Labor News From Coast to Coast.

CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

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Thomas, Mr. E. A. Office of the Accountant of Labor

RAILWAYMEN'S GREAT VICTORY

Great Britain's Railroads Again in Operation—Men Win All Round.

Great Britain's railway system is again in operation as the result of the settlement on Sunday of the great railway strike, averting what threatened to develop into an ominous spread of the nation's labor troubles. Virtually every man engaged in railway work in London returned to his duty before nine o'clock Monday morning. The various rail services did not speedily reach the normal state, however, because of the state of displacement of the railway's materials which had resulted from the suspension of work. In the country districts also the resumption was general, except in the outlying districts, where telegrams announcing the settlement and ordering the men back to work could not be delivered Sunday night.

Leaders of the National Union of Railwaymen who directed the strike, declare their satisfaction with the arrangement, in a letter to the Herald, official organ of organized labor in Great Britain.

"The men stood four square determined to secure victory or go down together," declares J. H. Thomas, secretary of the union, and leader of the strike. "The settlement brings home great gains."

Mr. Thomas appeals to railwaymen to consolidate their organization and make their forces stronger than ever, so as to "gain for all members a higher standard of life."

C. T. Cramp, president of the union, says in a message to the Herald: "While we did not obtain the formula we set forth in the strike resolution, we obtained terms equally as good, which will give the railwaymen the same thing in effect. Our men have broken the back of the first attack made upon the entire working class, and no doubt this splendid stand will save workers from a degraded standard of life."

J. Bromley, secretary of the Society of Firemen and Engineers, declares: "The settlement is highly satisfactory. There is greater value in it than appears at first sight."

The official terms of settlement are as follows:

"First—Work shall be resumed immediately.

"Second—Negotiations will be resumed on the understanding that they shall be completed before the end of the year.

"Third—Wages will be stabilized at the present level until September 30, 1920, and at any time after August 1 they may be reviewed in the light of circumstances then existing.

"Fourth—No adult railwayman in Great Britain shall receive less than 51 shillings per week while the cost of living is 110 per cent. above the pre-war level.

"Fifth—The railway union agree that their men will work harmoniously with the men who returned to work or who remained at work during the strike. Nor shall there be any victimization of strikers.

"Sixth—Arrears of wages will be paid on resumption of work."

FIREMEN RAPIDLY ORGANIZING IN U. S. AND CANADA.

The members of the San Francisco fire department are rapidly signing the roll of the new union of Fire Fighters of America. While only about 50 per cent. of the firemen have been invited to join the new union, 340 members of the department are now enrolled in the organization.

The Labor Council sent a letter to every fire house in the city inviting the firemen to attend a meeting of the new union in the Labor Temple, when the organization was completed and formal application made to the American Federation of Labor for a charter.

Reports show that there are now 105 local unions of the Fire Fighters of America in the United States and Canada, and that they have all been chartered within the past 18 months.

VANCOUVER COUNCIL AND CIVIC EMPLOYES.

Recognition of the right to collective bargaining was, to a certain extent at least, granted by the Vancouver City Council to the Civic Federation recently, resulting from a conference at which, in addition to the members of the council, representatives from the four civic unions composing the federation were present.

The extent to which the council committed itself was in the appointment of a committee consisting of Aldermen Elkins, McRae, Owen and Kirk, to meet representatives of the four unions to draw up an agreement to discuss generally the question of bargaining through the Civic Federation instead of through the individual unions. The result of these negotiations will be dealt with at a meeting of the council to be called when the committee has its report ready.

MONTREAL MAY HOUSE NEXT CONVENTION OF A. F. OF L.

The secretary of the American Federation of Labor has writen Mayor Martin, of Montreal advising him that the executive committee are considering holding the next annual convention in Montreal.

At the Atlantic City convention the time and place of the next meeting was left in the hands of the executive committee of the A. F. of L. and at present the choice lays between Cleveland, Ohio, and Montreal, Que.

From reports it would appear that Montreal stands a good chance of securing the convention and all International Trade Unionists in Canada would welcome the idea of the American parent labor body convening in our midst. Here's hoping at any rate.

Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employes' Tenth Convention

Declares Against One Big Union—Urges Membership To Live Up To Agreements.

The Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employes at the closing session of their convention on Friday in St. Patrick's Hall, passed a resolution authorizing the executive of the brotherhood to urge upon the Government the establishment of the right of collective bargaining and the recognition of labor unions. A resolution of sympathy and moral support pledged to the English railroad striker was unanimously passed and cabled at once to John H. Thomas, secretary of the National Railway Union.

During the discussion of the sympathetic strike problem yesterday morning both Grand President A. R. Mosher and Grand Secretary M. M. Maclean made strong pleas for the observance of all agreements and contracts with managements, the question of violation of contract being the big point of debate in the sympathetic strike from an ethical viewpoint. The grand officers urged the adoption of the resolution which provided that members should not join in a sympathetic strike unless on a two-thirds vote of the membership and with the approval of the grand president.

A. R. MOSHER,

Grand President Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employes.

The expressed feelings of all the delegates appeared to be strongly against any form of affiliation with the International Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Express and Station Employes, but after strong pleas by the grand officers that the door of affiliation be not closed entirely, a motion was carried making a suggested agreement previously adopted by the Canadian Brotherhood but rejected by the International Brotherhood, the basis for future negotiations.

Votes of thanks to the members of the local divisions in the city of Ottawa for entertainment of the delegates and to the Mayor and City Council for voting grants to assist in the holding of the convention here, were moved by B. W. Cummings, vice-president for New Brunswick, and seconded by W. C. Warner, of Winnipeg.

It was decided to hold the next convention in Winnipeg in 1921, conventions hereafter to be held biennially. A vote of absolute confidence in the grand officers and executive for the past term was carried.

Moderation and independence of viewpoint appeared to characterize whereas the delegates resolutely turned down the One Big Union early in the week, they just as strongly went on record Friday, pledging the support of their organization in urging upon the Government the reinstatement of all postal workers, railway employes and other workers who lost their positions through the strike in Winnipeg and other points in the West and the executive was instructed to interview the Government at once in this respect.

The Government's twenty-minute amendment to the immigration act passed some time ago, was vigorously denounced as "inimical to the best interests of Canada," and a resolution to this effect was recorded in the convention minutes.

The motive of the delegates in voting down a resolution suggesting a tariff commission instead of having the tariff controlled by the Dominion Parliament, it was pointed out, was the opposition to a tariff under any control on the part of the delegates who are pronounced free traders. The removal of the color line admitting colored employes to full membership in the brotherhood was another tangible evidence of the convention's stand for democracy.

The following are extracts from Grand President A. R. Mosher's address to the tenth annual convention of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employes:

"The high cost of living cannot be appreciably reduced, by acts of Parliament or control of prices, if the present system of production and distribution is continued. Increased production or the adoption [illegible] the production of our needs will not solve the problem, so long as the cost under our present ridiculous system of getting these products to the consumer is maintained. I recommend to our members the most thoughtful consideration of these matters which affect the well-being of every one. If we apply ourselves to the task, as we should, I am sure we can effect a very beneficial change. I recommend to this Grand Division, meeting the formation of a legislative committee to consider federal legislation and to act in conjunction with other representatives of labor organizations with a view to bringing into existence many desired improvements. I also recommmnd the formation of provincial legislative committees by the local divisions in each province. It may require the payment of extra dues by the members to put these recommendations into effect, but if we are to accomplish the desired end, we must pay the price in both money and effort.

