

LABOR PRESS FROM COAST TO COAST

OTTAWA.

OTTAWA BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL SUPPORTS WOOD WORKERS.

Inside woodworkers, who announced early this week that they would strike if necessary to enforce the demands which they have presented to their employers unless they receive favorable consideration, were on Tuesday night assured the full support of the Building Trades Council, when a resolution was passed at the regular meeting between Sparks street. Mr. Brown, president of the council, occupied the chair.

In the event of the woodworkers adhering to their decision, about 14 of the local shops will be affected. The workers claim that the demands presented by them have received no attention from the employers, while they have also been denied a board of conciliation.

OTTAWA TRADES COUNCIL.

A merry pace was kept up at the Trades Council sessions from the time President Frank Lafortune dropped the gavel until the time of adjournment. The business agent of the Bakery Drivers Association, placed the blame where it belongs if drastic action is forced upon this union, and that the employers and their refusal of acceptance made them responsible for any trouble.

The case of the bakers afforded lots of discussion, commencing with statements from Organizer Joe Walsh and President Geo. G. that in view of the fact that a number of returned soldiers were employed in some of the unfair shops, a committee was appointed to investigate. The business agent of the Bakery Drivers gave his statement in regard to the signing up of their agreement, the same being questioned but meeting with favor.

The Retail Clerks presented their case for the Saturday half-day closing, meeting with a committee which brought out considerable discussion, some of the speakers being of the opinion that a general half holiday for clerks could be readily secured during the week, but realizing that no period could replace the Saturday afternoon, and this should be the rule.

The Labor Day Committee reported progress through Donald Dear, other committees also being formed. The Labor Temple Committee through the chairman, F. McRae, gave an extended statement which gave opportunity for questions with the ideal imaginable thrown in, but with a finality of all being impressed with the necessity of a Labor Temple being secured.

OTTAWA NEWSY BRIEFS.

Michael Powell, of Ottawa Typographical Union No. 102, will attend the annual convention of the Ontario Typographers' Association, which meets at Hamilton on Monday, June 14.

The dispute between the local hotel and restaurant employees and the employers will be settled within the coming week, according to Business Agent M. Beaudet, of the local union.

TORONTO.

TORONTO TEAMSTERS AND CHAUFFEURS.

Forty-seven and a half cents an hour for chauffeurs, and 48 to 47 cents for drivers is the unanimous award of the Board of Conciliation in the case of the Dominion Truck Drivers' Company employees at Toronto. There will be a normal working week of 54 hours.

TORONTO LEAFS LOOK BEST BET.

Never in the second division since the league opened, the Toronto Leafs beat the Buffalo Bisons in the recent important series, and it now looks as though Duffy's men are the best bet for the title.

They are now in second place, having a few points behind the Bisons, and should be at the top of the heap after the coming series.

O'Rourke, the snappy little short stop, is driving the team, and his position is perfection. Spencer and Onslow are also hitting well.

The pitchers are also working very smart, and the mainstay of the hurling department, and Peterson, the former Canadian Leaguer, should have record seasons.

TORONTO TRADES COUNCIL.

The attention of the Toronto Trades Council was concentrated last Thursday on the alleged attempt to flood the Canadian Labor market with Old Country, American and Asiatic labor in order to undercut the Canadian trades' association. The question was raised by Richard Russell, the organizing secretary of the union, who asked the aid of the Council in an attempt to prevent over-reliance. We do not intend to be ignored this year by the managements of the clubs and hotels as we have been in the past, he said. "The employees have got their applications in with the immigration authorities at the ports of entry, and what we want to know is if they intend to pay them the standard rate of pay or to undercut us."

The Council finally put itself on record by the motion of James Simpson in favor of legitimate unassisted immigration. "Canada needs all the men she can obtain to increase production to pay off her great war debts," he said. Assistance is to be given to the secretary of the Cooks and Waiters' Association, by the secretary of the Council to meet the situation, and a demand is to be sent to the Dominion Trades and Labor Executive to do all in their power to inform immigrants in England and give them information on their arrival here.

