

COAL MINERS' CHILDREN CARRIED RIGHT INTO RED CAMP

EIGHT-HR. WORKDAY UP TO PROVINCES

Dominion Government Declares it Has No Power to Enact Legislation.

If there is to be any legislation in Canada providing for an industrial day of eight hours, the Provincial Legislature and not the Federal Parliament will enact it.

The Dominion Government has decided that legislation of this character does not come within the scope of the Federal Parliament, and all of the provinces have been notified. An order-in-council has just been passed setting forth this declaration.

A labor convention was one of the subsidiaries of the peace conference and when this gathering convened last autumn in Washington it sanctioned the principle of a universal eight-hour day.

The decision is designed to remove any doubts about a federal eight-hour day. The government admits its right to legislate in this respect of its own work, but as regards working hours and conditions elsewhere, it holds that the British North America Act an insuperable barrier when it vests exclusively in the provinces all legislation regarding property and civil rights.

Effectively has always been anticipated in securing uniform action by all of the provinces, and unless there is such uniformity the contention is that industry, under an eight-hour day, could not compete in production with those in a province where the working day is an hour longer.

O. B. U. ADMITS EXPULSION OF SHIPYARD LABORERS.

From the B. C. Federationist, an O.B.U. journal, we take the following: Shipyard Laborers' Unit of the One Big Union of Portland, Ore., with a membership of over 600, has been ousted from the Metal Trades Union of the British Columbia Federation of the Vancouver, Wash., local were also denied seats on the council.

THE BOLSHEVIKS AND THE BRITISH LABOR DELEGATION.

The Central Committee of the Social Democratic party has issued a statement signed by L. Martov (president), B. Skokovsky (secretary), and by Y. Yonin for the Social-Democratic Bund (Jewish), in which they once more refer to the persecutions the members of the British Labor Delegation have had to undergo since they came to the hands of the Bolsheviks for having got into direct touch with the British Labor Delegation when they were in the hands of the Bolsheviks.

SAYS ONTARIO JAILS "DAMNABLE"

"Conditions in Ontario jails are damnable," according to an interview with Norman Somerville, a member of the Ontario Public Service Commission, which heard evidence last week to the effect that many of the jails were very ancient and the conditions in them had not been changed in 50 years.

PRESIDENT HANNA REITERATES PREVIOUS DECLARATION.

Speaking at a banquet of the Canadian Traffic Club League at Toronto on Thursday, President D. B. Hanna, of the Canadian National Railways, reiterated his recent pronouncement against employees of the railway running for political office.

"A certain amount of criticism has been leveled at me because I will not permit employees in the service of the Canadian National Railways to accept nominations for Parliament," asserted Mr. Hanna. "There has been no attempt on my part to prevent an employee exercising his franchise as a citizen, but when he decides to become a politician the whole country is open to him. We employ men to work and not for the purpose of a divided interest. It is not practical, and as the question has been camouflaged by so many people saying that the liberty of the employee has been usurped, you can readily see the foolishness of it. As long as I have the power to sign and the board of directors backs me up—we will not permit politics to enter the operations of the Canadian National Railways or the Canadian Mercantile Marine."

COAL CONFERENCE RESULT IS SECRET

Nova Scotia Delegates Will Place Agreement Before Miners.

The conference between representatives of the United Mine Workers of America and of coal companies operating in Nova Scotia, came to an end on Tuesday after a six-day session. All those present at the meetings were in the best of spirits, and the agreement reached far into the morning, refused to give any statement as to the agreement which had been reached.

Since regarding the result of the conference will be maintained until Robert Baxter, president of District No. 26, and J. M. McLaughlin, secretary of the United Mine Workers of America, and the Executive Board members at Toronto, Nov. 14. If these officials of the Miners approve of the agreement it will be placed by them before the miners in the various lodges for ratification. Mr. Baxter stated that the agreement before the miners would take about two weeks in addition to representatives of the local Miners' Federation, John P. Miller, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, represented the International Union of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, D. H. MacDougall, of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, and J. M. McLaughlin, of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, D. H. MacDougall, of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, and J. M. McLaughlin, of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company.

