NATIONALIZATION OF CREDITS SUBJECT OF GOOD ADDRESSES

G. Bevington and Alderman Jas. East, Address D.L.P. Meeting.

A very successful propaganda meeting was held by the Dominion Labor Party on Tuesday evening. Mr. G. Bevington of the West Edmonton U.P.A. and Alderman James East were the principal speakers, taking as their subject the "Nationalization of credits." Both speakers gave a very lucid and interesting explanation of the evils of the present financial system. They showed the immense advantages in the way of economy and service that would accrue from the nationalization of the credit system.

The speakers were closely questioned at the close of the address, and readily replied to the satisfaction of their auditors. Messrs. Ball, Barclay, Latham, Williams and Barrett were among those who joined in the discussion.

UNITED MINE WORKERS GAINING GROUND IN ORGANIZATION WORK

A conference was held in the office of the director of coal operations at Calgary last Monday, between the representatives of the Western Coal Operators and the United Mine Workers of America and Coal Director W. H. Armstrong, at which misunderstanding regarding order 141 was discussed.

Reports received from different parts of district 18 show that the U.M.W.A. are steadily gaining ground in their work of organization. Organizers in the north report steady progress at the different camps. Mountain Park camp which was partly on strike, is now wholly for the U.M.W.A. At Drumheller with the exception of two camps all are solid for the International. The Lethbridge district continues to improve as does Fernie. Corbin mine in that district is 100 per cent. U.M.W.A.

The union label guarantees full return on the outlay in the form of increased business and employment.

NEWS OF THE LOCAL UNIONS

CIVIC SERVICE UNION No. 52.

We regret to have to report the death of the infant son of Bro. A. Spiller. Our sympathies are extended to him in his bereavement.

"The occupational group principle is sound, it does not need to be endorsed... but may stand on its own merits." U.P.A. convention, Calgary.

The girl that diligently searched for the scales to balance the cash with deserves commendation for the energy displayed, anyway.

PLUMBERS AND STEAM FITTERS, LOCAL No. 685

There was a well attended meeting, January 29, but on account of so much business the secretary was instructed to arrange for a special meeting which will be held Friday, February 13, to hear the report of the delegate to the Alberta Federation of Labor and also to have a further discussion on the agreement.

Any members at outside points wishing information, the secretary will be glad to receive a letter from them in regard to same.

The necessary cards for membership in this local from James Scott of Biggar, and J. F. McDonough, D. McCulloch and H. B. Leeder of Calder were accepted.

We also received a circular from headquarters asking each local union to take a referendum vote of the membership on the question of holding the regular triennial convention of the united association on the third Monday in September at Providence, R.I.

In case the majority of the membership vote to hold this convention it will be necessary to levy a four dollar assessment on all members to cover expenses of same.

This local would be entitled to send a delegate who would receive his wages and five dollars per day as expenses as well as railroad fare.

All members at outside points will send in their votes as soon as possible.

CIVIC UNIONS MEET CITY COMMISSIONERS TO DISCUSS AGREEMENTS

A delegation from four civic unions met the city commissioners on Tuesday evening to discuss the proposed new agreements. The discussion was an informal one and its purpose was to deal with matters that were of common interest to all four unions. The agreements will now be taken up by the commissioners separately.

Representatives were present from Civic Service Union No. 52, Civic Employees' Union No. 36, Street Railwaymen and Electrical Workers.

PIONEER UNION SECURES INCREASE AND 8-HOUR DAY

Dates Back Before A.F. of L. or Dom. Trades Congress Were in Existence.

Iron Moulders Local Union No. 27, London, Ont., have announced a twenty-five per cent. increase in wages and an eight-hour work day.

This local is one of the oldest Labor Unions in the Forest City, a recognized pioneer among the trade organizations of the Dominion, and can trace its activities way back to the days long before either the American Federation of Labor or the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada were in existence.