TORONTO NEWSY BRIEFS.

In the course of the judgment the board says it would appear that the cost of the 200 cars approximates \$5,000,000.

The reports submitted by officials at the last meeting of the District Council of Carpenters point to the

EASTERN CANADA.

MAY FEDERATE MONTREAL CIVIC UNIONS.

A federation of all Montreal municipal unions to negotiate directly with the city government on all points at issue without the intermediary of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council, is a probability in the near future, it is now being carried through.

A committee, composed of members of the various civic unions, both outside and inside the Trades and Labor Council, has been formed and has framed a constitution which will be submitted to a general meeting of the unions on June 28, at which, according to all indications, it will be adopted.

A WORKERS' GROCERY.

We desire to bring to the notice of the paper the grocery and confectionery establishment of the "Star Grocery," located at 70 Queen St. East, Toronto, and in the neighborhood of the Star Hotel, in Toronto, aggregating over five hundred thousand dollars, is judiciously spent with institutions of such standing. It means better conditions for the working class. Labor can only know its true friends by their deeds and it gives us pleasure to state that at fifteen special meetings held by the company have every hope and indication that the vast oil reservoirs which geologists and eminent oil men believe the Peace River District to contain, will be reached.

WHAT YE SOW THAT SHALL YE ALSO REAP.

At the last meeting of the Toronto Trades and Labor Council that body ordered hands to be delivered shorted with Eugene V. Debs on his selection as Presidential candidate of the Socialist party, and sympathy with him in his imprisonment.

At least it can be asserted without fear of successful contradiction that in this country.

NATIONALIZATION OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The majority vote in favor of prohibition at the recent Scottish Trades Union Congress, followed by a similar result at the British I.L.P. conference, has caused some speculation as to what will be the issue on the debate on licensing reform at the approaching British Trades Union Congress at Scarborough.

Fred Bramley, assistant secretary of the Parliamentary Committee, points out that the votes cast in favor of prohibition at the two gatherings in question did not constitute in either case a large majority, and that they are disappointed in the fact that at fifteen special conferences, convened in various parts of the country to discuss in detail the nationalization of the liquor trade, resolutions in favor of national control have been carried by enormous majorities.

LABOR - FARMER - SOLDIER PARTY FOR CAPE BRETON.

In an effort to bring about a political fusion of labor, farmers and veterans in Cape Breton county, a convention has been called in Sydney for June 12 by leaders of the Independent Labor Party. An announcement to this effect was made at Glace Bay, Saturday evening, by John Watson, president of the Independent Labor Party in Cape Breton, speaking at a mass meeting at which Mrs. Rose Henderson, of Montreal, was the principal speaker. President Watson declared that the aim of the Independent Labor Party was to have a ticket placed in the provincial field comprised of two labor representatives, one farmer and one veteran. His announcement seemed to satisfy those who attended the meeting.

The proposed political fusion has raised some consideration in certain elements of the Labor Party at Glace Bay, where a meeting was held a week ago decided in favor of political action. In fact, an announcement was made at Glace Bay, Saturday evening, by John Watson, president of the Independent Labor Party in Cape Breton, speaking at a mass meeting at which Mrs. Rose Henderson, of Montreal, was the principal speaker. President Watson declared that the aim of the Independent Labor Party was to have a ticket placed in the provincial field comprised of two labor representatives, one farmer and one veteran. His announcement seemed to satisfy those who attended the meeting.

WESTERN CANADA.

WINNIPEG TRAINMEN GET MEDALS.

Fifty-nine members of Winnipeg Lodge 691, Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, were presented with special war service medals, in the Goldfellow's temple last week. Included in this number were eleven

SECRETARY LONDON SOCIETY OF COMPOSITORS TO VISIT CANADA.