TOUCHSTONE OF FACT

(Western Labor News, Winnipeg.) So long as the One Big Union consisted of a misty idea backed by ill-considered but quite genuine enthusiasm it could not be effectively reached by argument, and it only thrived on persecution and abuse.

True as this is, and attested by the rise, growth and decline of every movement in men's minds since the world began, there are a number of people who can never be convinced that it is impossible to stamp out an idea, no matter how erroneous it may be, and how hurtful to the general good. It is only when it falls in contact with the touchstone of experience and fact that it can be dispelled in men's minds.

As a touchstone of the millennium, the One Big Union had a great attraction for the mind so long as they kept their eyes fixed on the millennium and overlooked the kind of things that lay between their present position and that desirable goal. It is all very well to jump a chasm in order to avoid walking round a mile, but if the chasm is a mile deep and you have to climb a mile down and then a mile up because it is too wide to be jumped, the advantage is not so obvious. Everybody could see that, but what the O. B. U. did was to provide a pair of ready-to-wear wings, with the result that thousands of men, who were not in a physical condition to climb up, were now at the bottom of the chasm and not in a physical condition to climb up.

SUGAR REFINERS AFTER A REBATE

Claim Made They Stocked Up at Government Suggestion.

Reports from Montreal of price-advancing in sugar among refiners and wholesalers recalls the fact that the case recently submitted to the Government is in statu quo. It is said, however, that the refiners will come back when more Cabinet ministers return to the Capital. The case is based on the claim that the whole of America and half of Europe has been informed of the "gross baseness" (?) of Labor in general and the union in particular.

Every individual in a half dozen nations almost is told in language flowing with venom, that Labor is untrustworthy, worthless and vile, until workmen in many other sections of the country are inclined to believe it.

When Labor breaks an agreement, or when the daily press says that Labor has broken an agreement, the public—all classes of the public, labor as well as otherwise—all know it all over the country as fast as telegraphy can tap it out, and it loses nothing in movement, but goes before the people, twisted, contorted and untrue. But when an employer of Labor breaks an agreement, the public never knew.

HIGGINS DEFEATED IN BY-ELECTION AT TORONTO.

Major Alexander Cameron Lewis, Conservative, was elected to the Ontario Legislature in the by-election in northeast Toronto. His plurality over his nearest opponent, Major William Harold Kippen, D.S.O., M.C. (with bar), Liberal, was 2,622, and his majority over the field of three opponents was 1,684.

There was little surprise at the result, although Major Kippen put up a stiff battle. Major Lewis, M.P.P.-elect, is secretary of the Deep Waterways and Power Association, and was formerly secretary of the Harbor Commission. Following was the vote: Lewis, 7,914; Kippen, 4,292; Higgins, 1,533; Galbraith, 89.

All of the talk in the by-election was the Hydro-electric question. Major Lewis advocating Hydro support, and Major Kippen supporting Hydro with reservations.

QUEBEC LEGISLATURE TO ASSEMBLE JANUARY 11.

The date of the opening of the next session of the Quebec Provincial Legislature was set for the 11th of January at the meeting of the Cabinet last week.

LABOR'S POSITION IN THE BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY IN CANADA.

A violation of agreement made between a large shoe manufacturing concern and its employees was threatened a few days ago. The agreement does not expire until next May, yet it is to be broken. That sort of thing when done by Labor—as unfortunately it has been in a few isolated cases, which the case has been reported by the leaders of the Labor movement of this country—brings down the anathemas of the daily press and before 24 hours has elapsed the whole of America and half of Europe has been informed of the "gross baseness" (?) of Labor in general and the union in particular.

Very well planned and equally well carried out. The only thing that matters in the actual carrying out of the plan, which is similar to that of the Whitley Councils in Great Britain.

The idea is to set up in each industrial plant a body representative of the owners and their employees, and to refer to it any disputes which may arise as between labor and capital.

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL'S PLAN

Steps for the organization and development of joint industrial councils in Canada are to be taken by the Labor Department as a means of promoting the democratization of industry. At New Year's, if not before, officers of the department will be sent out to explain the plan, which is similar to that of the Whitley Councils in Great Britain.

