

LABOR NEWS FROM COAST TO COAST

OTTAWA.

TRADES COUNCIL.
A dramatic criticism of the city fathers over the appointment of well-to-do residents of Ottawa to the local Employment Service Council, as municipal election 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 the jobs, while many others who spent the streets looking for work, and on his motion a resolution was adopted, asking Mayor Meier to see what could be done to prevent such a thing.

Desire 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 cashier of the hall will be given a \$5 Christmas box.

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

LITHOGRAPHERS BACK.
The lithographers employed by the City of Ottawa, who were locked out two weeks ago, returned to work Monday morning, following a conference with the International Lithographers Union from New York.

The men returned to work at the prevailing wage scale, but the negotiations will be opened early in the new year. The present wage scale has a minimum of \$15 a week and a maximum of \$20 a week, with an increase of 20 per cent being 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 Monday morning, November 22, 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. Finlay, chairman of the Hospital Commission, presented his report on the hospital, and the Bishop of Ottawa presided over 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. Women workers predominated. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. 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 a charter has been forwarded to the International headquarters at Troy, N.Y., and the organization campaign will be continued.

CARPENTERS HONOR PAT GREEN.

Local 38, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, presented their former business agent, Pat Green, with a beautiful address on Monday evening. Mr. Green was recently appointed secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners for Eastern Ontario.

STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

Frank McRae was again elected president of the local street railway employes union at the regular meeting of the organization. Other officials for the ensuing year are: vice-president, John Dale; financial secretary, W. F. Jennings; recording secretary, Ed O'Connor; warden, W. Mullins; executive board, F. McRae, W. F. Jennings, Ed O'Connor, W. Devey, F. P. Jones, J. G. Laundry, and E. Chas. The delegates to the Allied Trades and Labor Association, John Cameron and W. F. Jennings.

PREPARING REPORT ON CROSS-TOWN TRACKS.

Engineering officials of the Department of Railways and Canals are now investigating the matter of the proposed removal of the Grand Trunk cross-town tracks.

INQUIRY INTO THE REMOVAL OF 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, Major G. A. Bell, stated this week that the engineering officials of 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 PLACED 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. The members of the committee are wondering what class of work is 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 \$2,500,000. It had not been intended to award these for some time, but it was thought that if it were done now it would keep several industries going during the winter season. The lowest tenders were accepted in each case. It was also decided to keep the force of 2,500 men at work on the Chipewyan power canal project during the winter, and to increase that number 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 the Mayoralty of 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 has been known for his attitude towards compulsory voting, at the meeting held last Thursday evening.

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 A. Clark & Company, while attending 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 Monday morning, November 22, 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.

EASTERN CANADA.

EASTERN MINERS' TROUBLES.

Further sensational developments are expected in the M.W. elections, according to the Sydney Post, which says: "There is a possibility that International Member-elect Dan Chas. Lewis, of the M.W., will oppose Sibby Barrett. It was known yesterday, in fact somewhat earlier, that the Minto local, with its two hundred odd votes, had been in the lead in other words, it is in bad standing to the extent of nine 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 of the International Brotherhood of Miners, local at Westville, and later being 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 Cape Breton locals are to pass resolutions requesting the tellers to take decided action on the matter. According to the constitution of the United M.W. Workers, as far as the Post can learn, they are forced to act. The vote for Livingstone will be thrown out, and a second nomination for the position of International Board member is plainly evident."

A "SHUT-DOWN" AT ANGUS SHOPS.

Notices have been posted at the Angus Shops of the Canadian Pacific Railway Montreal that the works will be closed down from December 23 to January 14, for the annual overhauling of the plant. About 5,500 employees will be affected by the shut-down.

LONDON'S MAYOR ORDERS INVESTIGATION.

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

UNEMPLOYMENT LESS IN ST. JOHN.

Although New Brunswick in general in the City of St. John is particularly hard hit by unemployment, 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 factory or workshop to provide employment especially for disabled veterans and for any others for whom work may be found, and is receiving strong support in his effort. The Provincial Red Cross has recommended grant of \$5,000 for the purpose; the Commercial Travelers' Patriotic Club has voted the balance of their funds to

the mayor and other offers of assistance have been received. The comparatively light equipment through the winter port docks have reduced the amount of money distributed in wages and the reduction of the lumber cut has affected the labor market in other parts of the province. It is expected that the local sugar industry will resume operations early in January, and this will provide for about six or seven hundred men, and it is expected that the port business will be heavier as the season advances. In the woods, some of the operators are cutting more pulpwood and thus finding employment for some of the men who usually depend on the larger lumbering operations for their winter work.

UNEMPLOYMENT IS SERIOUS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

Unemployment in Nova Scotia at present is acute and 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. He is one of many such cases and associations and churches are being kept busy trying to fill the wants and demands of that body, on account of his attitude towards compulsory voting, at the meeting held last Thursday evening.

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 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 a Government official at Ottawa, to the effect that under the federal housing scheme Montrealers had been profiting, 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.