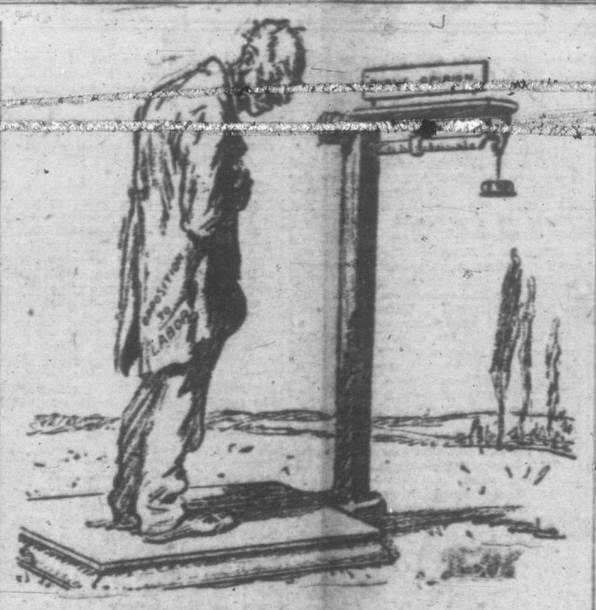
"Another question to which we must give serious consideration is the proposal in certain parts of the Dominion for the formation of 'One Big Union.' Efforts have been made, and are now being made, to educate the workers to the belief that advocates of the One Big Union are all foreigners who seek to overthrow constituted authority and establish a rule of terror such as we read has taken place in Russia. I give little credence to any such propaganda. There can be no doubt that the One Big Union is the production of radical minds, even the extreme radical, but I discredit the suggestion of ulterior motives. Regardless of the motive, however, if the One Big Union is what its name implies, it is simply the I.W.W., under another cloak. Our brotherhood in its inception and form departed from the beaten path of railway labor organizations. Craft unionism among the classes we wished to organize was considered to be entirely inadequate, consequently, we adopted an industrial form of organization. I am firmly convinced that industrial organization is the only really satisfactory form of organization for railway and express employes. All railway and express workers should be in one organization, but I do not agree that all classes of labor in the country should be in one organization. There is, in my opinion, a happy medium for railway and express workers between the craft organization plans and the plan of the I.W.W. I believe we should have a separate and distinct organization for railway and express workers. Affiliation with miners' organizations, building trades or any others is quite proper for either aggressive or defensive purposes but the workers in any separate industry should not be subject to the dictation of workers in other countries. No central body should be endowed with power to order the workers of an industry to strike unless the workers in that particular industry vote to strike. Herein lies the danger of the 'One Big Union' or the I.W.W. organization. Under the O.B.U. constitution a majority vote of the representatives of all affiliated bodies is all that is necessary to order a strike of the entire membership. For example: The miners may have a dispute which they refer to the central council. The representatives of the railway workers on that council may or may not oppose the calling of a strike, but if a majority of the council favor a strike, the strike is called, without consulting the railway workers or the workers in any other industry who would be affected. I believe that the vesting of such authority in any council composed of representatives only of the employes of numerous industries must lead to chaos and bring the whole labor movement into disrepute as well as causing great hardship to many workers.

"The labor organizations and central bodies at present in existence afford all the machinery that is necessary for the advancement of the labor movement in Canada. If we are not getting the best results it is because we do not make proper use of the organizations we have. This state of affairs is not going to be remedied by the introduction of another organization; it will only complicate matters. It is preferable that we endeavor to improve the organizations at present established and make them more efficient by a greater degree of co-operation of stirring up strife among ourselves in the formation of another organization.

"By this method, even though it may be a slow process, we can carry the whole body of organized labor with us instead of dividing it into opposing camps. We must [illegible] that the process is only slow insofar as the majority who desire a change. While our brotherhood stands for and advocates one organization for all railway and express employes, we do not seek to accomplish our object [illegible] other organizations or by inducing the members of older established organizations to secede and join us. Again I advocate the slower process, but a process that will not place us in opposing camps in the meantime [illegible] for all railway and express workers by mutual consent of all the workers and organizations concerned. This policy may be termed the policy of a pacifist, but I would rather be so called and I would rather see all of the present organizations remain in existence with harmonious relations existing between us and our membership of only 5,000 than to have a membership of 10 times that number and fighting an equal number of the same class of workers in an opposing organization. It is necessary that we come to a clear-cut decision on this question and I strongly recommend that we retain our present affiliations, and that we do not approve of the 'One Big Union.' If, by the action of those we desire to co-operate with, or because we have principles and ideals which we believe are worthy of the best that is in us, in short, if in our efforts to advance the cause of the worker in the best way we know how, according to the knowledge God has given us, we must assume the defensive or offensive, let us do so with courage and stand or fall by what we believe to be right."

