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THE LABOR GAZETTE.

The October number of the Labor Gazette published monthly by the Department of Labor of the Dominion Government, contains quite a number of items of general interest.

Mr. James Phair, correspondent at Halifax, N.S., speaking of the condition of labor in his district, says:—

Shipwrights and caulkers say the past season has been the best for years.

The printing trade has been brisk, the publishing of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia—some 3,000 pages—furnishing considerable work. The printing of the local government blue books will soon be begun.

Mr. W. H. Coates, correspondent at St. John, N.B., says:—

The lumber mills in this district are running steadily, giving employment to a large number of hands.

The clothing manufacturers are very busy, and require their hands to work overtime.

The tinsmiths and sheet iron workers are doing splendid business.

Since the decline in the building of wooden ships, sailmakers, riggers and caulkers have very little to do.

Mr. Edward Little, correspondent at the city of Quebec, writing of the different private and public works now being carried on, mentions the erection of the Great Northern Railway elevator; new Protestant Hospital, Quebec; bridge across the St. Lawrence, etc. Mention is also made of the proposed extension of the Chateau Frontenac which will give employment to a large number of hands during the coming winter. The proposed annex will contain 250 rooms, and afford accommodation for 1,000 additional guests.

The work of extending the graving dock at Lévis, Que., is progressing rapidly. The excavations are completed, the masonry well advanced, it being expected that the whole work will be completed about Christmas.

A company has been organized in the city of Quebec with a capital stock of \$50,000 to manufacture paper boxes of all kinds, such

as jewel, candy, medicine, corset, glove, etc. It was expected that the factory would be in operation in October.

Mr. Phillips Thompson, correspondent at Toronto, reports continued activity in all branches of the printing trade, some of the printing offices being pushed beyond their capacity.

Mr. Robert Glockling, Secretary of the Ontario Labor Bureau, has issued to the labor organizations of the Province a schedule of questions with reference to strikes and lock-outs which have occurred in the province during 1899 and to September 1, 1900.

A prominent Toronto printing house has issued a circular to their employees in which they say that in order to create and maintain among their employees a lively interest in their work, and to stimulate thought and inventive skill in connection with both the manufacturing departments and the warehouse, they have determined to offer for competition a series of prizes, open to every employee. For this purpose the business will be divided into two departments, the manufacturing department to include the bindery, envelope room, printing room and book department, the warehouse department to include all the rest of the business. In each of these two departments three prizes are offered twenty-five dollars, fifteen dollars and ten dollars, to be awarded for the three best inventions or suggestions. In the manufacturing department the invention must be such as will have the effect of reducing the cost of production, either by improving the machinery, expediting the turning out of the goods, increasing the output or utilizing the raw material to best advantage. In the warehouse the suggestions may cover all the work of that department, and must be of some practical value in carrying on the operations of the concern.

Mr. Alexander Callander, correspondent at Guelph, Ont., says:—

The Raymond Mfg. Co. have in course of construction a new factory to enable them to meet their increasing demands for sewing machines and cream separators. The factory will cost about \$50,000. They have

also enlarged and improved their foundry, to which has been added another copula.

Mention is made of the Crow Iron Works as being one of the most prosperous in Guelph. Last year an addition was made to these works, and during the past summer further additions were made.

The Bell Organ & Piano Co. said to be the largest of its kind in the British Empire, are running to their full capacity.

The A. R. Woodyatt Co. have occupied their new factory.

A little more than a year ago the Guelph Carpet Mills began the manufacture of Brussels carpet, and fifteen weavers and twelve looms were brought from Philadelphia. The men allege that they were given to understand that they would always be paid the Philadelphia rates, but owing to a lower price being paid to weavers at Sherbrooke, Que., the wages of the Guelph workers were made to conform thereto, whereupon they quit work. The strike is against their reduction in wages.

Mr. James T. Burke, correspondent at Stratford, Ont., says:—

The condition of wage-earners in that locality is generally satisfactory. Men or women without employment are scarce.

The Whyte Pork Packing Co. are now employing about sixty hands. There is a bright prospect for this industry and its employees.

The local foundries and agricultural implement works are doing a fair business.

Mr. A. Wootton, correspondent at London, Ont., says:—

Business in London at the present time is very prosperous, almost every trade reporting plenty of work and all hands engaged. All through the past summer it was of the same character.

Mr. A. E. H. Spencer, correspondent at Vancouver, B.C.:—

Quartz mining is developing on the West coast of Vancouver Island, but as yet is not far enough advanced to employ a large number of men. Reports from reliable sources indicate that it will not be long before there will be active development work in Alberni and surrounding districts.

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