Canadian Government to Take Action on Findings of Industrial Conference.

At last session of Parliament the appropriation of \$14,000 was made for the purpose of promoting the movement, but there has been some delay. Mr. T. A. Stevenson, of Toronto, at present connected with the Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, is mentioned as the principal organizer of the plan.

SLOW FLYING.

An aeroplane moving so slowly as to appear almost stationary was seen at Crickwood recently.

TOM MOORE DENIES STORY OF BEING FREE TRADER.

Tom Moore, President of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, declares he is not a free trader. In conversation this week Mr. Moore said an impression had been created that he was in favor of free trade.

QUEBEC MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE DECLARES WAR ON ORGANIZED LABOR.

Desires Law or Regulation Requiring Certain Qualifications From Every Union Man and Obliging Union to Issue Certificate of Ability.

Hon. J. E. Caron, Minister of Agriculture in Quebec, has declared war on the trades union movement in the Province of Quebec. In a recent address, he declared that "it would be a good idea to have a law or regulation requiring certain qualifications from every union man and obliging the union to issue a certificate stating the ability of the member and classifying all members according to fixed grades and standards."

The Minister of Agriculture has joined with the opponents of Labor in declaring that the trade union movement is responsible for the high cost of living and that "due to the high wages prevailing in the urban centers, the farmers cannot secure help to work the land."

It is true, that in many cases higher rates of wages prevail in urban centers, and this is due to the fact that the workers in urban centers have provided protection for themselves by the organization of trade unions.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES TO TAKE ACTION IN HIGGINS' DISCHARGE.

Division Number 4 of the Canadian Railroad, which represents the mechanical trades unions and is regarded as a fighting organization, will take action over the discharge of an employee without investigation by President D. B. Hanna, of the Canadian National Railways, a violation of the wage agreement between the C.N.R. and Division No. 4, according to a communication to a local trades unionist from Charles Fieckle, secretary of Division No. 4, with reference to the case of James Higgins, Soldier-Labor candidate in the Northeast Toronto by-election, which took place Monday, Mr. Higgins was an employee of the C.N.R. and claims that he was compelled to resign his railway position because of his candidature for the Legislature.

BRITISH MINERS RETURN TO WORK

Fall Railway Service Has Been Resumed and Mines Working.

The British coal strike is over. Miners are returning to work, apparently with vast relief at the action of their executives in ending the strike until a test can be made of the Government's increased wage scheme.

To the surprise of many officials who had thought the South Wales miners would refuse to accept the executive's orders, many of the mines in that section reported numbers of miners returning, while in the more conservative sections of the mining country every union man returned.

As a consequence, full railway service has been restored and the emergency food and fuel orders.

Riots, however, were reported at Hamilton, Lanarkshire, where the miners staged a violent protest against the settlement. The police were forced to make three charges with drawn clubs against a mob that formed.

WILL ARBITRATE ON SHARE OF ARMY CANTEN PROFFITS.

Questions between Imperial and Canadian authorities over distribution of canteen profits will probably be referred to an arbitrator. A number of points of difference have been calculated and the arbitration will be necessary before the profits can be determined and a basis of division reached. It is estimated that the canteen profits will be between one and two millions.

PRESIDENT MOORE HANDS STRAIGHT TALK TO TORONTO EXTREMISTS

Butcher Workers and Retail Clerks Expelled From Toronto District Trades and Labor Council.

Decisive action was taken by the Toronto District Trades and Labor Council last Thursday night towards eliminating the Socialist element. The delegates of two organizations, Clerks' Union, were expelled, and the Butcher Workers and Retail Clerks were expelled from the council.

The proceedings were presided over by the chairman, Mr. Tom Moore, who was greeted with cheers following his speech. He stated that the council would be taking in their own hands the reins of the council.

Mr. Moore referred in scathing terms to the attacks that had been made on the A.F. of L. and the International Union, and declared the council would be taking in their own hands the reins of the council.

Dealing with the Trades and Labor Congress, Mr. Moore said that body was an open forum for bona fide trade unionists, and no delegates were refused admission who presented proper credentials.

