

LABOR NEWS FROM COAST TO COAST

OTTAWA.

TRADES COUNCIL.

A drastic criticism of the city fathers over the appointment of well-to-do residents of the city some of them government employees earning fair salaries as municipal elected officers, was launched by Delegate Larden at the meeting of the Allied Trades and Labor Association last Friday night.

Delegate Larden said it was a shame to see these men getting rich jobs, while many others are incompetent to fill them. Millions were walking the streets looking for work, and on his motion a resolution was adopted, asking Mayor Fisher to see what could be done.

Two members of the association, Delegates J. A. P. Hayden and M. Kavanagh, were appointed to represent the local Employment Service Council, in accordance with the request furthered by Mr. C. S. Forde, superintendent of the Ontario Provincial Labor Bureau. It was pointed out that this council would co-operate in the effort to deal with the unemployment question.

Decide to Co-operate.

The executive committee in its report expressed its desire to co-operate with any movement for the relieving of the unemployment situation.

It was decided to give a contribution of \$75 towards the Independent Labor Party municipal campaign organization, and the caretaker of the hall will be given a \$5 Christmas box.

The executive recommendation that the limited franchise should vote in favor of the O.E.R. plebiscite was unanimously endorsed.

LITHOGRAPHERS BACK.

The lithographers employed by the Lithograph Company, Limited, who were locked out two weeks ago, returned to work Monday morning, following a conference. Saturday, with a representative of the International Lithographic Union from New York. The men returned to work at the same wage scale but further negotiations will be opened early in the new year. The present wage scale has a minimum of \$35 a week and a maximum of \$50. An increase of approximately 20 per cent was demanded. About 35 men were affected.

ST. ANNE'S HALL TO BE REBUILT.

St. Anne's parochial hall, the home of Le Cercle Social St. Anne, the Laurier Athletic Club, and several social and fraternal societies and labor organizations of the Capital, which fell a prey to flames in a disastrous fire in the early hours of Saturday evening, November 15, is to be rebuilt. The decision to rebuild has just been reached and work on the reconstruction of the popular hall will be started almost immediately.

HOSPITAL CORNER-STONE LAID.

The corner-stone of the new Ottawa Civic Hospital was laid Saturday afternoon by Mayor Harold Fisher. D. M. Finnie, chairman of the Hospital Commission, presented His Worship with a silver trowel. The hospital is located on Carling Avenue opposite the Experimental and Labor Association attended the ceremony.

LAUNDRY WORKERS ORGANIZE.

The Carpenters' Hall was filled to capacity on Sunday afternoon last by the workers employed in the various laundries of Ottawa. Workers predominated. Washes were delivered by Messrs. Chas. W. Lewis, J.A.P. Hayden, Wm. Lodge and J. G. Laundry, after which it was unanimously decided to organize a local union of the International Laundry Workers of America. An application for charter has been forwarded to the International headquarters at Troy, N.Y., and the organization campaign will be continued.

CARPENTERS HONOR PAT GREEN.

Local 28, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, presented their former business agent, Pat Green, with a beautiful club bag at their last meeting. The presentation was made on behalf of the organization by President James Tapp assisted by J. G. Laundry, financial secretary; George Casman, corresponding secretary, and David Barr, treasurer. Mr. Green was recently appointed General Organizer of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners for Eastern Ontario.

STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

Frank McRae was again elected president of the street railway employees union at the last regular meeting of that organization. Other officials for the ensuing year are: vice-president, W. P. Jennings; recording secretary, Ed. O'Connor, warden, W. Mullins; executive board, F. McRae, W. P. Jennings, Ed. O'Connor, W. Dwyer, F. Page, John Cameron, and E. Charbonneau; delegates to the Allied Trades and Labor Association, F. McRae, Ed. O'Connor, John Cameron and W. P. Jennings.

It was decided that an auxiliary should be inaugurated to carry on all socials, etc. It was also decided to establish a library for the use of the members.

PREPARING REPORT ON CROSS-TOWN TRACK.

Engineering officials of the Department of Railways and Canals are now investigating the matter of the Grand Trunk cross-town tracks. In due course the conclusions of their investigations will be embodied in a report which will be laid before the Minister. The deputy minister of Railways and Canals, Col. G. L. Lavigueur, said this week that the engineering forces at the department had already begun a survey of the situation, and that a report would be soon placed before the minister.

The department is taking these steps as a result of the petition signed before the government by a number of Ottawa's public bodies, including the Allied Trades and Labor Association, asking for the removal of the tracks.

TORONTO.

GIVES BIG CONTRACTS FOR UNEMPLOYED RELIEF.