Concerning the housing proposition, Mr. Foster said that in official of the Town Planning Department at Ottawa had stated that Montreal people had asked for a type of house of which the upper story could be rented while the owner would occupy the lower floor. This action was characterized as profiteering 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 WHICH HE HAD TAKEN AN ATTITUDE OPPOSED TO THE VIEW OF THAT 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 in any extent. He was of the opinion that the secrecy of the 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 officials of the Independent Labor Party at Brantford. President Corney Simmons was replaced by Tom Money and Mrs. Wright respectively. The vote followed charges by Mayor Macbride that the secretary failed to notify him of executive meetings and that the secretary had in private conversation discussed the 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 Canada and Stormont branches, are running on short time and will continue to do so until such time as conditions in the textile industry permit their resuming full time. Instead of operating until noon on Saturdays, the mill will shut down on Thursday evenings of each week, which means curtailment of hours per week. The Canadian Cottons also control the Dundas mill at Cornwall, but so far it is not affected. The company anticipates a falling off as well as the cancellation of orders has forced the step, while in the hope that trade conditions would right themselves.

THEY ALSO CLAIM THAT AMERICAN GOODS ARE BEING SOLD BELOW THE EXISTING COST OF PRODUCTION IN CANADA.

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 clean business administration in Ottawa. He started from the bottom of the ladder and he knows what conditions are like in all walks of life. As McGuire is a hustler and a booster and Ottawa needs him.

MUST WORK 10 HOURS TO GET \$10 HOURLY PAY.

The Board of Arbitration in the dispute between exterior employes of the Public Works Department and the employees of the department must work for ten 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 warned a deputation of veterans that he would not support any scheme of charity. The soldiers told His Worship that they are in favor of giving the preference to married men in the securing of employment. The Mayor stated emphatically that he is against the scheme of the Dominion Government to contribute towards charity funds to be distributed by the municipalities among the unemployed. It would be better, he says, if the Government would assist the municipalities in financing necessary public works.

WESTERN CANADA

CALGARY PRINTERS' APPRENTICE PROGRAMME.

Calgary Typographical Union has progressed another step in the organization of the apprentices. Under the new working conditions now in force, these printers-to-be are assured of a thorough training in all branches of the trade, and the old-fashioned haphazard method of training is now in the discard.

WHAT THE UNION LABEL REPRESENTS.

The union label symbolizing as it does the conditions which the union itself is established to secure and maintain is proof that the conditions obtain in the making of the article upon which it appears. Firm

THE SUPERVISION OF THE CARRYING OUT OF THE NEW CONDITIONS IS LEFT IN THE HANDS OF THE APPRENTICE COMMITTEE.

A short time ago they held a mass meeting of the apprentices. The new rules and regulations were explained to the boys and the committee outlined the plan of campaign for the coming winter. It was decided to hold one meeting each month, when instructive lectures will be delivered by well-skilled members of No. 449. The I. T. U. Lessons in Printing were discussed and all boys eligible to take the course were enrolled.

WINNIPEG CONSIDERS CHEAPER HOUSES.

Cheaper dwellings for working-men and other persons who wish to own their own homes are a possibility next year under a new scheme. 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. MCGUIRE IS A FRIEND OF THE WORKERS.

Ald. J. G. McGuire, representing Wellington Ward in the Ottawa City Council, is in the field as a candidate for the 1921 Board of Control. Ald. McGuire is an actual representative of the working class. For years he was numbered among the successful business men with a large and growing business, his first consideration is the rights of his employees.

RE-ELECT CONTROLLER J. G. RAMSDEN

Who is a Friend of Labor
As Careful of the City's Business as of His Own.

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, a clearing of the right-of-way for the Tomikaming and Northern Ontario Railway to a point 25 miles north of Cochrane, the present terminus, is to be started. Although nothing further could be learned than the announcement by the Premier last week at a meeting in Queen's Park, Toronto, it is evidently the intention to go ahead with the full construction of this new section as the Premier said that it went into the history of the city that all the agencies handling this class of work have got together to discuss it.

the declaration that it would not be proceeded with at once. However, the announcement that the right-of-way is to be cleared for a section of 25 miles north of Cochrane will be taken as a good omen by the northerners who have been advocating the extension of the road as soon as possible. The Government in its clearing of the way is inaugurating a policy of forestry protection from the fire 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, etc., starting bush fires. The Premier intimated that the sides of the present railway would be cut, too, to a sufficient width to remove the fire hazard.

MONTREAL DISCUSSES PROBLEM OF HOMELESS MEN.

At a meeting which was held recently under the auspices of the Montreal Council of Social Agencies to discuss the problem of homeless men, the allegation was made that while nearly all the private institutions of this character were full to overflowing, the civic institution with a larger staff, ample funds and the best equipment, only averaged forty-five men a night, although it has accommodations for seven hundred. It was unanimously decided that the question should be further studied. This is the first time in the history of the city that all the agencies handling this class of work have got together to discuss it.

ARBITRATION IN SWEDEN.

A central arbitration board has been created by the Parliament of Sweden. The board consists of seven persons—three appointed by the Government, two by the council of the employers' association, and two by the workmen's national council.

THE OBJECT OF THE BOARD IS TO RENDER IT EASIER FOR WORKMEN AND EMPLOYERS TO HAVE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS CORRECTLY INTERPRETED, THUS OBVIATING RECOURSE TO LOCKOUTS AND STRIKES.

Appeals to the board are to be voluntary, and the decision of the board will be final.

WHAT THE UNION LABEL REPRESENTS.

The life of a village workman's wife is one of deadly dullness and toil.—Howell Evans.

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RE-ELECT CONTROLLER J. G. RAMSDEN

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