M. M. MACLEAN,

Grand Secretary-Treasurer Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employes.



Getting Thinner Every Day.

Labor Invades Both Ridings of the Ambitious City

Independent Labor Party Nominate Halcrow and Rollo As Their Standard-Bearers in Ontario General Election.

Labor in Hamilton will fight tooth and nail to capture the East and West Hamilton seats at the provincial elections on Monday, October 20. Controller George G. Halcrow, for East Hamilton, and School Trustee Walter R. Rollo, for West Hamilton, are the Independent Labor party standard-bearers. They were the choice at a largely attended and most enthusiastic convention held in the Molders' Hall last Thursday night. President Harry Bourne was in the chair. Besides many ladies being present a number of returned soldiers, in mufti and khaki, were conspicuous by their presence.

Unlike the Conservative convention of Wednesday night, absolute unity prevailed among the Laborites' rank and file. This augurs well for I.L.P. triumph at the polls. John A. McFarlane is the Conservative candidate for West Hamilton. He is considered easy picking for Walter Rollo. Whether it will be a three corner contest is uncertain yet, the "Grits" so far not having met in convention. It is very questionable whether they can induce anybody to take the plunge into political defeat in either riding.

The I.L.P. is determined by "hook or crook" to renew its hold on East Hamilton, the seat held by the late Allan Studholme for thirteen years in the Ontario Legislature. As mentioned in a previous issue of the C.L.P., Lieut. Samuel L. Landers is the self-announced Soldier-Labor candidate. He is a former member of the I.L.P.—years and years ago. Furthermore, for many years he was honorary delegate to the Hamilton Trades and Labor Council. Some years ago he ran as I.L.P. candidate for East Hamilton for federal honors, the late Sam Barker defeating him. Candidate Landers donned khaki as a private. He came back a lieutenant. He was also the recipient of a military medal. I.L.P. leaders know positively that the Conservative Executive Board deputed a prominent "Tory" to talk matters over with Mr. Landers to ascertain whether he was averse to accepting the Conservative endorsation and blessing.

There is this about the situation: Candidate Landers is most formidable. He will require some beating. But Labor's rank and file are aware of that fact and so won't allow the political grass to grow under their feet. Controller Halcrow and Controller Halford were the only nominees that went before the convention, the former winning by 90 votes to 48 votes. A number of others mentioned refused nomination. Controller Halford's request that the selection be made unanimous was not only concurred in, but evoked a mighty round of applause. Controller Halcrow, a plumber by trade and a trades unionist, was an alderman in the City Council for several years. Last year he headed the poll with a big majority for controller. He was defeated in the 1917 federal election, his opponent being Hon. S. C. Mewburn, Minister of Militia. He is a popular young man, is able, resourceful and fully conversant with Labor matters. He should have no difficulty in heading the polls.

School Trustee Walter Rollo's candidature for West Hamilton was received with universal favor. His election is considered a foregone conclusion, for it is claimed that not only is the "Tory" camp divided, but that the "machine" is no more. However, the Laborites intend to take no chances. At the November, 1916, byelection Mr. Rollo was defeated by 36 votes by Ex-Mayor John Allan. Mr. Allan, by the way, declined nomination at the Conservative convention. Most apparently he saw the "handwriting on the political wall" and got out while the "getting" was good. Ald. Thomas O'Heir and Ald. Charles I. Aitchison were nominees for the western riding, but Mr. Rollo had a clear plurality over both. He pulled 93 votes while Messrs. Aitchison and O'Heir got 26 votes and 21 votes respectively. On motion of both Mr. Rollo's nomination was rendered unanimous amid deafening applause.

Directly after the convention had adjourned and the assembly had filed out of the sweltering auditorium the elected campaign committee held their first "get together." The personnel of the committee was as follows: H. G. Fester, Ald. C. I. Aitchison, H. W. West, Controller H. J. Halford, H. M. Shaw, Wm. Casady, Hydro Commissioner Gordon Nelson, V. Croome, H. Bourne, Ald. T. O'Heir, R. Levy, L. Corrigan, M. Elliott and J. Naylor. Returned soldiers: Messrs. Shaw, Pilton, Kerslake, Gray and Mitchell. Ladies: Mesdames Madden, Fester, Jenkins, Hardy and Edwards.