There were three reasons why he had accepted the invitation to address the council, first, because he wanted to refute the statements made regarding himself and the Dominion Congress; secondly, as he wanted to try and undo some of the mischief wrought by the spread of the O.B.U. propaganda; and thirdly, to endeavor to restore harmony and unity of action in the labor movement in Toronto.

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PROGRESS REPORTED ALL ALONG THE LINE

International Trades Union Movement Making Steady Advancement.

From all parts of the North American Continent comes reports of progress by the international trade union movement. This is in face of the campaign of the employers against the Labor movement and the propaganda instigated by the enemies of the international trade union movement.

During the month of September the American Federation of Labor issued 29 charters as follows: the International Textile central bodies, fifteen local unions and seven federal unions.

Many of the international unions report progress and now are good. Laundry Workers—We have now 133 local unions with a membership of 7,000—Harry L. Morrison.

Photographers—We have 44 local unions with total membership of 6,979. Our three new local unions were formed in Vancouver, B.C., London, Ont., and Grand Rapids, Mich.—James M. O'Connor.

Marine Engineers—We now have 89 local unions with a total membership of 20,452—Geo. A. Grubb.

Millers—We now have 487 local unions with a total membership of 61,330—Victor Klieber.

Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees—We now have 1,111 local unions with a total membership of 12,150—Geo. S. Levi.

Sleeping Car Conductors—We have 25 local unions with a membership of 2,500—J. H. O'Connor.

Teachers—We have 135 local unions with a total membership of 10,000. There is a marked tendency towards organization of the One Big Union, P. G. Stecker.

Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers—We now have 250 local unions with a membership of 8,000—J. R. Bolinger.

G. E. Tealry, the A. F. of L. organizer at Saskatoon, reports as follows: Employment is steady. Conditions of organized labor are good. A union label league is being formed. The waiters and waitresses here are now working eight hours a day, six days a week, with minimum wages. A new local union of sheet metal workers was organized. The railway carmen were reorganized.

Encouraging reports come from the Province of Quebec. At Limoges, Ontario, a new local union of sheet metal workers was organized. That condition of organized labor is about 80 per cent. better than the unorganized.

Organizer Geo. Mercer, of Shawinigan Falls, reports: "A union label league in wages has been granted to all laborers here. Employment is steady. A local union of textile workers has been organized. Sheet metal workers' wages were increased at Sherbrooke from 75 to 80 cents per hour, according to Organizer Geo. D. Hazle, who reports that employment in that city is fairly good."

Keep up the good work!

O. B. U. HAD NO RIGHT TO CARMEN'S FUNDS.

Judge Pendergast of Winnipeg recently handed down his judgment that the purpose of the International Union of the One Big Union, Big Union are separate and distinct, and that the property of the local unions, prior to the formation of the One Big Union, belong to the members loyal to the old organization. In effect the judgment is that funds subscribed by the local unions to the International Union should be disbursed in terms of the rules of that constitution.

The case upon which the judgment was rendered was that of one of the locals of the Carmen's Branches relative to the disposal of the funds of the local union. The local union in the ranks over the world. It was entitled Jubilee Lodge No. 6 v. Carmen's Council Section A. Last September the money deposited in the various cases pending when the International union locals joined the One Big Union around the period of the Winnipeg strike.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES GAIN IN UNITED STATES.

If Federal employees were organized 2,500 of them would save \$100,000,000 per year. This is the estimate of a recent survey of the money department made a wage advance for civilian mechanics as a result of the agitation by these organized workers. Charles and Mackay, navy yard employees were not included and the National Federation of Federal Employees took the matter up with the navy department. Local boards were established, with results noted above.

MANUFACTURERS' STATEMENT.

Secretary Alex. Marshall, president of the Ontario Shoe Manufacturers' Association, takes exception to a statement credited to Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. Mr. Marshall says: "Mr. Moore made an unwarranted imputation, made a recent survey of one of the most prosperous years in the history of the shoe industry in Canada, shows that the average manufacturer's profit was less than 1% per cent. For five months the shoe manufacturers have been carrying heavy losses on all goods sold."

These traitors within the ranks were the advocates of the One Big Union proposition and the pro-