When the Empire Press Union meets at Ottawa in August British organized printers will be represented by T. E. Naylor, general secretary of the London Society of Compositors. General Secretary John Naylor, of the International Typographical Union has received the following letter from Mr. Naylor, which is self-explanatory:

"It will be my great privilege, all being well, to be travelling in Canada during July, August and September, as the guest of the Canadian Press, having been appointed representative of the printing trades unions at the convention of the Empire Press Union to be held in Ottawa on August 5, 6 and 7. The delegates expect to be in the following towns on the dates given: Halifax, July 26; Sydney, July 28; St. John, July 30 and 31; Quebec, August 1; Montreal, August 3; Ottawa, August 5, 6 and 7; Toronto, August 10; Regina, August 17; Calgary, August 18; Banff, August 20; Victoria, August 27; Jasper, September 1; Edmonton, September 2; Saskatoon, September 4; Winnipeg, September 5; Toronto, September 10; Quebec, September 12.

"All of these will be flying visits, but if it were possible for any of your local members to give me a warm welcome, I should be delighted to see them and shake them by the hand. It should not be difficult for anyone to find my location, seeing that our party will be duly labeled and our movements closely recorded in the press."

NEW PRESIDENT FOR THE I. T. U.

The International Typographical Union has a new president. In the recent election, Marston G. Spitt, who has held the office for a number of years, was defeated by John McPharland, of "Big Six," New York, and one of the leaders in the famous vacation at New York last fall. All of the candidates on the administration ticket with three exceptions were elected. Michael Powell, of the Ottawa-local, was defeated by a small majority as a trustee to the Union Printers' Home. In speaking to international typographical officers at the A. F. of L. convention at Montreal, this week, we were informed that it was the Canadian locals that defeated Michael Powell, one of the few Canadians on the list of candidates. The detailed return is not yet available but the committees are now working on it and it should be ready for publication in the course of a few days. "Mike" will be missed on the Board of Trustees, where he has rendered faithful and efficient service to the I.T.U. His term of office does not expire until November, 1921.

CO-OPERATION IN THE SHOE BUSINESS.

The True Form Shoe Co., of 186 Queen street east, Toronto, have whenever occasion demanded demonstrated their worthiness of the patronage of the working class. Labor can only know its true friends by their deeds and it gives us pleasure to state that at fifteen special meetings held by the company have every hope and indication that the vast oil reservoirs which geologists and eminent oil men believe the Peace River District to contain, will be reached.

FINE OIL SHOWING AT TAR ISLAND.

Tar Island Oil & Gas Company, Limited have received a wire from their driller at the well in Peace River, stating that everything was O. K. after the winter, and that operations would re-commence at once. The wire stated that there was a great deal of oil around the surface of the well which had been blown out by the gas during the winter.

An extra heavy casing has been ordered and will be delivered shortly, for putting down through the mass of wet gas which is immediately below the point where they are now drilling. After this is passed through the company have every hope and indication that the vast oil reservoirs which geologists and eminent oil men believe the Peace River District to contain, will be reached.

ON A FAT MAN.

While I am not a bit sensitive about my size, I must admit that at times I get a little peeved at the manner in which some people call my attention to myself.

Today I went into a restaurant and I said to the waiter, "Do you feel people here?" Just like that.

"Yes, sir," he said as he looked me over, "but we don't fill slots."

ON MATTER—A NATURAL MISTAKE.

Girl (to druggist)—Would you fix me a dose of castor oil so as the oil won't taste?

Druggist—Certainly! Just have a glass of soda while you are waiting. (She drinks the soda).

Druggist—Something else, Miss?

Girl—No, just the oil.

Druggist—But you have just drunk it.

Girl—Oh! It was for mother.

IT USUALLY WORKS.

When Theodore Roosevelt was Police Commissioner of New York, he asked an applicant for a position on the force: "If you were ordered to disperse a mob what would you do?" "Pass around the hat," was the reply.

A bird in the hand is vulgar. Use a knife and fork.

IT'S MOST PROVOKING.

Person—Who is making that terrible noise and using that terrible language in your house, Mrs. Peterson?

Mrs. Peterson—It's only my husband. He wants to go to church and can't find his prayer book.

RIGHT TO STRIKE WILL BE MAINTAINED

Samuel Gompers Replies to Governor Allen.

