

GIRLS IN FACTORY WORKED TOO HARD

Sharp Criticism of Methods in Knitting Mills Heard at Meeting.

TAKE AWAY ORDERS Labor Council Will Investigate and Ask Government for Action.

Some sharp criticism of the knitting mills and other factories in Toronto working on war contracts was made at the regular meeting of the Toronto District Labor Council at the Labor Temple last evening. One delegate stated that in one knitting mill from 7 in the morning until 11 o'clock at night, with no time allowed for lunch, and were only receiving 38c per week, and another delegate declared that the same conditions existed in at least five other factories in the same line of business.

It was also stated that the men working in a Toronto factory on war supplies were only receiving 20c per hour and working sixty hours a week, while men in the United States doing the same kind of work were receiving from fifty to sixty cents per hour.

"The country can only look to labor for the manufacture of war materials," declared James Simpson, "and the manufacturers should not be allowed to 'sweat' their employees in order to make a profit out of such orders." He moved that the committee be investigated by the labor council, and that a mass meeting be held to bring the full weight of the labor movement to bear upon the government, asking that orders be immediately taken out of the hands of such manufacturers, and that something be done to take out of the war contracts the incentive to "sweat" the workers.

Attention was drawn to the government inspectors, who, it was declared, looked after the men, but nothing was done for the women who have no votes. "The government gives permits to break the men, but not the women's exigencies, because the employers have a hold on the government," declared one speaker.

SOME VIVID STORIES FROM MEN AT FRONT

Members of Staff of Canadian Bank of Commerce Have Written Their Experiences.

A handsome pamphlet just issued by the Canadian Bank of Commerce is entitled "Letters from the Front" and tells of the part played by the staff of the bank in the great European war. The pamphlet contains the names of 480 of the officers of the bank who are undertaking military duty and also an honor roll of 17 Bank of Commerce men who have either been killed in action or died while on active service.

There is also a casualty list showing that so far 28 of the staff have been wounded, three taken prisoners of war, four missing and four seriously ill. One half of the pamphlet is devoted to letters from bank officers from the front, containing graphic descriptions of the war by men who have been "right in the thick of it."

Special Service for Gourlay Customers.

Many of the customers of Gourlay, Winter & Leasing, Ltd., are taking advantage of the unique automobile service inaugurated by this firm during the past year. The girls have to depend largely on the tipping system, which has been ground down since he was started.

MEMBER OF "PATS" WOUNDED.

Special to The Toronto World. ANGLIS, Ont., Aug. 19.—Pte. F. G. W. Coulson, of the Princess Patricia's is reported admitted to a hospital in Rouen, France, suffering from a gunshot wound in the neck. He is a son of Fred W. Coulson of this village.



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POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE

In a long editorial which strives to be judicial in tone, but speaks as one with authority, The Toronto News discusses the present political situation. It frankly admits that there has been some slipping on both sides during the informal political truce. It further declares that in the event of a Dominion election, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Liberals may expect to have their record on the bread-and-butter issue held up to public reprobation. But the article also extends the olive branch by suggesting that the two political parties get together in a real and lasting truce.

The News is of the opinion that the lifetime of the present parliament should be extended for two or three years after the close of the war. That would prolong the lifetime of parliament to 1919 at least. It is a fair surmise that such an agreement would mean a "coalition government." That particular phrase is studiously avoided, but The News says: "It is surely fair to ask that the life of parliament shall be extended for two or three years after peace is proclaimed if the government is to forego the right of dissolution. If such an agreement could be effected between the parties ministers would be free to give all their energies to the prosecution of the war, and to the great problems of finance and administration which demand unremitting attention. Such an agreement would enable the two parties to co-operate in the conduct of the war as they cannot co-operate if an election is imminent."

The News says in effect that the government now has the whip hand because it can have an election whenever it pleases. But if it calls another session of parliament, the Liberals may harass the ministers, hold up business and force the government to "peg out" at a most inopportune time. The party in power loses the advantage of being able to pick its own time for election when parliament grows old enough to be in danger of dissolution by the efflux of time. Hence the Liberals are notified that they must make terms or get ready for an election. Indeed there is what may be interpreted as a veiled threat to bring about an election at once if the opposition makes no response to the overtures of the government.