The special committee of the Toronto City Council has recommended an immediate vote of \$50,000 for relief for the unemployed. But while the aldermen and others are wondering where to turn to be found, and various organizations are urging both the Federal and Provincial Governments to do something, the Hydro-Electric Power Commission has put them all to shame. This organization at a special meeting

awarded contracts for electrical equipment and cement for works now in progress to the aggregate amount of \$12,000,000. It had been intended to award these contracts some time, but it was thought that if they were done now it would keep several industries going during the winter season. The lowest tenders were accepted in each case. The price of 2,000 men at work on the Canadian Pacific canals during the winter, and to increase that to 3,000 at once. Returned soldiers and married men with families will have first chance to work on this undertaking. There is reported to be excellent prospects for the building trade next spring, and a fair amount of building is now in progress.

FOR MAYOR, 1921



FRANK H. PLANT has announced that he will be a candidate for mayor of Ottawa in the City of Ottawa for 1921. During his term of office on the City Council he has been a friend of the wage-earners and could always be relied upon to stand by Labor. His record stands before the electors. Wage earners are asked to study his record with the record of the Mayors of the City of Ottawa. After the study has been made support and elect your friends and defeat your enemies.

HAMILTON.

PLUMBERS AND EMPLOYERS' RELATIONSHIP.

Relative to the charge of a Toronto master plumber, who alleges that an agreement exists in the plumbing trade in that city, Business Agent Alex Bonner, plumbers' union, and Norman Clark, of the International Member-elite, Hamilton, advised that no more need be done to oppose Silby Barrett. It was known yesterday, in fact somewhat earlier, that the Minto local, with its two hundred odd votes, was behind in its other words, it is bad standing. The extent of some hundred dollars. As a result the votes that were polled in the recent election will not be counted. Not only this, but the Minto local was responsible for the one and only nomination received by Dan Livingstone. The member-elect himself nominated Barrett, John D. Livingstone, at Westville, and later became contestant for honors. There remains the possibility that the election will be thrown out. The matter will be in the hands of the tellers. It is learned from reliable U.M.W. sources that a large number of the Canadian Brethren are in name revolutionaries, requesting the tellers to take decided action on the matter. According to the constitution of the United Mine Workers, as far as the Post can tell, they are forced to act. The vote for Livingstone will be thrown out, and a second election for the position of International Board member is plainly evident.

EASTERN CANADA.

A SHUT-DOWN AT ANGUS SHOPS.

Notices have been posted at the Angus Shops of the Canadian Pacific Railway that the workmen there will be closed down from December 23 to January 14, for the annual overhauling of the plant.

About 5,000 employees will be affected by the shut-down.

LONDON'S MAYOR ORDERS INVESTIGATION.

An investigation of the Ontario Government Employment Bureau in London was ordered by Mayor Little on Friday, after he had heard a second deputation, which made charges against the manner in which the bureau was conducted. The Mayor was told that some of the acts of those in authority favored unfairness. His Worship named Rev. C. Q. Warner, pastor of Cronyn Memorial Church, and Lieut.-Col. W. J. Brown, of the Western University, with power to add others. Fred Young, if the unemployed desire to have him on the committee, to look into the matter.

Mayor Little declared that if it is found that the employment agency is not doing its duty, he will establish a civic employment office. The delegation which waited on His Worship on Friday was sent by the Unemployed Soldiers' Conference, a new organization just launched by 49 veterans. Their motto is "Work, not Charity."

UNEMPLOYMENT LESS IN ST. JOHN.

Although New Brunswick in general, and the City of St. John in particular, has not suffered from the lack of employment as many other parts of the Dominion, there are sufficient numbers of men out of work to create a problem which requires attention. The mayor of St. John has undertaken the establishment of a civic employment office. The delegation which waited on His Worship on Friday was sent by the Unemployed Soldiers' Conference, a new organization just launched by 49 veterans. Their motto is "Work, not Charity."

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UNEMPLOYMENT IS SERIOUS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

Unemployment in Nova Scotia at present is quite serious and many cases are showing up where families are facing starvation if something is not done promptly. Some cases are particularly cruel. One man, a member of a large engineering association in England, is unable to secure a position and has offered to hire out as a laborer to keep his family from starvation. It is one of many such cases and associations and churches are being kept busy trying to fill the wants and demands. It has been stated that 3,000 returned men are jobless. A delegation from the War Veterans conferred with Premier Murray this week on the matter.

WINDSOR POLICE MAY HAVE EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

If recommendations of Daniel Thompson, the new chief of police, are accepted by the Police Commission, an eight-hour working day for policemen will be adopted early in the new year.

MONTREAL TRADES COUNCIL.

After strongly repudiating the statement which it was alleged was made by the mayor of the City of Ottawa, to the effect that under the federal housing scheme Montrealers had been protesting, J. T. Foster, president of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council, was himself the object of criticism by some members of that body on account of his attitude towards compulsory voting at the meeting held last Thursday evening.

Concerning the housing proposition, Mr. Foster said that an official of the Town Planning Department at Ottawa had stated that Montreal people had asked for a type of house of which the upper stories could be rented while the owner would occupy the lower floor.