The following appointments were decided: H. G. Fester, general committee chairman; Ald. Aitchison, campaign manager for Candidate Rollo; H. W. West, campaign manager for Candidate Halcrow. Finance committee: H. Bourne, Ald. O'Heir, G. Oilton. Publicity and speakers' committee: J. Naylor, H. G. Fester, H. M. Shaw, George Kerslake, R. Gray.

Headquarters have been opened in both ridings and everything is off to a good start. Daily all sections of both constituencies are flocking to the I.L.P. colors, including thousands of returned soldiers. It's going to be a short, snappy, merry and lively campaign, mingled with lots of old-time political pep. The outlook looks good for Labor.

EDMONTON CONSIDERING INCREASES COMPENSATION.

Whether it will be necessary to fix a new rule regarding sickness compensation for civic employes is a question that is being considered by the Edmonton City commissioners. It seems that the amount allowed by the Workmen's Compensation act does not fully fill the needs, and the point has come up whether the city should pay the difference between the amount allowed by the provincial board and the wages the employes would have received had they not been absent.

The matter has been brought to a head by a claim from an employe of the street railway department, who met with an accident. The compensation board allowed him $25.50, whereas his total loss in wages was $51.75.

As a result, he made a claim to the city for the balance. There is no obligation on the city to go beyond the amount allowed by the board, and it is a question as to whether the city can legally make additional payments for this purpose. Alderman Kinney, a member of the board, has stated that the city could, if it wished to, supplement the compensation allowed by the board.

LABOR STANDS FOR REPLACING OF MEN IN THEIR TRADES

Tom Moore, president of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, was questioned by Mr. MacNeil of the Veterans before the House committee on Monday. Mr. Moore said [illegible] enlistment.

Mr. Moore did not think university training aid was class legislation. He thought men getting their industrial training might need assistance more than university men.

Mr. Moore said the re-training time now was too short. "You cannot make a mechanic in six or eight months," he said. "Britain has an arrangement whereby an employer pays a percentage of a man's earnings while in training, and the Government provides the balance."

There have been cases where trades organizations have refused to admit these men, said the witness. This was because a man was often turned out quite inefficient.

Mr. Moore suggested that courses should be lengthened according to the trade.

Mr. Calder referred to the shortage of instructors. The witness said there were plenty if the salary was high enough. Teachers and instructors in all lines in Canada were asked to work for less than mechanics today.

Mr. Moore thought there should not be too much specialization. "Industry today is being destroyed by the exaggerated tendency to specialization," said Mr. Moore.

He suggested the extended apprenticeship form under control of a shop committee, the employer and the D.S.C.R.

Speaking of employment bureaus, Mr. Moore said labor had accepted the Government system as the lesser of two evils. In regard to insurance, labor had taken the stand that insurance should be provided for every man who had donned the uniform, at the same rate as the old line companies would give. Children of disabled soldiers and soldiers' widows should be given the opportunity of securing a good education.

Hamilton Trades Council Hears True Story Labor Press Policy

"As a News Medium It Is Invaluable in Imparting Fundamental Principles of Organized Labor," Says One Delegate.

'Tis truly said that knocks become boosts. And that's what developed as a result of the Canadian Labor Press being under fire in the Hamilton Trades and Labor Council, organized labor's sane and judicious central body in the Ambitious City. Here's the story: Some weeks ago the Canadian Labor Press circulation policy and method of procedure was questioned by a delegate. He was backed, apparently by his fellow delegate informant, who is chopped full of radicalism, and by the way, Mr. Socialist delegate, an avowed international trades unionist, not only subscribes to the New Democracy, a One Big Union and "redder than hades" sheet, but drops his simoleon monthly into the pot created to keep the paper afloat.