The public has no rights which are superior to the toilers' right to live and to his right to defend himself against oppression." Samuel Gompers declared in his deferred replies to three questions asked him by Governor Allen of Kansas, in their debate at New York, May 28. President Gompers' replies were made public this week by the American Federation of Labor.

Governor Allen asked, "whether the public had any rights in a strike affecting the production or distribution of the necessities of life, the threatening of peace and health, and if so, how would President Gompers protect those rights. He also asked, "whether the 'divine right' of employees to quit work."

DECLARING THAT UNION MEN AND WOMEN FORMED ONE-FOURTH OF THE PUBLIC.

When President Gompers said in such strikes as described by Governor Allen "the public, including union men, has rights and the striking union is the first to recognize those rights." He argued, however, that few strikes actually threaten the public peace and health, but that the use of thugs, armed guards and detectives, "has become a menace to the public health."

Strikes in which the public peace have been threatened, he said, "usually have been strikes in which the employers or public officials influenced by employers have created the breach of peace by the use of thugs, armed guards and detectives."

"Labor," continued Samuel Gompers, "has no desire to cause inconvenience to the public, of which it is a part."

"The right to strike must be and will be maintained, not only as a measure of self-defense and self-advancement, but as a measure necessary to public progress. The strike has won its right to a post of honor among the institutions of free civilization and the temporary inconvenience it has caused is but a small price to pay for the permanent benefits it has brought."

As to Governor Allen's question regarding who controlled the "divine right" to order employees to strike, Mr. Gompers said strikes were ordered by the majority vote of union memberships; they are not ordered by officials at all.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN.

"Are caterpillars good to eat?" asked little Tommy at the dinner table.

"No," said his father; "what makes you ask a question like that while we are eating?"

"You had one on your lettuce, but it's gone now," replied Tommy.

—Ex.

BERTIE SHED SOME LIGHT.

Mr. Stileigh—Bertie, do you really think your sister likes to see me better than she does Mr. Briggs?

Bertie—I'm sure of it. When he is in the parlor of an evening, she turns the light down so low she can't see him at all.

Economy is also road to lower prices.

2,000,000 BABIES DIE.

The Children's Bureau of the Federal Department of Labor says that the infant death rate of India is more than twice as high as that of England.

"Almost 2,000,000 babies under one year of age die annually in India, and at least half of these deaths are preventable," it is stated. "Hundreds of thousands of women lose their lives from child bed fever, yet we know that this fever is almost entirely preventable. Many children, improperly fed and cared for, grow up weak and helpless only to be a drag upon the community."

The bureau states that a maternity and infant welfare exhibition was recently held in Delhi, India. The exhibition lasted one month and much valuable information was disseminated regarding the care of mothers and babies and the responsibility of the community for the well-being of its citizens.

ADDITIONS GRANTED DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER ADDED SUBSTANTIALLY \$480,000 (\$2,315,970, PAR) TO THE WEEKLY WAGES OF APPROXIMATELY 1,900,000 WORK PEOPLE, AND DURING THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1919 \$243,000 PEOPLE SECURED INCREASES AGGREGATING \$1,908,800 (\$9,239,662, PAR) WEEKLY, OR NEARLY \$100,000,000 (\$486,650,000, PAR) PER ANNUM. THE LARGEST NUMBER OF WORK PEOPLE AFFECTED WAS IN THE ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES, NAMELY, 1,329,000, OR 24.9 PER CENT, AND THE LARGEST WAGE ADVANCE WAS GIVEN TO COAL MINERS, NAMELY, 1587,000 (\$2,516,658, PAR) OR 29.5 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL.