It has not been the practice in Canada or in Great Britain to allow parliaments to run for the full statutory period. There were four-year parliaments under Sir John Macdonald and under Sir Wilfrid Laurier. No parliament expired by effluxion of time during all the years that Sir Wilfrid Laurier held office. The Liberal leader understood that in a fifth session the government would be practically at the mercy of the opposition and that no expedient to embarrass ministers would be neglected. An opposition has great power to hamper a government facing the country. This power is invariably abused. In practice we have established the right of a government to dissolve after the fourth session and this is amply supported by British precedent.

This editorial utterance follows hard upon the heels of an Ottawa despatch published a few days ago in many of the leading conservative newspapers. That despatch said in substance that parliament would be summoned at an early date, that the Liberals would be asked to agree to an extension of the parliamentary term and if they declined to so agree the government would at once appeal to the electors.

The Toronto Mail the day after the Manitoba election practically came out for a coalition government. With this evidence before him one might be inclined to think that the Conservative "Basis is within." But the Liberal Peggotty has yet to be consulted. Until yesterday the opposition newspapers had nothing to say on the subject. But now the Ottawa correspondent of The London Advertiser telegraphs his paper that a campaign for a coalition government in Canada has been launched. It has been in progress for some weeks. The plan has been deliberately formulated and the educational work is being carefully done at the present time chiefly by the Conservative newspapers.

The correspondent, who is a well-known newspaper man in close touch with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and his chief lieutenants, writes from a party standpoint, declaring that a number of business men all over the country are inquiring upon the government calling to its aid the wisdom, counsel, and experience of Sir Wilfrid. He also goes on to say that the government does not want another scandal probe by the public accounts committee like the one which resulted in turning two of its supporters out of parliament. Finally he declares that Hon. Robert Rogers wishes to head off any further investigations in Manitoba and will gladly retire from active politics to become Canadian high commissioner at London.

The despatch adroitly prepares the faithful for a deal between the two political parties in the near future. The government is charged with making the overtures from partisan as well as patriotic motives, but the assurance is given that if any arrangement is made, a number of Liberal statesmen will be given cabinet portfolios.

Mr. Rogers is disposed of by sending him to London. Possibly the Nationalist ministers will be put to the sword and other cabinet vacancies created by appointments to the bench and to the senate.

If a coalition government was formed, Sir Wilfrid Laurier would be an outstanding figure. Some Conservatives might bitterly resent his being called to the cabinet, while some extreme Liberals would be sore if where he sat was not the head of the table. The Advertiser, among other things says: "Two elements are promoting it and they have inspired it. A strong group of business and financial men have decided that Canada stands sorely in need of the statesmanship, wisdom and experience of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who was at the head of affairs during the period of Canada's greatest development. In the time of stress, leading men within the Conservative party feel that greater capacity is possessed by the Borden government is available and that the first essential step is to secure the presence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the Canadian Council Board. The latter element behind the movement is represented by a group of practical politicians. They feel

that the position of the Borden government has been seriously weakened by the disclosures of improper expenditure. Revelations before the public accounts committee and the Davidson commission resulted in two Conservative members leaving parliament in disgrace, and profoundly affected the country.

How far the movement which seems to have now some support from both sides will proceed remains to be seen. Undoubtedly a number of substantial men thruout the country are opposed to election which must be one of great bitterness with wholesale charges of disloyalty being hurled against many people. They feel, moreover, that we have some big problems that must be settled in Canada; the railway situation, the financial question, and immediately after the war the question of colonization and settlement. It may be, therefore, that the movement begun by politicians will receive unexpected support from the people.

The Orange Sentinel calls The Winnipeg Free Press down for hounding Hon. Robert Rogers. The Sentinel says that Mr. Rogers was not on trial at the Manitoba election, that the election turned upon purely provincial issues. No doubt the Norris government would be tempted to continue a scandal hunt for the purpose of getting at Mr. Rogers, who is a dangerous man at election times. It may also be true that the Liberals would be suspicious of Mr. Rogers as a member of a coalition government. At any rate a situation is apparently developing in regard to Ottawa which is well worth watching.

PREMIER TO SPEAK ON CHILDREN'S DAY

Accepted Invitation to Address Directors of Canadian National Exhibition.

ARRANGE EVENTS

Hon. Geo. E. Foster, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Maj.-Gen. Hughes Expected.

Premier Hearst on his return to the city yesterday notified Dr. Orr that he would accept the invitation to speak at the directors' luncheon on School Children's Day, Wednesday, Sept. 1. Hon. Dr. Pyne is not expected home from England in time to take part in the ceremonies on Education Day. Hon. Geo. E. Foster will be the speaker on Empire Day, Tuesday, Aug. 21. Hon. J. D. Hazen will be the guest of honor on Friday, Sept. 3, Fisheries Day, when in honor of the occasion the executive of the Fisheries Association will meet in Toronto. Formal acceptances have not yet been received from cabinet ministers and others invited to take part in the proceedings on other days of the Fair, but it is expected that both Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Maj.-General Sam. Hughes will be here at different times; the minister of militia likely on Military Day, when the Duke will review the troops.