Well the Trades and Labor Council being a fair-minded aggregation determined to "S.O.S." George R. Fuller, president of the Canadian Labor Press, Limited, and afford him an opportunity of explanation. Last Friday night Mr. Fuller attended the council meeting, and to an attentive assembly he lucidly and comprehensively explained the policy of the Canadian Labor Press, since its inception 18 months ago. Adhered strictly to the straight and narrow path of International Trades Unionism. Furthermore it denounced the O.B.U. and Bolshevism, and would continue to do so. The paper aimed at a circulation of 50,000 and that high water mark was rapidly being attained. Mr. Fuller said without fear of contradiction, the Canadian Labor Press had the largest circulation of any Labor paper in Canada.

The critics of the Canadian Labor Press numbered four and so flimsy were their arguments that Ald. Charles I. Aitchison, acting president, interjected, saying in his opinion there was nothing shady in the circulation procedure of the Canadian Labor Press. Like other live sheets the management was resourceful and alive to business.

Recording Secretary Harry G. Fester, who incidentally, is also vice-president of the Independent Labor Party, paid a great tribute to the Canadian Labor Press. He read it weekly. As a news medium it was invaluable in imparting the fundamental principles of organized Labor. It was a well gotten up paper and its editorials were ever well worth reading. He considered it a big asset to the Canadian Labor Movement.

Sergt.-at-arms John Harrower, business agent of the Patternmakers' League of America, also eulogized the merits of the Canadian Labor Press. He said he had to speak of the paper as he found it. He had derived much information from it, and he considered it an acquisition to the Canadian Labor Movement.

Another delegate testified to the sound principles advocated by and governing the Canadian Labor Press. Not only does the paper propagate International Trades Unionism, but it is playing its part fearlessly and unstintingly in perpetuating the Independent political movement in Canada.

There's no gainsaying the fact that Mr. Fuller and the Canadian Labor Press scored a triumph, which means much towards increasing its already big circulation in Hamilton and surrounding territory. Before Mr. Fuller vacated Hamilton, he gratuitously subscribed $100 advertising space in the Canadian Labor Press in behalf of the Hamilton Independent Labor party candidates, Rollo and Halcrow.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IMPROVING.

Weekly report from employers in Ontario and Quebec to the Department of Labor, indicate that, apart from unemployment due to strikes, the employment situation is still improving.

Returns for the week ending September 20, were tabulated from 2,960 firms with 425,168 persons on pay roll as compared with 422,049 persons on pay roll during the week ending September 13, an increase of 3,119 persons or .73 per cent. An increase of .43 per cent. was anticipated for the week ending September 27.

Returns for the week ending September 13, were tabulated from 2,941 firms with 352,857 persons on pay roll, which firms had increased their staffs by 2,989 persons, or .76 per cent., during the week in question. An increase of 5 per cent. was anticipated for the week ending September 20, which the actual increase shows to have been more than attained.

The plus industries—those that registered net increases in the number of persons employed—with their percentage increases, were:—Building and construction 3.4 per cent.; brick, cement and glass, 4 per cent.; chemicals, 1.7 per cent.; food, drink and tobacco, 1 per cent.; leather and leather products, 4 per cent.; metals, 6 per cent.; pulp, paper and printing, 7 per cent.; textiles, 7 per cent.; vehicles, 1.4 per cent.; quarrying and mining, 1.5 per cent.; railway construction, 7 per cent.; quarrying and mining and miscellaneous, made nominal increases only. Vehicles, textiles and metals continue to make substantial increases, this being the third week that these groups have shown strong plus tendencies. With the exception of vehicles, all groups anticipated further gains during the week ending September 27.

The minus industries—those that registered net decreases in the number of persons employed—with their percentage decreases, were:—Commercial and mercantile, 4 per cent.; lumbering, 8 per cent.; and railway operation, 1 per cent. The decreases were not heavy and with the exception of railway operation, were offset by anticipated compensating increases during the week ending September 27.

Ontario firms alone returns from 1,972 of which were tabulated, showed that an increase of 7 per cent. had taken place in that province and that an increase of 6 per cent. was anticipated for the week ending September 27. In the more important groups, metals, textiles, vehicles, food, drink and tobacco, etc., the same tendencies were shown as in the returns for the two provinces combined. In addition to those mentioned in the combined returns, commercial and mercantile was a plus group, while lumbering, leather and leather goods and miscellaneous showed slight, practically nominal, decreases. With the exception of railway operation, all groups anticipated increases to their staffs during the week ending September 27.