This action was characterized as protesting by the official in question. Mr. Foster took exception to the term, and said that the day would have to be framed for the benefit of the workman and not to his detriment if the scheme were to be of any value.

Because of the stand he had taken regarding compulsory voting at a recent meeting of the Charter Commission, President Foster was taken to task by the council members of that attitude opposed to the boys of the body when he voted against compulsory exercise of the franchise. Mr. Foster admitted that he had disregarded the views of those whom he represented but did not apologize but sought to show that, in his estimation, the system would not avail the workman to the extent he was.

He was of the opinion that the secret ballot would be in danger if such a system were introduced, and showed that the penalty for refusing to vote would be a greater burden on the poor man than on the wealthy one.

SPLIT IN THE LABOR PARTY AT BRANTFORD.

A vote of lack of confidence has changed the office of the Independent Labor party at Brantford, President Corney Simmers and Secretary John Matthews, and the ballot was held on December 12. The result was that the secretary was elected to the office of president of the party.

Mr. Simmers, who was elected to the office of president of the party, was re-elected, and that the secretary had private conversation with the mayor's chances of re-election should he run under certain conditions.

CORNWALL TEXTILE MILLS ON SHORT TIME.

Two of the three Cornwall mills of the Canadian Cottons Limited, the Standard and Stormont branches, are running on short time and will continue to do so until next time as conditions in the textile industry warrant their resuming full time. Instead of operating until noon on Saturdays, the mill will shut down on Thursday evening of each week, when many contractors are minimum cost which is coincident in many respects with Ald. F. H. Davidson's proposal, whereby scores of homes would be built which would be serviceable and yet without unnecessary construction.

He intends to submit his plans to the city authorities, and to urge that a project be launched that will assure workmen getting homes at a minimum cost which is coincident.

Information received by the City of Winnipeg shows that marked reductions have been made in prices of materials and further reductions are expected before next spring.

Ald. W. B. Simpson describes the present housing scheme as not helping families of small means, that really required assistance. He believed a housing scheme under which blocks of houses be constructed with a central heating plant and the materials could be purchased in wholesale quantities would solve the house shortage shortage.

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Mr. Simmers also is considering the practicability of the city building homes in apartment block form, with large rear courts or vacant places in which children could play.

"We require more homes, and it seems to me the most logical plan is to build them wholesale along the lines of a big new municipal housing scheme.

ALD. MC GUIRE IS A FRIEND OF THE WORKERS.

Ald. J. G. McGuire, in the Ottawa City Council, is in the field of a candidate for mayor of the city.

Ald. McGuire is an actual representative of the working class. For years he was numbered among the daily tollers, and now that he is a successful businessman with a large and growing business, his first consideration is the rights of his employees.

Ald. McGuire is a member of the Independent Labor Party, and as such, he has always endeavored to use the viewpoint of the working man in his deliberations.

He believes that the government of the city should be in the hands of men with laboring and business experience. Such men will assure a honest, businesslike administration for Ottawa. He started from the bottom of the ladder and he knows what conditions are like in all walks of life. Ald. McGuire is both a hustler and a booster—and Ottawa needs him.

Ald. McGuire deserves the vote and support of the working classes for, if elected, his conscientious efforts will not permit him to betray the trust that has been placed in him.

MUST WORK 16 HOURS TO GET 10 HOURS PAY.

The Board of Arbitration in the dispute between exterior employees of the Public Works Department and the City of Quebec decided last week that the employees of the department must work 16 hours if they want pay for that time during the regime of Mayor Lavigne. It had been

decided, in view of the high cost of living, to pay the workmen at the rate of a ten-hour day in winter, when only eight hours of work was exacted.

LONDON MAYOR AGAINST ANY CHARITY SCHEME.

Mayor Little of London, last week through the winter port docks, were accepted in each case. The price of 2,000 men at work on the Canadian Pacific canals during the winter, and to increase that to 3,000 at once. Returned soldiers and married men with families will have first chance to work on this undertaking. There is reported to be excellent prospects for the building trade next spring, and a fair amount of building is now in progress.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TO COMMENCE WORK ON T. & N. O. RIGHT-OF-WAY.

In its Clearing of the Way Government is Inaugurating a Policy of Forestry Protection.

To give work to unemployed men, the declaration that it would not be cleared with an axe.

However, the announcement that the right-of-way is to be cleared for a section of 25 miles north of Cochrane, the present terminus, is to be started. Although nothing has been done, the northern who have been advocating the extension of the road to the town of Cochrane.

The Government in its clearing of the way is inaugurating a policy of forestry protection from the five hazard of steam railways in bush country. The right-of-way will be cut so wide that there will be no danger from locomotive, sparks, starting bush fires.

The Premier intimated that the sides of the present railway would be cut, too, to a sufficient width to remove the first hazard.

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