It has put up many a hard battle in the past, and had to fight strenuously for its existence, especially in the days when Trades Unionism was a weak and struggling institution, and the black list faced the man who might be marked out as an agitator, but in spite of it all the local never gave up the fight nor went out of existence, though at all times it had barely enough members left to hold its charter, and more than once had to meet under cover in the old days.

It was never dismayed by defeat; always held its ground, and has never yet entered upon a struggle, even when marked with apparent defeat, in which it has not ultimately won out. It has put up many a hard battle for both the nine and eight-hour work day, and it has richly deserved the new success that has come to it.

It has been announced that the special International Machinists Union assessment of \$6 has been carried by a majority of 15,864. The levy will provide \$2,900,000 for a strike and lockout fund.

C.N.R. MACHINISTS

The regular meeting of Lodge 817, I.A. of M., was well attended and lively debate was the order of the day. The shop committee's report, of a successful and satisfactory finding in the case of Bro. C. Smith, was most optimistic. Summerville who was present at the meeting spoke on several matters of interest to the membership, and while his views did not meet with the approval of all he was supported by many who thought it was in the interest of organized Labor generally and the I.A. of M. in particular to follow the official decisions in all matters of policy; that there is constitutional machinery for the rectification of all unfair laws and rulings.

Two members are on the sick list, brothers! What are you going to do about it?

We note that Bro. Findlay has been appointed to the Hospital Board. Bro. Jim will now have the opportunity to educate the board along the lines of unionism.

FIREMEN'S LOCAL 209.

No, Bro. Young. There are very substantial and well recognized reasons why a resolution in the direction of this Union. Why the present conditions of high living are causing natural concern to every member on the department. Extravagance has not been made possible. We have not acquired luxurious habits of living, and our earnings have never been dissipated or placed in reserve for a rainy day. Bro. Steel, I move the resolution out of order.

Bro. Jamieson: I second the motion. Carried unanimously.

Faults innumerable have been found with the weather, but no fireman complains he is not getting enough of it. Bro. Lucas of No. 1 and Bro. Brownley of No. 5 both had their feet frozen on a 966 call, while Bro. Young and McLellan of No. 1 exhibit signs of extreme cold, having enlarged cheeks, chins, and ears. They have not been laid up but are not in the "we should worry class."

INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONGRESS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS, WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS AT PARIS

Complete Harmony Decided Factor Throughout Entire Session; German Delegate Against Six-Hour Day For Miners If Production Is Decreased.

The International Labor Congress opened in Paris Monday, and continued in session for four days. Complete harmony of action was a decided factor throughout the entire session. The Congress consists of representatives from the workers, the employers and the governments of the different nations. Tom Moore, president of the Dominion Trades Congress, represents the workers of North America at this conference.

Rudolph Legien, president of the German Federation of Trades Unions, and delegate of German workers, addressed the meeting.

Herr Legien, who had not taken exception to a single decision reached during the day, following the majority in each vote, declared the economic situation of the world had convinced him that a six hour day for miners should not be declared at present if it would decrease production.

"It would be premature to give my impressions of the work done by the peace conference at this time," he said "but I feel confident a great step has been made in dealing with the welfare of workers. I have come here with the firm intention to collaborate with my colleagues on the international bureau. No matter to what nationalities they belong, I wish to give them my hearty support. I am not here as a German delegate but as a delegate of the international workers' unions and I am looking at questions, not from a German, but an international point of view."

"I had intended to make reservations relative to the eight-hour day concerning miners in Germany, who are demanding a six hour work period, but I have refrained. Coal is a vital question to the world at present, and if a six hour day cannot be granted without decreasing production, I am against it."

The labor council discussed an eight-hour day for sailors and decided to hold an international sailors' conference at Genoa, Italy, June 15, at which the questions of hours of work, the number of sailors aboard ship according to tonnage, control of contracts between sailors and shipowners and work for children under fourteen years of age will be discussed.

The principle of the eight-hour day in all trades was discussed, but it was decided this matter must be left for the workers' unions to arrange with the employers' delegates.