Quebec firms alone, returns from 988 of which were tabulated, registered an increase of 3 per cent. and anticipated an increase of 2 per cent. during the week ending September 27. The increase of the vehicle group in the combined returns, was largely accounted for by the increase in the aircraft industry, one firm having taken on a large number of its staff which had been laid off. In addition to the groups reported as minus on the combined returns, the following groups reported slight decreases also: Clay, glass and stone, and food, drink and tobacco; quarrying and mining, and railway construction. Railway operation on the other hand, was reported as a plus group. Quarrying and mining, railway construction and vehicles anticipated decreases during the week ending September 27, all other groups anticipating increase or nominal changes only.

SERIOUS UNEMPLOYMENT EXPECTED THIS WINTER.

The statement is made by officials of the Department of Labor that unemployment during the past summer was 100 per cent. greater than during the war years and totalled two per cent. of the industrial population. The estimate is made that this unemployment will be trebled and possibly quadrupled during the winter.

U. M. W. OF A. CONVENTION.

Mr. A. D. Campbell, of Glace Bay, who was a delegate to the U. M. W. of A. convention at Cleveland, recently, gives the Canadian Labor Press the following information:

The convention started at ten o'clock Tuesday morning of Sept. 9, in Gray's Armory at Cleveland. over 2,100 delegates were present, representing all the union trades of the United States and Canada. President Mr. John F. Lewis presided and the first two days were spent in speeches and the presenting of credentials. An importatn question brought up during the second day was that of the Illinois delegates. These men were connected with the starting of a dual organization similar to, if not a part of the One Big Union. After considerable discussion the seats of the 28 Illinois delegates were revoked and they were not allowed to sit. The item of greatest interest to the miners in this locality was the wage scale. The schedule calls for a 60 per cent. increase for all day laborers for mining yardage and dead work. Also a six-hour day and a five-day week, time and a half for all overtime and double time for Sundays and all legal holidays. All double shift work is to be done away with except what is necessary for ventilation and development of mine. Mining coal is not to be included in the development of mines.

The clause for double shift work being abolished does not apply to new mines that are just in the stage of first development. As regards the six-hour day, there are many objectionable features. When the eight-hour day was put in force last March the Dominion Coal Co. agreed to put in the latest machinery to assist the men in putting up the same amount of coal in shorter time. This was not done and as a result the men were compelled to use old style boring machines and the old "puncher" style cutting machines. This was a very serious handicap and these same conditions will eventually make an insurmountable barrier to six-hour day unless removed.

The peace treaty and the League of Nations came in for a hot two-days' debate. The decision of the convention at the close was not to approve the League of Nations until Home Rule for Ireland was secured and all troops withdrawn from Russia. The convention was of the opinion that Great Britain should not have signed the secret alliance with Japan in connection with the Shantung peninsula. The United States also came in for several criticisms for ratifying the treaty while knowing of secret alliance.

The wage schedule was presented to the operators' convention on the 25th. They asked for a recess until Monday to consider the schedule. If the schedule is not agreed to at the meeting of the operators every trade under the jurisdiction of the U. M. W. will be ordered on strike all over Canada and the United States on Nov. 11, 1919.

The arising of peculiar local conditions not covered by the convention was provided for. In such a case the question is to be referred to the local district and to be settled there.

The convention adjourned on September 23, 1919, after a sitting of fourteen days, and are to meet again at the call of the chair.

FORT WILLIAM MAN LABOR CANDIDATE.

Harry Mills, a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Chairman of the Fort William Board of Education, was chosen as labor candidate for this riding for the Ontario Legislature at a convention at Fort William.

ST. JOHN SUGAR REFINERY WORKERS OUT.

The Atlantic Sugar Refineries plant shut down last week as a result of the decision of the employes union to go on strike following the refusal of the company for an eight-hour day and ten cents an hour increase, bringing the minimum wage of 45 cents an hour. The men say they will make no move towards a conciliation board as they have the company's word they will not accept any award which grants more than five cents an hour increase, the company's compromise offer. Nearly 500 men are involved and the tie-up is complete.