Who they are not yet all compiled the livestock entry list is already largely in excess of any previous year and the management expect that it will be necessary to erect temporary quarters to care for the overflow from the permanent sheds and stables.

Up to Full Strength.

Major J. H. Moss, commanding officer of the Mississauga Horse, stated to a reporter of The World last night that in addition to carrying on recruiting for immediate overseas service, the regiment was to be brought up to full strength. Large gaps in the ranks had been caused by the recruiting for the 75th Overseas Battalion, and this opened an opportunity for a large number of men who at present find it impossible to serve overseas to "do their bit" by enlisting in the 24th M. H. and receive a training which should be desired by all able-bodied men during war times.

An existing issue of uniforms has been secured by the regiment, and this will ensure all recruits a new, clean equipment as soon as they have passed the doctor.

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Nothing decreased but the prices. Wherever a change was made in materials, better materials were used. It is NOT "essentially the same car as last year" at a less price. It is a much BIGGER and BETTER car at a less price.

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HORACE McDUGALL DEAD.

PETROLEA, Aug. 19.—After a long illness, Horace McDougall, aged 70 years, one of the few remaining members of an old U. E. Loyalist family of which the late Hon. Wm. McDougall, was a member, died here yesterday. He resided in London and Toronto until his removal here three years ago. He is survived by two children, Miss Georgiana and H. F. McDougall of Petrolea.

HEAVY RAIN AT REGINA.

REGINA, Aug. 19.—Regina was visited by a heavy rain and electrical storm last night. No damage was done to the crops in this district, so far as reported.

STRONG EFFORTS MADE TO COMPLETE MERGER

Royal Bank People Attempting to Influence Finance Minister in Their Favor.

Special to The Toronto World. MONTREAL, Aug. 19.—The Royal Bank people recognize that public opinion is against the proposed merger of the Bank of Hamilton, and they are making great efforts today at this end to influence the minister of finance, or rather other members of the government, who in turn might be able to move Hon. Mr. White. The press bureau that was engaged to promote the deal has had to withhold further operations, tho' it managed to get its first carefully prepared statement in a Toronto evening paper last week. The paper that accepted and printed it has since stated that it got into its columns by accident, and any way it was only a street rumor. It is known here that it was carefully prepared by the press bureau, and was to be fed out to other papers as well. The suggestion contained was that the merger was an act of mercy to the wounded. The minister of finance would be justified in putting the secret service officers at work to investigate this article, and to find out just how it got in print. It was no accident. It was seen here typewritten before it was printed.

Garden Fete, Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Special rates are being offered by the C.S.L. on all Friday afternoon steamers to Niagara. This is to enable as many as possible to attend the fete being given in aid of the Red Cross Fund on the grounds of the Queen's Royal at Niagara-on-the-Lake. A fare of 75c return is good on 2 p.m. 2:45 p.m. or 5:05 p.m. steamers, and returning the same day. A special late steamer will leave for Toronto at 10 p.m. Tickets at 45 Yonge street or Yonge Street Wharf.

ENGLAND TO HELP GERMANY BY WAR

Sensational Statement Attributed to Sir E. Gray by German Chancellor.

BERLIN, Aug. 19.—The chancellor, in a sensational statement in the Reichstag today, quoted the words which he declared Sir Edward Grey spoke to the German Ambassador to London when the latter took leave of the British Foreign Minister after the beginning of the war in August, 1914.

"Sir Edward Grey," said the chancellor, "emphasizing his words, said that war between the two countries would make it possible that at the conclusion of peace he could render us more valuable services than had England remained neutral."

Against Powerful Russia. The chancellor explained that he interpreted these words to mean that England desired the friendship of a beaten and weakened Germany as a counter-influence against powerful Russia. England would be ready to use such a Germany—a weak country, without industry and without a navy.

The chancellor's report of this scene in London caused a profound sensation in the Reichstag.

The Germans never aspired to a European hegemony," the chancellor concluded. "Their ambition was to excel others in the work of civilization amidst the peaceful competition of large and small nations."

"We shall continue to fight until the enemy nations ask peace from their own guilty governments, and until the way is free for a new Europe."

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