WAR VETERANS OUTLINE STAND TOWARD LABOR

Nova Scotia Provincial Command Draft Resolutions Regarding Organized Labor.

At a recent meeting of the Provincial Command, G.W.V.A. of Nova Scotia, a resolution was drafted to be submitted to the Dominion Command for its consideration in which the Provincial Command re-affirms its stand towards organized Labor.

The resolution reads as follows:

"Whereas the Dominion of Canada has taken her place amongst the nations of the world in the peace negotiations which resulted in the League of Nations, and became a signatory of said League:

1. And, whereas the provisions of the League of Nations have recognized in a generous measure the rights of Labor, including the eight-hour day;
2. And, whereas the representatives of the Canadian Government at the Industrial Labor Conference recently held at Washington maintained and supported the said measures with regard to Labor embodied in the said League of Nations;
3. And, whereas the people of Canada view with an increased alarm the revolutionary methods promulgated and adopted by the ultra-radical wing of organized Labor in Canada;

"Therefore be it resolved that the Provincial Command of the G.W.V.A. place itself on record as favoring the recognition of organized Labor in Canada by an enactment of the Dominion Parliament, and that such an enactment should contain at least the following provisions:

1. The right of Labor to organize.
2. The recognition of organized Labor and its right to negotiate with its employer.
3. The right to strike within the constitutional authority of the Dominion of Canada.
4. That all Labor organizations be incorporated.
5. That all contracts entered into between employers and organized Labor organizations within the constitution of the Dominion of Canada shall be legal and binding upon the contracting parties or organizations.
6. Reasonable trade tests for candidates to trades-unions so as to protect employers and the general public from "incompetence" and "inefficiency."
7. That in order for a "strike" to be lawful, it shall be necessary that a majority of the employees affected thereby shall have declared by ballot in favor of such strike.
8. That such legislation should not, in any way circumscribe the objects of labor or dictate its policies but should regulate only its methods.

And, be it further resolved that, so long as organized Labor in Canada pursue its aims and objects by constitutional methods, the Great War Veterans' association may aid, assist and support their legitimate undertakings for the improvement and advancement of Labor as a class.

And, be it further resolved that in the event of organized Labor pursuing illegal and unconstitutional methods, the Great War Veterans' association will consider it their right and duty, as Canadian citizens to oppose and assist to repress such illegal and unconstitutional methods.

The union label makes woman the strongest as well as the gentlest of God's creatures.

On Tuesday, January 27th, Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, celebrated his 70th birthday. Mr. Gompers, while old in years, is still able to carry on, as is evidenced by the fact that he spent most of his 70th anniversary at his office.

RUBBER COMPANY'S EMPLOYEES GO ON STRIKE AT TORONTO

Employees of the Gutta Percha Rubber Co., Ltd., at Toronto, are on strike. Dissatisfaction with their wages and working conditions are the causes of the strike. They demand an increase of 30 per cent in their pay. Four hundred employees are involved.

MACHINISTS STRIKE FOR HIGHER WAGES AND EIGHT-HOUR DAY

Machinists at St. John, New Brunswick, have gone on strike for 68 cents an hour and the eight hour day. Some 150 machinists in five plants in the city have walked out.

LABOR MEETINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday. Trades and Labor Council regular meeting.

Tuesday. Federated Association of Letter Carriers, Local No. 15, in St. Andrews Society Club Rooms, Jasper avenue.

Wednesday. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, Local No. 2607, in Labor Hall.

Thursday. United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, No. 99, in Alexandra Block. Commercial Telegraphers, Local No. 105, in 202 Balmoral block.

Friday. United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Local No. 1325, in Labor Hall.

Saturday. Typographical Union, Local No. 604, in Labor Hall.

Sunday. Mass meeting of miners in afternoon, at Labor Hall.

Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, No. 99, in Alexandra Block. Commercial Telegraphers, Local No. 105, in 202 Balmoral block.

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