ENDORSE LABOR CANDIDATES

Central Labor Body Unanimously Votes Assistance to Cameron and La Fortune.

The candidature of John Cameron, for Ottawa West, and F. Lafortune, for Ottawa East, was unanimously endorsed by the Allied Trades and Labor Association of the City of Ottawa at a regular meeting of that organization on Friday night last, when the executive recommended the payment of $50 each to help the campaign funds of the Capital City's Labor standard-bearers.

The meeting was well attended, and in the absence of the president, Mr. Pat Green, Delegate W. P. Jennings of the Street Railway Employes presided.

An appeal was received from the International Union of Cigarmakers, many of whom have been on strike for 15 months.

Delegate Draper, who is also secretary-treasurer of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, informed the delegates that through the determined and unscrupulous attacks on the part of the cigar manufacturers the per capita tax, paid by the Cigarmakers to the Trades Congress, had dropped from one of the largest to one of the smallest. He suggested that the sum of $10 be sent the Cigarmakers to assist them in their fight.

Delegate Hearst made a strong appeal for the delegates to demand only blue label cigars and in doing so they would help in no small manner the Cigarmakers in their fight.

The sum of $10 was voted to be sent to the Cigarmakers.

Delegate Robinson again brought up the old question of cliques in the Trades Council, and his claim was challenged by Delegates Draper and Kavanagh, both delegates stating that Delegate Robinson should either name the cliques or shut up. He did not again speak on the question.

A letter was received from Local 825, Machinists, advising the Council that because the last election of officers did not suit them, they were withdrawing their delegates from the central labor body. Secretary Lodge stated that Local 825 had only become affiliated with the Trades Council during their strike; not one delegate had ever attended a meeting, and not one cent had been paid into the treasury of the Trades Council. The executive was instructed to write a suitable reply to the letter. Local 418, Machinists, wishes it distinctly understood that they know nothing of the matter and are not a party to it.

The executive report called attention to the fact that fire prevention day observance is called for October 9. Ontario has the unenviable record of having the highest record per population of destruction in the world. Fire losses in Canada were $33,000,000, with insurance costing $35,000,000. The per capita of fire wastage in Canada is $4 as against 34 cents in England. It was suggested that a permanent fire committee be appointed in every city and town in Canada, representing every sphere of public service bodies. The Council pledged its full co-operation to reduce fire losses.

Attention was drawn to the difficulty of securing union labor labels, and a committee was appointed to find the source of supply, see that the merchants put them on sale, and that the trade unionists demand these labels. The committee is composed of Messrs. McDowell, Cole and Dear.

Speaking on the recommendation of the executive for assistance to the Labor candidates in the City of Ottawa, Delegate Draper called for the united support of Labor, and stressed the necessity of having sinews of war to carry on the campaign. He referred to the last election in which he contested for the Board of Control, when his expenses were $1,000.

Delegate Patterson reported that the election committee believed that Labor could run a good active campaign with little money, and be successful. He appealed for absolute unity.

Delegate McDowell suggested that the schools might be used for polling booths, so that the workingman would not be inconvenienced through lack of booths.

John Cameron, the Labor candidate for West Ottawa, addressed the meeting. In his personal touch with the constituents he found his chances most encouraging. The conditions in East Ottawa, he said, were very rosy, too. The time had come, he said, when Labor should be represented on the floor of the House and not be dependent on some other party as had been the case.

MEDICINE HAT HAS BRANCH OF LABOR PARTY.

A resolution was unanimously carried at a meeting held last Saturday night in the Medicine Hat, Sask., City Hall: "That a local branch of the Dominion Labor Party be formed."

Ald. J. Hole and Chas. Donald were elected president and secretary pro tem.

There was a strong gathering of workingmen and quite a number of ladies

FRENCH SECTION ADDED TO CANADIAN LABOR PRESS.

Commencing next week we will publish a French section so that our worthy brothers in the Province of Quebec and elsewhere may receive the national labor news printed in their own language. We hope to embody in this section as many of the special features of The Canadian Labor Press as possible. Watch for it.