REPORT STATES THAT ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE OF AWARDS OF THE COURT OF ARBITRATION CONCERNING THE APPLICATIONS OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND FARRIERS EMPLOYED BY THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL, THE CORPORATION OF CROYDON AND WIMBORNE, AND OTHER URBAN DISTRICTS, AND THE VARIOUS ELECTRICAL SUPPLY COMPANIES AND TRAMWAY UNDERTAKINGS IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA, WHO DEMANDED AN INCREASE OF 15s. (\$3.65, PAR) PER WEEK. UNDER THESE AWARDS ELECTRICAL WORKERS 18 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER AND ELECTRICAL OPERATORS WORKING ON RAILROADS WITHIN THE LONDON DISTRICT, HAVE BEEN GIVEN AN ADVANCE OF 12s. (\$2.72, PAR) PER WEEK. FARRIERS, WHO CLAIMED 2s. (7s. CENTS, PAR) PER DAY MORE HAVE BEEN GIVEN 1s. 8d. (\$3.65 CENTS, PAR), WHILE FARMERS' PAY HAS BEEN ADVANCED TO 13s. 3d. (\$3.35, PAR), AND DOORMEN'S TO 15s. 6d. (\$3.25, PAR) PER DAY.

BEGINNING WITH APRIL 1, 1920, ACCORDING TO A RULING BY THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL, SENIOR SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE FIRE BRIGADE WILL RECEIVE \$375 (\$2,787.24, PAR) PER ANNUM. BEGINNING WITH APRIL 1, 1920, SENIOR SUPERINTENDENTS, \$475 (\$2,311.53, PAR) PER ANNUM, \$5 10s. (\$26.77, PAR) PER WEEK. FIREMEN WILL COMMENCE WITH 43 10s. (\$17.82, PAR), RISING TO 44 8s. (\$21.41, PAR), AND, SUBJECT TO PASSING AN EXAMINATION, TO 44 12s. (\$22.63, PAR) PER WEEK.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL FURTHER REPORTS THAT IN NOVEMBER, 1919, 39,000 WORK PEOPLE HAD THEIR HOURS OF LABOR REDUCED ON AN AVERAGE OF THREE HOURS EACH, OR 90,000 HOURS FOR THE MONTH, AND THAT THE CHANGE EFFECTED IN THIS RESPECT DURING THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1919 AGGREGATED 36,211,000 HOURS WORKING HOURS, THE NUMBER OF WORK PEOPLE AFFECTED TOTALING 5,478,000.

IT'S MOST PROVOKING.

Person—Who is making that terrible noise and using that terrible language in your house, Mrs. Peterson?

Mrs. Peterson—It's only my husband. He wants to go to church and can't find his prayer book.

An Open Letter re Fuel Situation

To Readers of The Canadian Labor Press:

The Oakal Co. (Canada) Limited, whom we represent, are in receipt of a letter from the Fuel Administrator for Ontario, reading in part as follows:

"The assured shortage of anthracite coal during the coming season, consequent to abnormal demand, increased difficulties in mining and transportation, and accentuated by high prices, will undoubtedly force a large number of consumers in Ontario to depend upon substitutes for their requirements.

"Recognizing the important part your industry must take in stabilization, also in eliminating to the greatest degree possible seasonal difficulties, I would urge you to put forth every effort in the speeding up of your output, so that every ton possible may be available to meet the demand.

"In this period of unrest, the greatest possible co-operation is essential, and I will depend on the results of your efforts to assist me in successfully averting sufferings attending a coal shortage."

The plant will be producing in July or August, a fuel superior to anthracite coal—a fact attested by Government analyses as well as by hundreds of demonstrations given in this City, Ottawa and Montreal. Appreciating the seriousness of the situation, and the fact that the first plant will be producing approximately 200 tons per day, at an assured profit of \$1.00 per ton, which means a return of 30 per cent. to you on an investment, we ask every reader of this paper to invest say one or two hundred dollars in The Oakal Co. (Canada) Limited, to insure this increased production.

No other industry in Canada deserves such co-operation, and no other industrial that we know of will pay more steady and certain dividends. Co-operation is essential, as the Fuel Administrator says, and while co-operating to insure against fuel famines you are insuring yourself big returns on your money—which will multiply in value.

Shares are five dollars each, preferred and common. We advise you to secure at least ten of each before the price doubles, as it is certain to do.

Yours truly,
H. J. Birkett & Co.

Address, 502 C. P. R. Bldg., Toronto.